

Price only Two Coppers. Published every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday Evenings.

Vol. II.]

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1776.

[Num. 228.]

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.
A Declaration by the Representatives
of the United States of America,
in General Congress assembled.

WHEN, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, That all men are created equal; that they are endowed, by their Creator, with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government. The history of the present King of Great-Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his assent to laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and, when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature, a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise; the state remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these states; for that purpose obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made Judges dependant on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the military independant of and superior to the civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:
For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these states:

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world:
For imposing taxes on us without our consent:
For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury:

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighbouring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies:

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering fundamentally the forms of our governments:

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and

perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow citizens taken captive on the high seas to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connexions and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace, friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDANT STATES; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connexion between them and the state of Great-Britain is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that, as FREE AND INDEPENDANT STATES, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which INDEPENDANT STATES may of right do. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

Signed by ORDER and in BEHALF of CONGRESS,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

Attest.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

TO be SOLD, the brigantine TWO FRIENDS. She is a prime sailer, but three years old, and carries nine hundred and fifty or a thousand barrels of flour.

The schooner MARY ANN. She is a prime sailer, but four years old, and carries four hundred and fifty barrels of flour.

The schooner is loaded and ready to go, and will be sold with her cargo, or alone. She has an inventory suitable and complete. The brig may be fitted for sea with a very small expence, and the schooner requires none. Both vessels are very good, but any gentleman inclining to purchase may have them viewed by proper persons. Inquire for Mr. JOHN PARRY, on board the brig, at Vine-street wharf.

TO be SOLD, a Quantity of very fine TIMOTHY HAY of this year's growth. Inquire of the printer.

A FEW Hogheads and Barrels of JAMAICA SUGAR, of the best quality, to be sold by DAVID SPROAT.

HYNS TAYLOR, UPHOLSTERER, in Second street between Market and Arch streets (late from Saint James's, London) begs leave, by this method, to inform his friends and the public in general, that he makes up all kind of furniture in the newest fashion, viz. dome, teaster; drapery, Venetian, Gothic, canopy, four-post and couch beds, alto field and camp beds, all sorts of mattresses, Venetian and festoon window curtains, and every other article of household furniture, on the most reasonable terms.

AMELIA TAYLOR, MILANER and MANTUA MAKER, makes up all sorts of milanery goods, viz. childbed linen, childrens robes, jams, frocks, vests and tonics, gentlemens shirts, stocks, gloves, and all kind of needlework, in the very neatest manner.—For sale, some fine Holland shirts full trimmed.

N. B. Part of a house to be let, with good cellars, &c.

TO be LET, a Lot of good Grass Ground, in Spring-garden, containing near four acres, with a commodious Brick Houe, two stories high, four rooms on a floor, Baras, Stables, Smoak House, Garden, and two Pumps of good Water, lately occupied by William Shipley. For further particulars inquire of David Pancoast, in Fourth-street, between Race and Vine-streets.

ISAAC HAZLEHURST has for sale, at his store in Water-street, the fifth door above Market-street, COFFEE of the best quality, Muscovado SUGARS in hogheads, tierces and barrels, MOLASSES, CINNAMON, POWDER BLUE, and a few hogheads of exceeding good Jamaica SPIRITS five years old. June 15, 1776.

ASILVER FACED WATCH, larger than the common size, maker's name James Gerrard, London, No. 1919, was LOST out of the subscriber's house on the ninth inst. It is supposed to be stolen by a person in company with two others, who were known to pass by early that morning. Any person who shall have it offered to him for sale, is desired to stop it, and on delivering it to Joseph Steward in Hanover township, Burlington county, New-Jersey, or to the printer, shall have FOUR DOLLARS reward.

TO be SOLD, by Attmore and Hellings, at their store on the wharf, a few doors below Chestnut-street, Bar Iron, American blister, spring, and square Steel, sheet and rod Iron, Bake Plates, Iron Tea Kettles, Dutch Ovens, Pots, Kettles, and Skellerts. Tea at the price limited by Congress, loaf and brown Sugars, Molasses, French Brandy, Fyil Wine, Nutmegs, Spermaceti and Whale Oil, Mackarel, &c. &c. &c.

MUSCOVADO SUGAR and COFFEE in hogheads, excellent HYSON TEA in quarter chests, PIMENTO, CHOCOLATE and PEPPER, Madeira WINE, in pipes and quarter casks, and a few quarter casks of choice French BRANDY, to be sold by Samuel Garrigues, jun. and Co. in Market-street, near the London Coffee-house.

A QUANTITY of INDIGO to be sold by James Gallagher, in Front-street, the corner of Spruce-street.

PHILADELPHIA, July 6.

Extract of a letter from the Camp at Sorrel, 13th June, 1776.

“ On the eighth instant a detachment of about sixteen hundred men, under the command of General Thompson, left the mouth of Nicollette, in order to surprize the enemy at Three Rivers. The design was to have attacked the town before day, but some unforeseen accidents retarded him, so that it was quite light before he got near the town. An advanced boat discovered the party on their march, gave the alarm, and was fired upon by the riflemen, who drove her off into the stream. This happened a little before sunrise; and as all prospect of succeeding by surprize was then over, the General, determined to make the attack, ordered the drums to beat, to put the best face upon the matter, and intimidate the enemy. In this manner the march continued till they came within the reach of the vessels, some of which were anchored along the shore for about a mile, or a mile and a half above the town, when a brisk cannonade began from them, but without effect, or occasioning the least disorder among the troops, who bore it with as a good countenance as the best veterans in the world could have done. Colonel Maxwell who led the first division, seeing, however, that in proceeding by the road he would be exposed to a very galling fire from all the vessels, seventeen in number, turned a little to the left, in order to cross what appeared to be a point of woods, and by which it seemed as if we could gain the height of the town, where the firing from the vessels would be ineffectual. This point turned out to be a very thick swamp of great extent, and which took up three hours or more to get through; every step to the knee, and very often a great deal higher. This was very unfavourable to us, for it was impossible for men to march through it without being broken, and a good deal of confusion. And as the enemy were ready for us at the farther side, there was neither time nor ground to form them properly. The consequence was, as you may judge, that we had the worst of it.

“ The General's original plan was to have attacked before day at four separate places; two attacks by the opposite ends of the main street, and two attacks by the cross street; each division consisting of three hundred men. A reserve of two hundred and fifty was to remain ready for the support of any of the others. I am almost persuaded, that had we arrived in time to have put this in execution, it would have succeeded, notwithstanding the great superiority of the enemy in point of numbers; but the morning and the swamp, as I told you before, broke in upon this plan. No new one was formed, nor indeed had the General it in his power to form one, for one of the divisions was separated from the rest in passing the swamp, nor did the Gen. know where they were till the firing began from them. All he could then do, was to order them to be supported. This was done for some time with effect, the enemy having broke and given way for some distance; but being supported in their turn, they drove our people back, who bore, in a soldier like manner, a very heavy fire from the musquetry, and two pieces of field artillery, sometimes loaded with grape and sometimes with round shot. We were, however, after repeated attacks, obliged to give way, the enemy scarcely pursuing us.

“ Our loss is inconsiderable as to numbers. But, alas, not so as to men, General Thompson being among the prisoners. Though we had the worst of it, I hope we have made some impression on the minds of our enemies. They allow we behaved well; and it will not tell amiss that twelve hundred Americans attacked, under every disadvantage, four thousand British troops, obliged them at first to give way, and, when beat back, made a retreat of forty-five miles with the loss of about one hundred and fifty men.”

Last Thursday the Committee of Officers and Privates of the Associators of this province met at Lancaster, when Col. Roberdeau of this city, and Col. Ewing of York county, were elected Brigadier Generals.

At a Board of Officers from seven companies in the fifth district of the county of Philadelphia, held at Captain Jacob Wert's, for forming a fifth battalion, the following gentlemen were chosen, viz. John Bull, Esq; Colonel; Robert Currie, Lieutenant-Colonel; George Wright and Thomas Rees, Majors; Dr. Abel Morgan, Surgeon, and John Beker, Standard-Bearer.

* * All persons indebted to the printer, are requested to settle immediately, also to advance one half of the subscription towards the second year.—If proper regard be not paid to this advertisement, he will soon be under the disagreeable necessity of DROPPING the Pennsylvania Evening Post, the price of paper and other articles being so greatly advanced.

A T a Conference of the Delegates in Congress for the States of New-York, New-Jersey and Pennsylvania, of the Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania, the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the city and liberties of Philadelphia, and the Field Officers of the five battalions of the said city, &c. at the State-House in Philadelphia, on the fifth day of July, 1776, in pursuance of the following resolution of Congress, to wit.

In C O N G R E S S, July 4, 1776.

Resolved, That the Delegates of New-York, New-Jersey, and Pennsylvania be a Committee to confer with the Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania, the Committee of Inspection of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, and the Field Officers of the battalions of the said city and liberties, on the best means of defending the colonies of New-Jersey and Pennsylvania, and that they be empowered to send expresses where necessary.

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

THOMAS M'KEAN in the chair.

Resolved, That it appears to the Conferrees, that all the associated militia of Pennsylvania (excepting the counties of Westmoreland, Bedford and Northumberland) who can be furnished with arms and accoutrements, should be forthwith requested to march with the utmost expedition to Trenton (except the militia for Northampton county, who are to march directly for New-Brunswick) in New-Jersey; and that the said militia continue in service until the flying camp of ten thousand men can be collected to relieve them, unless they shall be sooner discharged by Congress.

Resolved, That the militia march by companies to the place of rendezvous.

Resolved, That the said militia be taken into Continental pay, and receive the same pay, allowances and rations with the Continental troops, from the time they begin their march until they return to their respective homes.

Resolved, That those of the three battalions of the Pennsylvania troops, now remaining in the province, be ordered to march immediately for New-Brunswick, in New-Jersey.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety of this colony provide as many tents as they can for the said militia.

Resolved that the Committees of Inspection, &c. in the several counties furnish a good kettle to every six men, and give all the assistance in their power that the said militia be well armed and equipped, and march with the greatest expedition.

THOMAS M'KEAN, Chairman.

In C O N G R E S S, July 5, 1776.

Resolved, That the Committees of Inspection, for the several counties in the colony of Pennsylvania, be directed to order such troops as they may raise for the flying camp to be marched to Trenton, the resolve of yesterday to march them to Philadelphia notwithstanding.

Resolved, That this Congress highly approve of the foregoing resolutions, and recommend it to the good people of Pennsylvania to carry the same into execution, with the same laudable readiness, which they have hitherto manifested in supporting the injured rights of their country.

By order of Congress,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

It was agreed in the Conference at the State-House on Friday morning last, that the five battalions of militia of this city and liberties should be requested to meet on Monday afternoon precisely at five o'clock, in order to have read to them the Resolutions of the Conference between the Delegates of New-York, New-Jersey, and Pennsylvania, the Committee of Safety of this province, the Committee of Inspection, &c. for this city and liberties, and the Field Officers of the five battalions, on the most expeditious mode of marching the militia of this province to New-Jersey; and it is hoped that every Associator will attend at that hour.

By the New-York Post, which arrived this day, we have the following intelligence, viz.

B O S T O N, June 27.

Monday last came from Newbury port a young man belonging to this town, who informs us that he left Halifax thirty days ago, that the troops were all embarked on board the transports said to be destined for New-York or Boston, but it was generally believed for the former; that they had at that time no reinforcements, except about three hundred from the West Indies, who were blown off this coast last fall; that provisions were very scarce; that he saw Master James Lovell, who was cruelly confined here in jail, by order of Gen. Gage, for ten months, and from thence taken with the Bunker's-hill prisoners and carried to Halifax, and committed to prison, where he remained when our informant came away, that he kept up his spirits with surprising firmness amidst the accumulated insults and injuries he had received, and had petitioned General Howe for trial, or to be liberated, or sent to England for trial. That Gen. Brattle and Simon Tufts messed together in a little chamber over a grocery-shop; and that Sir Francis Green was busy in distributing the arms treacherously detained from the inhabitants of this town to the refugees and others of that corps, in case of being called upon to assist in the diabolical purpose of butchering and enslaving the good people of these colonies.

Sunday morning were discovered, standing in for this harbour, twelve or thirteen sail of vessels, which have been plying on and off in a strange manner ever since. We hope in our next to be able to give a good account of them.

The Eastern Post inform us, that another fleet was seen off Cape Ann yesterday.

Mr. Ebenezer Hancock of this town [brother to the President of the Grand Congress] is appointed Deputy Paymaster to the Continental troops in the northern district.

W O R C E S T E R, June 28.

The Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize, and General Jail Delivery, sat last week at Ipswich, in and for the county of Essex, and transacted business both of a criminal and civil nature, to the great joy and satisfaction of every true friend to his country, order, and civil society, it being the first under the auspices of our new government.

N E W - L O N D O N, June 28.

Since our last the brig Cabot, Capt. Hinman, the brig Andrea Doria, Capt. Bidole, and the Fly tender, part of the Continental fleet, have arrived here.

A considerable number of vessels, bound to different foreign ports, are now lying in this harbor, waiting a favorable opportunity to put to sea.

N E W - Y O R K, July 4.

On Monday about one thousand of the ministerial troops landed on the west end of Long-island, but soon embarked again, and seeing a party of riflemen, said to be about one thousand, gave them three huzzas, which they returned with the Indian war whoop. On Tuesday morning some of them appeared coming up, and before night about forty-five sail came above the Narrows, and anchored at and near the Watering place, where they fired about fifty cannon shot, of which we have not heard the occasion, and landed many of their men, whom we could plainly see exercising and parading. It was apprehended they intended to penetrate into the interior parts of the island, or to some of the neighbouring towns, but it does not appear that they have yet attempted it, or done any thing on shore, except taking up a little bridge on the causeway between the Landing and the Highlands, at the Ferry. We hear General Mercer, with a detachment, was yesterday despatched to watch their motions, and act as occasion might require.

Philadelphia, June 27, 1776.

WHEREAS, agreeable to an Act of Assembly of this province, four-pence per gallon duty is laid on spirituous liquors, for the support of the government of the same, the retailers whereof, and likewise those that are indebted for the duty on the liquors aforesaid for their private use, are hereby desired speedily to discharge the same.

Those whose accounts have stood beyond the customary time of payment, will please to take notice, that unless they are speedily discharged, I shall sue for the same.

WILLIAM CRISPIN, Collector.

T W O D O L L A R S Reward.

STRAYED from the pasture of the subscriber, in North Wales, on the second instant, a brown HORSE, five years old, about fifteen hands high, has a large star in his forehead, paces, trots, and caners well, and is shod all round. Whoever takes up said Horse, and brings him to the subscriber, or to Benjamin David's, at the sign of the George in Second-street, Philadelphia, shall have the above reward and reasonable charges.

July 6.

CALEB FOULKE.

A COACHMAN, white or black, of a good character, may have immediate and constant employ by inquiring of the printer. July 6.

WHEREAS the Wife of Joseph Cartwright having eloped from him sundry times, he requests all persons not to trust her, as he will not pay any debts she may contract.

July 6, 1776.

JOSEPH CARTWRIGHT.

A Quantity of RYE SPIRITS to be sold at Mr. David Rees's, hatter, at the corner of Church-alley, in Third-street.

PHILADELPHIA: Printed by BENJAMIN TOWNE, in Front-street, near the London Coffee-House.