

Pattenon and Fermoy ordered to attend, but on General Washington's representation, the attendance of the three last mentioned Generals, was for the present dispensed with.

*August 3. "Recollected,* That General Washington be directed to order the General, whom he shall judge proper to relieve General Schuyler in the command, that he repair with all possible expedition, to the Northern department, giving him directions what number of the militia to call in from the States of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey and Pennsylvania."

That notice be immediately sent to these States, to keep their militia in readines at a minute's warning, &c.--- To embody such numbers as shall be required, for three months.

"We hear that Major-General Gates is appointed to command in the Northern department, with orders immediately to repair thither."

We hear the paper further contains the copy of a printed letter from Doctor Franklin and Mr. Deane, to Lord Stormont the English Ambassador at Paris, among other matters, representing in strong colours, the inhuman treatment of our prisoners, by the British commanders in America.--- To this letter the haughty Tool of Tyranny deigned only to return this insolent answer. That the Ambassador of the King of Great-Britain should have nothing to say to Rebels, unless to receive their submission. *Pride goesh before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.*

Prov. XVI. 18.

*Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, dated the 4th instant.*

"When we arrived here (about the 29th ult.) the enemy were standing in for the Capes, above two hundred and twenty-eight sail, and ever since have plying on and off. Yesterday they disappeared, today they are again in sight. *Three thousand* men lately from the Southward, are encamped at and near Chester. The Marquis FOUQUET, an agreeable young gentleman, is arrived from France, he came by the way of England, where he purchased a frigate to come over in "

*Extract of a letter from Albany, dated the 6th instant.*

"Our army is at Still-Water, where there are busy breaking ground. Whether they will stay there, and oppose Mr. Burgoyne--- I know not. ---

"I have seen a letter from Governor Trumbull to his son, the paymaster, wherein he informs him, that he (the Governor) had wrote to General Washington, desiring him to forward to the northward 4000 troops, from Peeks-Kill, and that he would send a like number of militia, to join them.--- To this the Governor has received no answer."

"We expect every moment to hear that Fort Schuyler is attacked. Col. Van Schaick is gone up to take the command of the troops in that Country, and in case the enemy besiege the fort, and the militia go up to raise it, the Oneydas have promised to assist them."

### PHILADELPHIA, July 29.

The latest accounts say, the fleet of ships which hovered about the Capes of the Delaware have disappeared. Various are the conjectures about their destination--- some say they are bound to the Eastward, to land at Rhode-Island or near it--- other say they are bound up the North-River, and that the embarkation of part of the troops, was a maneuver of the enemy to draw off and divide our army; to support their opinion, they farther say, that the greater part of the British army were left on Staten-Island, that a number of waggons are collected and collecting at Kingsbridge, and that they are daily increasing their army there. In short the news from that quarter are vague and indeterminate, wherefore little dependence is to be put upon them. However we may rationally conjecture, that the enemy are meditating a blow from somewhere, and we must not be idle, but keep a good look out in order to repel it.

*Extract of a letter from General Washington to Congress, dated camp at the Clove, July 16, 1777.*

" Sir--- I beg leave to congratulate Congress on the captivity of Major General Prekot and one of his Aids--- The particulars of this fortunate event, you will find in the inclosed extract of a letter this minute received from General Spencer, which, I presume are at large in the packet Mr. Greenleaf will deliver. Lieut. Col. Barton and the final handful under his command, who conducted the enterprise, have great merit."

*Extract of a letter from Major General Spencer, dated*

Providence, July 11, 1777

" Sir--- I have the pleasure to congratulate your Honour and the Hon. Continental Congress, on the late success of Lieut. Col. Barton, who, with the number of forty including Captains Adams and Phillips, and a number of brave officers, last night went on Rhode-Island, and bought out Major General Prekot, and Major William Barrington, one of his Aid-de-Camps, and the entry at the General's door, all that were at the General's quarters. This was done with such prudence that no alarm was given to the enemy until our party had got near to the main, on their return. They are now in this town.

" Col. Barton went with his party in four whale boats from Warwick neck, about ten miles by water, to the west side of the Island; landed about halfway from Newport to Bristol ferry, then marched one mile to the General's quarters, returned again to Warwick, and had the good fortune to escape the discovery of the enemy's guard boats, although several ships of war lay round in those parts. Several attempts of this nature have been made without any loss on our side, and with some small success. The above named Captain Phillips, some time since, with a party of about twenty, brought off one Ensign Clark of the 43d regiment, now a prisoner,--- Another party attacked one of the enemy's guards, disburbed them, killed three, and wounded one. We have had several deserters from the British regiments."

*Copy of a letter from General St. Clair, to Congress, dated Fort Edward, July 14, 1777.*

" SIR,

CONGRESS may probably think it extraordinary that so much time should have elapsed before they heard from me, after a step of such consequence as the evacuation of the posts that had been entrusted to my care; but it was not in my power to write whilst on the march to this place. I am sorry to find that my letter to General Schuyler the night the evacuation took place has not come to his hands, as for want of that, though he has doubtless informed Congress of the matter, he could not give them the reasons that induced it: They are these:

Seeing that the posts of Ticonderoga and Mount Independence were nearly invested, and having intelligence by my spies that they would be completely so in twenty-four hours, when we should be cut off from all possibility of succour: That the batteries of the enemy were ready to open, and the whole of our encampment on the Ticonderoga side exposed to their fire: Considering at the same time the weakness of the garrison, that the effective numbers were not sufficient to man one half of the works, and consequently that the whole must be a upon constant duty, which they could not possibly long sustain, and that of course the places with the garrison must inevitably in a few days fall into the enemy's hands. I saw no alternative but endeavouring to evacuate them, and bring off the army. Whereupon I called the general officers together to take their sentiments. They were unanimously of the opinion that the places should be evacuated without the least loss of time, and it was accordingly set about that night, the 9th instant. After embarking in boats as much of our cannon, provisions and stores as possible, with the boats which were ordered to Skeenborough, I sent Colonel Long, an active, diligent, good officer, to take the command there, with his regiment and invalids, until I should join him with the army, which was to march to that place by Castle-town. The body of the army reached Castle-town the next evening, thirty miles from Ticonderoga, and twelve from Skeenborough; but the rear guard, under the command of Col. Warner, which, with the stragglers and infirm, amounted to near twelve hundred, stopped short of that place six miles, and were next morning attacked by a strong detachment the enemy had sent to hang upon our rear and retard our march. Two regiments of militia, who had left us the evening before and had halted about two miles from Col. Warner, were immediately ordered to his assistance, but to my great surprize they marched directly down to me; at the same time I received information that the enemy were in possession of Skeenborough, and had cut off our boats and armed vessels. This obliged me to change my route, that I might not be put between two fires, and at the same time be able to bring off Col. Warner, to whom I had sent orders if he found the enemy too strong, to retreat to Rutland, where he would find me to cover him, that place lying nearly at an equal distance from both: Before my orders reached him, his party was dispersed, after having for a considerable time sustained a very warm engagement, in which the enemy suffered so much that they purified but a small distance: Our loss I cannot ascertain, believe it does not exceed forty killed and wounded. About two hundred of the party joined me at Rutland and since, but great numbers of them are still missing, and I suspect had got down into New-England by way of Number Four. After a very fatiguing march of seven days, in which the army suffered much from bad weather and want of provisions, I joined General Schuyler the 12th instant.

It was my original plan to retreat to this place, that I might be betwixt General Burgoyne and the inhabitants, and that the militia might have something to collect to; it is now effected and the militia are coming in, so that I have the most sanguine hopes that the progress of the enemy will be checked, and I may yet have the satisfaction to experience, that although I have lost a post, I have eventually saved a State.

Perhaps I may be censured by those who are unacquainted with the situation I was in, for not sooner calling the militia to my assistance. I think I informed Congress I could not do that for want of provisions; and as soon as I got a supply I did call for them, and was joined by near nine hundred the day before the evacuation, but they came from home so ill provided, that they could not, nor did not propose to stay with me but a few days. The two Massachusetts regiments of militia likewise, which composed part of the garrison, gave me notice that their time expired in two days, and they intended to go home. In vain did I beg of their officers to exert every influence they had over them, and from their subsequent behaviors, I am fully persuaded the officers are most to blame. They kept with me however for two days on the march, but their conduct was so licentious and disorderly, and their example beginning to affect the Continental troops, I was constrained to send them off.

Inclosed is a copy the council of war, in which you will find the principles upon which the retreat was undertaken. As I found all the general officers so fully of opinion that it should be done immediately, I forbore to mention to them many circumstances which might have influenced them, and which I should have laid before them, had they been of different sentiments; for I was, and still am, so firmly convinced of the necessity as well as the propriety of it, that I believe I should have ventured upon it, had they been every one against it.

I have the utmost confidence in the candour of Congress, and persuade myself, notwithstanding the loss they have sustained, when they have impartially considered, that I was posted with little more than 2000 men in a place which required 10,000 to defend it; that these 2000 were ill equipped, and worse armed, not above one bayonet in ten, an arm essential in the defence of lines; that with these 2000 I have made a good retreat from under the nose of an army at least four times their number, and have

them now betwixt the enemy and the country, ready to act against them, that my conduct will appear at least not deserving censure. I have the honor to be, &c.

AR. ST. CLAIR.

P.S. The enemy's force, from the best accounts, is 3500 British, 4000 Brunswick and Hesse-Hanau, 200 Indians, and 200 Canadians.

Published by order of Congress,  
CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'y.

### FISHKILL, July 31

Last Tuesday, two men were taken up and interrupted in their errand to General Howe. They, being both Germans, were recommended to one Frieleigh, their countryman, a staunch Tory, to direct them the road. They unluckily made a mistake by calling on a Whig of the same name, who heard their inquiries and found out their errand; thinking it rather unsafe to let them pass, without a further examination into their *real business* sent them for that purpose, under convoy to the Commissioners at Poughkeepsie.

Last Monday was hanged at Fort Montgomery, one of Lord Howe's recruiting officers. Last week another of the same gentlemen was hanging at Peek's Kill.

*August 7.* Last Monday, three Hessian deserters passed through this town on their way to General Washington; who left the British army fifteen days ago. They gave the following intelligence; that 72 of their people were killed at the battle of Fort Ann, including 2 Majors, 3 Indians, and a great many wounded; That a short time before, a dispute happened between the Brunswickers and British, on account of their proportion of rum being detainerd, the former in the fray killed 82 of the latter. They further inform, that they had little other provisions than flour and salt pork, and that near two years pay had been detained from them; that the whole of the British army were about 10,000, including British, Foreign and a few Canadian troops, and that the Indians were to return home.

These men seemed intelligent, and said it was their opinion, that 2000 men might have withstood the force of their 10,000 at the advantageous passes of Ticonderoga and Independence. It much surprized their army to find the forts evacuated, though at the same time, it was transporting to find large piles of provisions, ammunition, clothing and entrenching tools, ready to their hand. They say about 200 of our people, on the retreat, were taken as they were asleep in a barn.

We learn by the Eastern post, that the ship Boston, Commodore Manly has been carried into New-York last week, after a severe engagement with two British men of war, far superior to the Boston.

*Extract from a letter from Albany, August 4.*

"As to news, we have but little of consequence; our army have daily skirmishes with parties of Indians and Regulars.--- The Indians daily scalp men, women and children, and by what I can learn, there is very little difference between the Regulars and Indians, for when Miss McCrea was butchered and scalped, a large number of Regulars were at a little distance, spectators of the horrid act."

*Extract of a letter, enclosed by a Committee-man in the country of Tryon,, to the Committee of Schenectady, from Gaugnawaga, on the Mohawk River, dated the 8th instant.*

"We here-in transmit you the best intelligence we could learn from sundry persons who have been in a battle which was fought on Wednesday the 6th instant beginning at nine o'clock in the morning, and continued until three in the afternoon, at Oneida Creek, half way between Orefka and Fort Schuyler, between a party of the Indians, and our Militia, commanded by General Harkerman. *Stephen Wars*, (Sir John Johnson's brother in law) and William Johnson, shipped to be his Indian brother with a great many others, were killed.--- Fort Schuyler as they attacked and gallantly defended, a smart fire kept up on both sides. We hear there are other advices from the same place which mentioned that our garrison there, are in good spirits and determined never to give up the fort.

A man was lately detected in endeavoring to pass, for five dollars, an altered half dollar money bill of this State, of the commission March 5, 1776. But the alteration was so clumsily performed, that the least attention would discover it.

The Boston papers bought last night mention the arrival of several prizes to the Eastward.

### BY HIS EXCELLENCY

GEORGE CLINTON, Esq;

Governor of the STATE of NEW YORK, General and

Commander in Chief of all the Militia, and Admiral of the Navy of the same.

### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the Public Emergencies do at this Time, render a Meeting of the Legislature of this State inexpedient, I do therefore by Virtue of the Authority reposed in me by the Constitution thereof, prorogue the Senate and Assembly of this State, until the Twentieth Day of this Instant August, and the said Senate and Assembly are hereby prorogued, until that Day; of which the People of this State are required to take Notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

*Given under my Hand and Seal at Arns, at Kingston, the County of Ulster, this Fifth Day of August, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-Seven.*

GEO. CLINTON.

*By His Excellency's Command,*

STEPHEN LUSH, Sec'y.

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE.

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