

SUPPLEMENT. {No. 39. FRIDAY,  
*October 27, 1775.*}

WILLIAMSBURG, *October 27.*

BY advices from Philadelphia, we learn that a ship had arrived there in a short passage, which, on the 18th of August, fell in with several transports full of Hanoverian troops bound for Gibraltar and Minorca, to replace the *bloody backs* in garrison there, who are to be sent in the same ships to America. Mr. Penn was to present the petition from the Congress to the King.

*Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, October 17.*

"We hear that general Gage, with lord Percy, and all the principal officers who were in the Lexington affair, have gone on board ship to take their departure for England. We know not the meaning of this. One of the transports expected from Britain is arrived at Boston. By the last advices from col. Arnold, he was far up Kennebeck river, and expected to be at Quebeck about the middle of this month. There are no royal troops there; so that if the inhabitants are on our side, that place is ours, with the greatest collection of military stores ever known in America. By letters, dated the 28th ult. received last night by express from general Schuyler, we find our affairs under his care in the following state: Montgomery, with the main body of the army, was then plying St. John's with mortars, cannon, &c. which, from several prisoners taken, and examined separately, it appeared did very great execution, insomuch that Prescott, finding he could not hold out much longer, was meditating an eruption, and to force our lines on the lower side, that he might get to Quebeck. Mr. Livingston was before Chamblee, expecting some mortars, &c. to begin a bombardment of that place, which could make little resistance. Another party of our men were at La Prairie, and a fourth at Longuiste. Col. Allen had gone from the latter place with 30 of our soldiers and 50 Canadians, in order to surprise Montreal. He crossed the river about a mile below the town. Prescott having advice of this, tempted a strong party of Canadians, by the offer of half a dollar a man, to join some regulars, and meet Allen. An engagement ensued, in which Allen was taken prisoner, with two or three others, as many of our men killed, besides some of the Canadians killed and taken, and our party were forced to retire. The Canadians anxiously wish to see us establish such a superiority in their country as may protect them in a declaration to join us, which there will be no danger of our doing if Montgomery gets possession of St. John's."

There is authentick intelligence, that the people of Nova Scotia have declared their disposition to join the GLORIOUS AMERICAN UNION; which will deprive our enemies of the only safe harbour they have to lay up and refit their ships, and it is hoped, without this, that they cannot keep a fleet afloat through the winter.

After lord Dunmore, with his troops, and the navy, had been for several weeks seizing the persons and property of his majesty's peaceable subjects in this colony, on wednesday night last a party from an armed tender landed near Hampton, and took

away a valuable negro man slave and a sail from the owner. Next morning there appeared, off the mouth of Hampton river, a large armed schooner, a sloop, and three tenders, with soldiers on board; and a message was received at Hampton from Capt. Squire, on board the schooner, that he would that day land and burn the town. On which a company

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of regulars, and a company of minute-men, who had been placed there in consequence of former threats denounced against that place, made the best disposition to prevent their landing, aided by a body of militia who were suddenly called together on the occasion. The enemy accordingly attempted to land, but were retarded by some boats sunk across the channel for that purpose. Upon this they fired several small cannon at the provincials, without any effect; who, in return, discharged their small-arms so effectually as to make the enemy move off with the loss of several men, as it is believed. But they had, in the mean-time, burnt down a house belonging to Mr. Cooper, on the river. ON intelligence of this reaching Williamsburg, about 9 o'clock at night, a company of rifle-men were despatched to the aid of Hampton, and the colonel of the 2d regiment sent to take the command of the whole, who with the company arrived about 8 o'clock next morning. The enemy had, in the night, cut through the boats sunk, and made a passage for their vessels, which were drawn close up to the town, and began to fire upon it soon after the arrival of the party from Williamsburg; but as soon as our men were so disposed as to give them a few shot, they went off so hastily that our people took a small tender with five white men, a woman, and two slaves, six swivels, seven muskets, some small-arms, a sword, pistols, and other things, and several papers belonging to lieutenant Wright, who made his escape by jumping over-board and swimming away with Mr. King's negro man, who are on shore, and a pursuit it is hoped may overtake them. There are two of the men in the vessel mortally wounded; one is since dead, and the other near his end. Besides which, we are informed nine were seen to be thrown over-board from one of the vessels. We had not a man even wounded. The vessels went over to Norfolk, and we are informed the whole force from thence is intended to visit Hampton this day. If they should, we hope our brave troops are prepared for them; as we can, with pleasure, assure the publick, that every part of them behaved with spirit and bravery, and are wishing for another skirmish.

We hear that Lord Dunmore lately seized a great number of letters, directed to various persons in Maryland and North Carolina, from London; and, after reading them, wrote on all the letters, *By order of the Committee of Safety*.

We have intelligence, which we think may be relied on, that a small fleet consisting of a 64 gun ship, a 20 gun, two sloops of 18 guns, and two transports with about 600 men, were immediately to sail from Boston; their destination a profound secret. They took on board two mortars, four howitzers, and other artillery; from which, it is suspected, that they intended to bombard some town on the coasts.

TREASURY OFFICE, *October 27, 1775.*

THE inspectors and other collectors are desired to remember that their accounts are to be settled by the 10th of November, and may be assured that no indulgences will be given.

ROBERT C. NICHOLAS, *treasurer*.

NEW YORK, *October 12.*

WE hear from St. John's, that capt. Prescott, commander of the fort, sent word to general Montgomery, that he would deliver it up to him

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if he would permit him and the king's troops to march to Quebeck, with their arms, stores, and artillery; but the general refused to comply with his request.

Governour Carleton, it is said, has brought up all the powder from the merchants at Quebeck, and stored it there, the whole of which amounts to upwards of 10,000 barrels.

*Extract of a letter from Cambridge.*

"Dr. Church (surgeon-general of the army, and chairman of the committee of safety at Watertown) having being found guilty of traitorous practices, in corresponding with the enemy, is put under an arrest."

We are informed that Dr. Church is confined in a house opposite to the head-quarters in Cambridge. His correspondence, it is said, was carried on in ciphers with a field-officer in general Gage's army.

*Extract of a letter from Hartford.*

"It is reported that general Washington, a few days ago, sent in a flag of truce to Boston, proposing an exchange of prisoners. Major French for colonel Parker; lieut. Kinght, of the navy, for capt. Scott; and his excellency governour Skeene for corporal Cruise, of capt. Doudle's company of rifle-men. The two former were accepted with readiness, but the last exchange general Gage rejected with scorn, as an insult to his understanding; so that in all probability we shall have the honour of his excellency governour Skeene's residence among us ----- God knows how long."

PHILADELPHIA, *October II.*

LAST week arrived here the shi King of Prussia, captain Potts, with a number of Germans.

Letters from New York say, that general Amherst is coming out to America, and a ship of 40 guns is getting ready to bring him.

By capt. Barry, we learn that some of the transports sailed from England for Ireland the beginning of August, to take in the five regiments for America.

By all accounts from London, we have reason to believe the ministry are determined to draw more blood in America; therefore it behoves every American to convince those *dogs of war* that Americans are ready and willing to let them know they will defend themselves whenever and wherever attacked.

*Extract of a letter from the camp at Cambridge, October I.*

"In the course of this week, two vessels laden enemy. One of them is a brig from Quebec, laden with cattle, &c. a donation from the Tories in Quebec to the ministerial troops at Boston, but will now be more properly applied. This last was taken by some men from Cape Anne, with muskets, in open boats. There are several intercepted letters; one of them contains the following paragraph, which must give great pleasure to every friend of his country, as it confirms the accounts we have had of the temper of the Canadians. The letter is from Gamble, deputy quartermaster-general to major Sheriff, dated Quebec, Sept. 6th. "The "rebels have taken post at Port au Fare, and an "invasion of the province is expected. Should "that take place, I am apt to think the Canadians "will lay down their arms, and not fire a shot. "Their minds are all poisoned by emissaries from "New England, and the damned rascals of merchants here and at Montreal. General Carleton "is (I believe) afraid to order out the militia, "left they should refuse to obey. In short, the "Quebec bill is of no use; on the contrary, the "Canadians talk of that damn'd abused word

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"liberty." There are other letters, of the same import. We have just received an account, that col. Arnold had got safe 50 miles up Kennebeck river, found the batteaus ready, and proceeded six days ago, his men in good spirits, and with every encouragement. The captain of this vessel says, if he gets to Quebec before Carleton can get down from St. John's with the troops, it will surrender without a shot being fired. That there is the greatest collection of arms and ammunition that has been in one place in America for a long time. He says he saw not less than 10,000 quarter casks of powder in the magazine, and that there is all other ammunition in proportion.

The general has directed three vessels to be armed and manned, to intercept the transports daily arriving at Boston with provisions, &c. The people of this province, particularly on the coast, are much pleased with it, and we expect to derive no small advantage from it. There has been no movement in either camp here for several days, and scarcely a gun fired, except, about five or six days ago, a cannon shot from our lines, passing through the barrack on Boston neck, took off the leg of a captain of the 44th, which brought on a heavy firing from them for some time, but with no effect. Our lines are now extended very near within point-blank musket shot of their sentries. It is proposed to drive them quite within their lines, which may be easily done this week. Two deserters yesterday, but brought no news."

*Extract of a letter from Boston, September 26.*

"I should be glad if you would move into the country, as there are four sail of men of war going to your port, as I am informed, and have got on board materials for destroying the town. There are no signs here of matters being made up."

By an express from Ticonderoga, which arrived here on Friday last, we are informed that general Montgomery, on the 8th of September, marched with 500 of the forces under his command round St. John's, and had a slight skirmish with a party of the regulars, who, after a few shot, retired

before him; and that he then set himself down before St. John's.

There are flying reports that 2000 Canadians had joined general Montgomery; that he had got possession of Montreal, Chamblee, and La Prairie; that he had found there a great deal of provision, and taken 14 prisoners; and that they had not 18 days provision in fort St. John's.

On friday last a discovery was made of some letters sending by Christopher Carter, who had taken his passae on board the snow Patty for London. The vessel was pursued to Chester, where the letters were found on Carter, by which it appeared that dr. Kearsly, Leonard Snowden, James Brooks, and the above-named Carter, were concerned in writing the most infamous lies their malice could invent, to spirit up the ministry against this city and province, to incite them to send troops here; and that Carter was the carrier, and was instructed to tell a great deal which they were afraid to trust to paper. In consequence of the above discovery, Kearsly, Brooks and Snowden, were taken up on friday night, and put under a strong gunrd; and Carter, who had been suffered to go from Chester after the delivery of the first letters, was pursued by order of the committee, taken from on board the snow at Reedy island, and brought back. They have all been since examined by the committee of safety, in which examination such a scene of villainy was opened that it was thought proper to keep them confined from the fury of the populace, till they shall think of a proper punishment for such enemies to this country.