

NEW-YORK

AND

WEEKLY



GAZETTE:

THE

MERCURY.

Containing the earliest Advertisements

Foreign and Domestic.

PRINTED BY HUGH GAINE, AT THE BIBLE AND CROWN, IN HANOVER-SQUARE.

ASSIZE OF BREAD.

Flour at 4s. per Cent.

Published September 29, 1780.

A White LOAF, of the finest FLOUR, to weigh 2lb. for 2s. Copper.

HIGH-WATER at NEW-YORK,

THIS WEEK.

Monday, 22 Min. after 11	Friday, 17 Min. after 2
Tuesday, 10 Min. after 12	Saturday, 55 Min. after 3
Wednesday, 6 Min. after 1	Sunday, 48 Min. after 4
Thursday, 4 Min. after 2	Last Quar. Friday next.

PRICE CURRENT, in NEW-YORK.

Wheat per Bushel, 26s. 0d.	Muscovado Sugar, 5l. 10s.	Fine Salt, 2s. 0d.
Flour, 70s. 0d.	Single refined ditto, 18. 9d.	Coarse Salt, 18. 0d.
Brown Bread, 70s. 0d.	Molasses, 2s. 6d.	Indian Corn per Bu. 10s. 0d.
West-India Rum, 5s. 6d.	Beef per Barrel, 8l. 0d.	Coffee, 18. 0d.
New-England do. 4s. 0d.	Pork, 8l. 10s.	Chocolate, 26s. per Do.

To the Inhabitants of America.

I Should forfeit even in my own opinion, the place I have so long held in yours, if I could be indifferent to your approbation, and silent on the motives which have induced me to join the King's arms.

A very few words however shall suffice upon a subject so personal; for to the thousands who suffer under the tyranny of the Usurpers in the revolted provinces, as well as to the great multitude who have long wished for its subversion, this instance of my conduct can want no vindication: and as to that class of men who are criminally protracting the war from sinister views at the expense of the public interest, I prefer their enmity to their applause. I am therefore only concerned in this address to explain myself to such of my countrymen, as want abilities or opportunities to detect the artifices by which they are duped.

Having fought by your side when the love of our country animated our arms, I shall expect, from your justice and candor, what your deceivers, with more art and less honesty, will find it inconsistent with their own views to admit.

When I quitted domestic happiness for the perils of the field, I conceived the rights of my country in danger, and that duty and honour called me to her defence. A redress of grievances was my only object and aim; however I acquiesced in a step which I thought precipitate, the declaration of independence: To justify this measure many plausible reasons were urged, which could no longer exist when Great Britain, with the open arms of a parent offered to embrace us as children and grant the wished for redress.

And now that her worst enemies are in her own bosom I should change my principles, if I conspired with their designs: yourselves being judges, was the war the less just, because fellow subjects were considered as our foes? You have felt the torture in which we raised our arms against a brother. God incline the guilty protractors of these unnatural dissensions to resign their ambition, and cease from their delusions, in compassion to kindred blood.

I anticipate your question, Was not the war a defensive one until the French joined in the combination? I answer that I thought so. You will add, Was it not afterwards necessary till the separation of the British empire was complete? By no means; in contending for the welfare of my country I am free to declare my opinion, that this end attained, all strife should have ceased.

I lamented therefore the impolicy, tyranny and injustice, which, with a sovereign contempt of the people of America, studiously neglected to take their collective sentiments of the British proposals of peace, and to negotiate, under a suspension of arms, for an adjustment of differences: I lamented it as a dangerous sacrifice of the great interests of this country to the partial views of a proud, ancient and crafty foe. I had my suspicions of some imperfection in our councils, on proposals prior to the Parliamentary Commission of 1778; but having then left to do in the cabinet than the field, (I will not pronounce peremptorily as some may, and perhaps justly, that Congress have veiled them from the public eye:) I continued to be guided in the negligent confidence of a soldier. But the whole world saw, and all America confessed, that the overtures of the second Commission exceeded our wishes and expectations, and if there was any suspicion of the national liberality, it arose from its excess.

Do any believe we were at that time really entangled by an alliance with France? unfortunate deception! they have been duped, by a virtuous credulity, in the incautious moments of intemperate passion, to give up their felicity to serve a nation wanting both the will and the power to protect us, and aiming at the destruction both of the mother country and the provinces. In the plainness of common sense, for I pretend to no casuistry, did the pretended treaty with the court of Versailles, amount to more than an overture to America? Certainly not, because no authority had been given by the people to conclude it, nor to this very hour have they authorized its ratification. The articles of confederation remain still unsigned.

In the firm persuasion therefore, that the private judgement of any individual citizen of this country is as free from all conventional restraints, since as before the insidious offers of France, I preferred those from Great-Britain; thinking it infinitely wiser and safer to cast my confidence upon her justice and generosity, than to trust a monarchy too feeble to establish your independency, so perilous to her distant dominions; the enemy of the Protestant Faith, and fraudulently avowing an affection for the liberties of mankind, while she holds her native sons in vassalage and chains.

I affect no disguise, and therefore frankly declare that in these principles, I had determined to retain my arms and command for an opportunity to surrender them to Great-Britain; and in concerting the measures for a purpose, in my opinion, as grateful as it would have been beneficial to my country, I was only solicitous to accomplish an event of decisive importance, and to prevent as much as possible, in the execution of it, the effusion of blood.

With the highest satisfaction I bear testimony to my old fellow soldiers and citizens, that I find solid ground to rely upon the clemency of our sovereign, and abundant conviction that it is the generous intention of Great-Britain, not only to leave the rights and privileges of the colonies unimpaired together with their perpetual exemption from taxation, but to superadd such further benefits as may consist with the common prosperity of the empire. In short, I fought for much less than the parent country is as willing to grant to her colonies as they can be to receive or enjoy.

Some may think I continued in the struggle of these unhappy days too long, and others that I quitted it too soon.—To the first I reply, that I did not see with their eyes, nor perhaps had so favourable a situation to look from, and that to our common master I am willing to stand or fall. In behalf of the candid among the latter, some of whom I believe serve blindly but honestly—in the bands I have left, I pray God to give them all the lights requisite to their own safety before it is too late; and with respect to that herd of censurers, whose enmity to me originates in their hatred to the principles by which I am now led to devote my life to the re-union of the British empire, as the best and only means to dry up the streams of misery that have deluged this country, they may be assured that conscious of the rectitude of my intentions I shall treat their malice and calumnies with contempt and neglect.

B. ARNOLD.

New York, October 7, 1780.

NEW-YORK, October 11.

On Saturday morning last the Refugee Post at Bergen Point, under the command of Capt. THOMAS WARD, was attacked by a party of rebel infantry and horse, consisting of about 200 men. After receiving a smart fire from the artillery and musquetry of the Refugees, assisted by a cannonade from the galleys, they were forced to retreat. On the preceding night, as Capt. Frederick Hauser, in the Refugee gunboat was rowing guard, he met near Brown's Ferry, with a detachment of the rebels in five boats, which, it seems were intended for the purpose of making good a retreat for the above mentioned party in case they should happen to be prevented from retreating by the way of Bergen. Upon being hailed, and refusing to give an account of themselves, Captain Hauser immediately fired upon them, when two of the boats struck, in which were made prisoners four of the continental light infantry; the others on board had jumped ashore, and made their escape. One other boat was sunk, having, it is said, one killed and two wounded left on board by the crew who deserted it, Mr. Charles Homfray, with two others and a boy, belonging to the Refugee party, who had landed some time before the Rebels were discovered, were taken by some rebel horse; they were immediately pinioned, and otherwise cruelly treated, according to the usual custom of the rebels, when American Loyalists are so unfortunate as to fall in their hands, in which cruelties they are likely to persevere until a full and spirited retaliation

shall take place. An inhabitant of Bergen, named Van Waggener, was taken by the Refugees on his return from the rebels. He had gone after reconnoitering the Refugee Post, to give intelligence of their situation. It is also said that the rebels have carried off Mr. John Phillips, a quiet inhabitant, on a suspicion of his having been friendly to our people.

On Saturday the 30th of last month, died, much lamented, Mrs. GRACE BONNEL, the wife of Isaac Bonnel, Esq; of Amboy, formerly High Sheriff, of Middlesex in New-Jersey, and on Sunday her remains were interred in Trinity church-yard, attended by a numerous and respectable company.

Sunday last departed this life, after a long illness, which she bore with a becoming resignation, in the 53d year of her age, Mrs. Grizel Selkrig, wife of Mr. James Selkrig of this city.

On Thursday last departed this life, much lamented by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance, Mrs. LEWIS, spouse of Mr. JOHN LEWIS, a Loyal Refugee from Boston, and on Friday her remains were attended to the place of interment, by a numerous and respectable company.

Yesterday was sent in here by his Majesty's frigate Greyhound, a rebel privateer, of 16 guns and 105 men, three days out from Philadelphia. She formerly belonged to this port, was named the Queen, and was taken by the rebel privateers Holker, Fair American, and General Green, commanded by Capt. Ridley.

Last Monday arrived the brig Hope, Captain Taer, in eight weeks from Cork, by her we learn, that a fleet of one hundred and forty sail, under convoy of a squadron of his Majesty's ships, bound for America, failed from Cork the 14th of August. They were to be joined in a certain latitude by a fleet from London, which had sailed under convoy of his Majesty's ship Bienfaisant, and several other ships of force. On the 20th of August, in lat. 49 3. lon. 17, 59, Capt. Taer spoke a fleet of one hundred and sixty sail from Jamaica, bound for London, under convoy of his Majesty's ships Medway, Centurion, and Sphinx; Admiral Sir Peter Parker had his flag hoisted on board the Medway. They had been out six weeks, and were all well.

Last Sunday was sent in here the sloop Sannah, from Tom's River, bound to Gaudaloupe, laden with lumber.

Monday last were brought to town, conducted by Captain Luke of the Loyal Refugees, and safely lodged in the Provost of this city, the following rebel gentry, viz. Major Brush, Capt. Cornelius Conklin, Capt. J. Conklin, Capt. Rogers, and Lieutenant Fauley, all notorious offenders that have been long practised in coming from the New-England shore, to murder and plunder the King's loyal subjects on Long-Island. They were last Saturday, taken by Lieutenant Pendergrafs, and a party of Colonel Cuyler's Refugees, at Smith Town, with their whaleboat and considerable booty. A certain Capt. Ketchum, one of the above gang, was killed in attempting to make his escape.

NEW-YORK, Octo. 13.

Yesterday arrived the ship Patty, Captain Marquis, from Glasgow, which place she left 7 weeks ago: By her we learn, that a packet bound from Philadelphia to Holland, in which Henry Laurens, Esq; late President of Congress, was passenger, was captured by his Majesty's frigate Vestal, Captain Keppel, one of the fleet on the Newfoundland station, the 2d of September last; the mail, containing papers of the greatest importance, was thrown overboard before the Vestal came up with the packet, but as it did not immediately sink, it was taken on board the Vestal undamaged.—The prize was carried into St. John's, where the contents of the mail were found to be of such consequence, that a frigate was immediately dispatched to carry it, and the person of Henry Laurens, to Britain. The foregoing intelligence Captain Marquis received on the 25th of September, from the Commander of his Majesty's ship Mercury, then eight days out from St. John's, who was so kind as to convoy Captain Marquis several days.

On the 23d September, the Patty had an engagement of five galleys, with a rebel frigate of twenty-six guns, which hailed from Salem; in the action two of the Patty's hands were killed, and Captain Marquis and other

three slightly wounded; the carnage on board the rebel frigate must have been great, as she appeared full of men, and was twice beat off by the Patty, which mounts only 18 guns.

Yesterday arrived the schooner Lovely Betsey, Captain McDonald, in thirteen days from Bermuda. On the 30th of September, while off Bermuda, in company with his Majesty's frigate Pearl, — Montague, Esq; Commander, they saw a sail to the northward; the Pearl gave chase, and at noon discovered her to be a large ship standing N. W. the Pearl being to windward, bore down upon her, upon which she hoisted French colours and fired a gun at the Pearl; but Captain Montague not regarding her fire or colours, hoisted a British ensign at the mizen-peak, got along-side, and poured a broadside into her. A furious engagement then commenced, which continued about seven glasses; the French ship attempted several times to run, but his main top-sail-yard and fore-top-sail-tye being shot away, found it impracticable. About 5 P. M. she struck, and a little after her mizen-mast fell over her side; it was soon followed by her fore-mast, and after the Pearl's boat boarded her, the main-mast fell upon the quarter-deck. She proved to be the Le Esperance, of 28 twelve pounders, and 200 men, from St. Domingo, bound to Bourdeaux, laden with sugar, cotton, coffee, indigo, and ingots of gold. She is said to be the richest prize that ever was taken in the American seas. She had 50 men killed and wounded in the action. The loss on board the Pearl was five men killed and six wounded, among the former is a lieutenant of marines.

The Lovely Betsey left the Pearl, and her prize, on Saturday the 7th instant, in lat. 35, bearing for this port. The prize had got up jury-masts.

By the Ship Patty, Capt. Marquis, that arrived here last Thursday, in 8 Weeks from Glasgow; and the Swift Packet, Capt. Hall, that arrived the same Day in 8 Weeks from Falmouth, with the August Mail, we have the following Ad- vices, viz.

From the LONDON GAZETTE. Westminster, July 8.

THIS Day his Majesty came to the House of Peers, and being in his Royal Robes seated on the Throne with the usual Solemnity, Sir Frances Molyneux, Knight, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, his Majesty was pleased to give the Royal Assent to

An Act to prevent any Mischief or Inconvenience which may arise to the Sheriffs, Gaolers, Suitors, Prisoners, or others, by the Prisoners in the several Gaols in the Counties of Middlesex and Surrey, and the City of London, having been set at Liberty during the late Tumults and Insurrections.

After which his Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious Speech:

My Lords, and Gentlemen, I give me great Satisfaction to find myself able to determine this long Session of Parliament, that you may be at Liberty to return to your several Counties, and attend to your private Affairs, after so laborious a Discharge of your Duty in the public Service; and I take this Occasion to express my sincere Acknowledgement for the fresh Proofs you have given me of your affectionate Zeal for the Support of my Government, and of your just Estimation of the real and permanent Interests of your Country.

Your Magnanimity and Perseverance in the Prosecution of this just and necessary War have enabled me to make such Exertions as will, I trust, by the Assistance of Divine Providence, disappoint the violent and unjust Designs of my Enemies, and bring them to listen to equitable and honourable Terms of Peace.

These Exertions have already been attended with Success by Sea and Land; and the late important and prosperous Turn of Affairs in North-America affords the fairest Prospect of the returning Loyalty and Affection of my Subjects in the Colonies, and of their happy Re-union with their Parent Country.