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The London Chronicle, 1777-2-25 to 1777-2-27

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From TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, to THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1777.

For the London Chronicle.
THE NAVIGATION.

From GESSNER.



T flies—I see the rapid vessel
steer,
Torealm's far distant, Daphne
it conveys;
Surely the Zephyrus only should
be there,
Or winged Cupid's fan the
smiling seas.

Ye waves! A lover's ardent wish attend!
May your's be the gentlest, softest murmurs he!
As o'er your sportive train he idly bends,
Perhaps her thoughts may then be fixt on me.
Ye birds, from every grove your music pour!
For her, may every shore be vocal made!
Ye gales, which move each reed, or verdant
bow'r,
With blandest whispers lure her to your shade!

Still may thy waves, O sea, unrudd' glid'
To thee, a lovelier freight was never given,
So shines the sun within thy crystal tide,
Her beauty, spotless, as the beam of heav'n.

Not Venus self with charms superior glow'd,
When from the ocean's dazzling foam she
sprung,

And mounting on her silver car, the flood
Thro' all its depths with acclamations rung.

The gazing Tritons their rude shells despise,
They quit their boisterous sports, and flock
around,

Caught by the magic lustre of her eye,
Forgot the blue-eyed nymphs with rushes
crown'd.

In vain the jealous nymphs with anger view'd,
They headed not their frown, or envious smile,
But lost in wond'ring extasy, pursued
The radiant goddess to her shady isle.

W. NORTHAM.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26.

From the LONDON GAZETTE.

Whitehall, February 25, 1777.

HIS majesty's ship Bristol, which arrived at Portsmouth the 23d instant, has brought from New York dispatches from General Sir William Howe and Governor Tryon to Lord George Germain, of which the following are extracts:

Extract of a letter from General Sir William Howe to Lord George Germain, dated New York, December 29, 1776.

I have the honour to inclose an extract of a letter from lieutenant-general Clinton, containing advice of his being in possession of Rhode Island without any loss to his majesty's troops. The season may be found too far advanced for him to proceed to Providence, but, if practicable, I am confident the attempt will be made; the advantages to be derived from this acquisition are nevertheless very important.

In Jersey, upon the approach of the van of lord Cornwallis's corps to Brunswick by a forced march, on the 1st instant, the enemy went off most precipitately to Prince Town; and had they not prevented the passage of the Rariton, by breaking a part of Brunswick bridge, so great was the confusion among them, that their army must inevitably have been cut to pieces.

My first design extending no further than to get and keep possession of East Jersey, lord Cornwallis had orders not to advance beyond Brunswick, which occasioned him to discontinue his

pursuit; but finding the advantages that might be gained by pushing on to the Delaware, and the possibility of getting to Philadelphia, the communication leading to Brunswick was reinforced, and on the 6th I joined his lordship with the 4th brigade of British under the command of Major-general Grant. On the 7th lord Cornwallis's corps, the guards excepted, who were left at Brunswick, marched to Prince Town, which the enemy had quitted on the same day. This corps marched in two divisions on the 8th; the first advancing to Trenton reached the Delaware soon after the enemy's rear guard had crossed. Their main army having passed the preceding day and night, took post on the other side of the river.

Lord Cornwallis, with the rear division, halted at Maidenhead, six miles from Trenton, and marched at one o'clock next morning to Corriels Ferry, thirteen miles higher up the Delaware, in some expectation of finding boats there, and in the neighbourhood, sufficient to pass the river; but in this he was disappointed, the enemy having taken the precaution to destroy or to secure on the south side, all the boats that could possibly be employed.

The passage of the Delaware being thus rendered impracticable, his lordship took post at Pennington, in which place and Trenton the two divisions remained until the 14th, when the weather having become too severe to keep the field, and the winter cantonments being arranged, the troops marched from both places to their respective stations. The chain, I own, is rather too extensive, but I was induced to occupy Burlington, to cover the county of Monmouth, in which there are many loyal inhabitants; and trusting to the almost general submission of the country to the southward of this chain, and to the strength of the corps placed in the advanced posts, I conclude the troops will be in perfect security. Lord Cornwallis having desired to return to Britain, the command in Jersey is given to major general Grant, in whose approved good conduct I place the greatest confidence.

I cannot too much commend lord Cornwallis's good services during this campaign, and particularly the ability and conduct he displayed in the pursuit of the enemy from fort Lee to Trenton, a distance exceeding eighty miles, in which he was well supported by the ardour of his corps, who cheerfully quitted their tents and heavy baggage, as impediments to their march.

By pressing the rebels so close, they had not time to destroy the country, as they intended, or to remove their stores; by which a large quantity of provisions, and plenty of forage, have been secured.

During lord Cornwallis's stay at Pennington, a patrol of thirty dragoons from the 16th regiment was sent out to gain intelligence of a corps under the command of general Lee, reported to be in Morris county on their way to cross the Delaware at Alexandria. Lieutenant colonel Harcourt desired the direction of this detachment, and learning, as he proceeded, the situation of this corps, consisting of two thousand men, and of general Lee's head-quarters, he contrived by intimate address and gallantry, to get to his house undiscovered by the guard, surrounded it, and, overcoming all their resistance, made the general prisoner.

Being confident this gallant action will not escape his majesty's gracious attention, it is needless for me to recommend lieutenant-colonel Harcourt to the king's notice upon this occasion.

I must also mention the signal services of Sir William Erskine, in his department of quarter-

master general, whose indefatigable zeal has eminently contributed to the success of this campaign; nor must I omit major Maitland, of the corps of marines, who has the command of the 2d battalion of light infantry, in which he has distinguished himself much to his honour.

The time of service, for which most of the enemy's troops were engaged, being expired, their present strength, from a review of the latest intelligence received, is about 8000 on the south side of the Delaware, and in Philadelphia; 500 militia embodied in Morris County, New Jersey, and about 3000 at Pecks Kill, North Castle, and the smaller posts in this province. Major-general Robertson, who served the campaign by his majesty's permission, will return to Britain by the earliest opportunity.

Extract of a letter from General Sir William Howe to Lord George Germain, dated New York, December 29, 1776.

ON the 25th instant, in the evening, a party of the enemy attacked an out-guard from the post of Trenton, where colonel Rall commanded with three battalions of Hessians, fifty chasseurs, and twenty light dragoons, having with them six field-pieces; which party was beaten back. On the succeeding morning at six o'clock the rebels appeared in force with cannon, evidently intending to attack the post. Colonel Rall, having received intelligence of their design, had the troops under arms, and detached his own regiment to support an advanced picket. This picket being forced, and falling back upon the regiment, threw it into some disorder, which occasioned them to retire upon the other battalions; no advantage being taken of this, they recovered themselves, and the whole formed in front of the village.

The rebels, without advancing, cannonaded them in this situation, and colonel Rall moved forward to attack them with the regiments of Lofsberg and Rall; in which attack colonel Rall was wounded, and the regiments were made prisoners. The rebels then advanced to the regiment of Knyphausen, and also made that corps prisoners.

The rebels recrossed the river Delaware immediately, with the troops and cannon that they had taken.

This misfortune seems to have proceeded from colonel Rall's quitting his post, and advancing to the attack, instead of defending the village.

Some few officers and about two hundred men of the brigade, with the chasseurs, and a party of dragoons, retreated to colonel Donop's corps at Burdenton, six miles distant. Several officers were wounded, and about forty men killed and wounded.

Extract of a letter from General Sir William Howe, to Lord George Germain, dated New York, January 5, 1777.

IN consequence of the advantage gained by the enemy at Trenton, on the 26th of last month, and the necessity of an alteration in the cantonments, lord Cornwallis deferring his going to England by this opportunity, went from hence to Jersey on the 1st instant, and reached Prince Town that night, to which place general Grant had advanced, with a body of troops from Brunswick and Hillsborough, upon gaining intelligence that the enemy, on receiving reinforcements from Virginia, Maryland, and from the militia of Pennsylvania, had repassed the Delaware into Jersey.

On the 2d lord Cornwallis having received accounts of the rebel army being posted at Trenton,

Parliamentary Proceedings continued.

Lord North, in reply, stated his objections to receiving the petition, and assigned the reasons why he should vote against it. His lordship observed, That government had received advice of this affair from the governor of Jamaica before Mr. Blair had made any application to lord George Germaine's office, but the governor in his letter mentioned his having a suspicion that the Morning Star was taken by two American privateers; this letter had been read to Mr. Blair upon his first application to the office in September, and under the circumstances government did not think proper to make any complaint to the court of Spain. Afterwards, upon receiving other letters from the governor and from the admiral, confirming the account given by Mr. Blair, that the outrage had been committed by the king of Spain's ships, Mr. Blair was informed at lord Weymouth's office, to which department the affair was now properly transferred, that application was made by letter to the earl of Grantham, his majesty's minister at the court of Spain, to lay the whole matter before the Spanish ministry, and to demand satisfaction: this was on the 17th of December; he was afterwards informed, that no answer had yet been received from the court of Spain. I therefore think it highly improper, said his lordship, for a British house of commons to take up this affair, in the beginning of a negotiation, and I aver that no time has been lost since government obtained intelligence from their own officer that there was a proper ground to complain to the court of Spain. The honourable gentleman has no reason to complain of delay since the 17th of December; for lord Grantham writes in January, that the Spanish minister had given him for answer—"Our court has had no intelligence whatever of this transaction, but draw up a memorial, and I will immediately lay it before the king." And I will appeal to the house whether there can have been time to obtain an answer, or even to make any considerable progress in such a negotiation, considering the distance of Carthage: it is well known that negotiations of this sort have frequently taken five times the space that has elapsed. As to the establishment of a settlement, and of a legislative council on the Muzetto shore, I do not believe there is any such council; there are straggling inhabitants spread all along the coasts, but no regular government authorized from hence; nor has it ever been considered as a part of the settlements or colonies belonging to the crown of Great Britain.

As to our right by the treaty of Paris, I could wish, says his lordship, gentlemen would not enter into the discussion of so delicate a point at this time; it might involve us in a dispute with Spain upon the subject of right, not in the least connected with the present question.

At about six o'clock it was carried against receiving the petition without a division.

Yesterday the house of commons resolved itself into a committee of the whole house, to consider of permitting the exportation of lumber from the Baltic, North sea, the Mediterranean, East and West Florida, Nova-Scotia, and the islands of St. John's, into the West-Indies, for a limited time; and after some time spent therein, came to four resolutions, which were ordered to be reported on Monday.

Deferred ways and means till to-morrow.

In a committee of supply came to the following resolutions, viz. that 3000l. be granted for the support of the island of St. John's; 2876l. for the civil establishment of Georgia; 4596l. for Nova Scotia; 5950l. for East Florida; 5900l. for West Florida; 5550l. for Senegambia; 2993l. for several surveys in North America.

The said resolutions to be reported to-morrow.

Read a first time, the bill to enable the commissioners of the treasury to compound a debt due to the crown.

The bill for repairing Salisbury roads was read a third time and passed.

The solicitor general presented to the house a bill to prevent the raising of money by annuities on the life of the grantor, which was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Yesterday the house read a first time the bill for building a new bridge across the Severn, near Gloucester.

Read a third time, and passed the bill, for defraying the charge of the pay and clothing of the militia for 1777, without any amendment.

A letter from Capt. Henry Barns of Whitehaven, dated at Rhode-island, Jan. 5, says, "A few days ago we had a letter from Captain Hare, one of our fellow-sufferers. He was at Providence when the King's troops arrived here, and has since been detained there. He tells us that the inhabitants of Providence, on the first approach of the King's ships, had determined to burn all the prize-ships; but a strong S. W. wind blowing upon the town, they could not do it with safety.—In the few days delay this occasioned, they cooled of their first resolve, and agreed to haul them up into Seaconk river, and defend the town as long as they could, but neither to destroy it nor the shipping. In Captain Hare's opinion Providence will give up before the winter is over; an immediate attack upon it was designed, but the frost setting in, prevented it; I suppose no such attempt will be made for these three months. Below you have the most exact account I can learn of the provincial army in this quarter, but it is generally believed here that they will never stand an engagement.—The king's forces on this island do not amount to more than 7000.

List of the Provincial army in and about Providence:

Providence 2000 men; Bristol 2000; Howland's Ferry 1500; Greenwich 2000; Connecticut 4000; neighbouring towns 1500; total 13,000 men within 20 miles of each other; but, from a want of clothing and common necessaries of life, they are daily deserting, and it is supposed that in two months they will not be able to raise an army of 4000."

The Garland, Preston, and Content, Taylor, (transports,) are taken and carried into Piscataqua, and the Betsey, Ray, from London to Lisbon, is taken and carried into Marblehead.

Capt. Cormack, of the Friendship, arrived at Dover from Lisbon on the 18th inst. saw a privateer of 14 guns, which bore down upon him, but finding his vessel to be of force, and making ready to engage, sheered off.

The Hebe, Capt. Boog, from New York, is arrived in the Downs in 35 days. She sailed in company with the Harriot packet-boat for Fal-mouth, but parted with her the 9th day in a gale of wind.

A letter from Capt. Flynn of the Sovereign, dated at Rhode Island the 4th ult. says that the Kingsfisher sloop had arrived there two days before from New York, by which they were informed that our army was within a day's march of Philadelphia.

A number of New Englandmen, who had obtained certificates from Lord Howe, of their being received to grace under the proclamation, have since joined the rebel army, where they have made a sport of the certificates, and sold them for halfpence a-piece.

Extract of a Letter from Deal, Feb. 26.

"Arrived and sailed for the River the Hebe, B. O.; from New York; Venice packet, Turney, from Oporto; Duchess of Manchester, Casey,

and Peace and Harmony, Kennedy, from Lisbon.—Came down and remain with the ships as before the Simond, Mackintosh, for Grenada; Howe, Atkin, and Friendship, Lumley, for New York; Nancy, Key, for Antigua; Flower, Simondson, for Liverpool; Chard, Honywell, for Bristol; Draper, Boyd, for Newry; and his Majesty's ship Families. Wind S. S. W."

The Trip to Scarborough, altered from the Relapse by Mr. Sheridan, now meets with approbation at Drury-lane-theatre.

Hops sold this morning in the Borough, bags from 1l. 16s. to 3l. 8s. pockets 2l. 0s. to 4l. 2s.

At Smithfield hay-market this morning, hay sold from 3l. 10s. to 4l. 8s. per load; straw from 1l. 10s. to 2l. 26s. per ton.

It is said that Dr. Dodd is very ill in Newgate.

Yesterday at the public office in Bow-street John Knight, otherwise Everard Sterne, was examined for writing a letter to the Countess of Talbot, signed Everard Sterne; setting forth, that in a short time a book, entitled "The Life and Memoirs of the Right Honourable the Countess of Talbot"; would be published, if some acknowledgment was not made to him as being the author. Richard Garmiston, steward to the Countess of Talbot, deposed, that in consequence of a letter which he received from the prisoner, to meet him at the Mount-street Coffee-house, he went there, and saw the prisoner according to his appointment, who said he was the author of a satirical performance, which would be published in a few weeks; that it would be first made known in a morning paper relative to the character of the Countess of Talbot; but if 120 guineas were paid him, an entire stop should be put to the publication. As there did not appear sufficient evidence to put him on his trial, he was discharged.

A few days ago died at Dewsbury, near Wakefield, the Rev. Scudamore Lazenby, who had lately been presented to that Vicarage.

Yesterday a Shoemaker in Doctors Commons dropt down dead.

The same day a woman who sold fruit in the Borough was ran over by a cart and killed on the spot.

A most capital company of Italian singers is engaged to go to Dublin to perform in the present season. Among them is the celebrated Joseph Pinetti, lately arrived from Portugal, allowed one of the first singers in Europe. It is imagined they will find in the Irish nobility the encouragement they may deserve.

Impartial in our next.

S T O C K S.

Bank Stock, 137 1/2	Dit. Ind. An. 77 a 76 1/2
India Ditto, 169	3 1/2 per Ct. 1758, 81 1/2
South-Sea Ditto, —	a 1/2
Do. Old An. 77 1/2 a 1/2	4 per Ct. cons. 1762, 83 1/2
Ditto New An. —	a 1/2 a 1/2
3 per Ct. Bank red. 80	Ind. Bonds, 14s. a 13s.
1/2 a 1/2	Prem.
3 per Ct. cons. 80 1/2 a 1/2	Navy and Vict. Bills, 2
3 per Cent. 1726, —	1/2 a 1/2 per cent. dif.
Ditto 1752, —	Long Annuities, 25 1/2

FORTH and CLYDE NAVIGATION.

AN ADJOURNED GENERAL MEETING OF THIS COMPANY is to be held at the St. Alban's Tavern, on Friday the 30th Day of May next, precisely at Twelve o'Clock, to take into Consideration "A Proposal for lowering the Tolls on sundry bulky Goods;" and as by Act of Parliament, the Consent of the Proprietors of at least Two-thirds of the Shares of the Navigation is necessary for carrying this Proposal (if approved) into execution, it is hoped all the Proprietors residing in or near Town will attend.