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Commonwealth.

By His Excellency PATRICK HENRY, Esq;
Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Common-
wealth of Virginia:

A P R O C L A M A T I O N.

WHEREAS it is a matter of the utmost importance to remove every difficulty in the march of the draughts from the several counties in the Commonwealth to join the army of the United States, and it is apprehended that if some considerable number may be the want of provisions for the subsistence of the men on their way to the place of general rendezvous, which, from the dispersed situation of the draughts, cannot be had in at convenient places, and for the same reason it will be difficult and very expensive to send to the different counties the money necessary for purchasing them, besides, that it cannot at this distance be judged what sum will be requisite for the several counties. I am therefore induced, by advice of the Council of State, to issue this my proclamation, hereby requiring the several County Lieutenants, or next commanding officer of the militia, to appoint and agree with a victualler for furnishing provisions for the men on their march to the place of rendezvous, on as good terms as may be, or any of them, may find it convenient to do, in the name of this Commonwealth, and the money may be had out for the victuallers, the County Lieutenants, or other persons, on their request, on producing to me proper vouchers.

Given under my hand this 24th day of February, in the second year of the Commonwealth, Annoq. Dom. 1778.

P. HENRY.

Notice is hereby given, that the Governor and Council will proceed to the further appointment of field officers for the several regiments of volunteers on the sixteenth day of March next. There yet remain vacant for seven Colonels, eight Lieutenant Colonels, and six Majors. By order of the Board.

ARCH. BLAIR, C. C.

FEBRUARY 26, 1778.

IN COUNCIL, January 28, 1778.

THE Board have the Governor to desire the Lieutenants of the several counties to transmit to this Board a true and correct account of all estates real and personal within their respective counties, belonging to British subjects, in order that the act of Assembly for the better securing British property, enabling those indebted to British subjects to pay off such debts, and directing the proceedings in suits where subjects are parties may be duly executed, which is accordingly directed by the Governor. (A Copy)

A. BLAIR, C. C.

ALL soldiers belonging to the first Virginia regiment, commanded by Col. James Hendrick, whether on furlough or otherwise, are hereby ordered to meet me in Williamsburg on Monday the 16th of March with their knapsacks and clothing, to be in readiness to march to join the grand army. Those who do not attend will be deemed deserters, and treated accordingly.

PHILIP SANSOM, Lieut.

For sale at Col. ...s store in Manchester, a large quantity of early Hotspur pease, Charlton do. May do. Bunch do. Cherry rich soup do. tall rich Italian do. Rounceal do. Sallad do. Windsor and Hotspur garden beans, best in any riddle sifted, onion do. early long cucumber do. different sorts of parsnip and carrots do. and fuffin. The most of the above articles will be sold at Mr. Henry Wright's in Cumberland, and at the new store in Buckingham, besides cabbage, lettuce, savoy, colewort, spinage, &c.

AMSBURG, February 22, 1778.
The Editor of the southern rider for some time having been occasioned by unavoidable accidents, and the very exorbitant price of paper rendering it impossible for the printers to supply the publick on the same terms as heretofore, the subscriber engages a rider as formerly to the following stages, *Swan's Point, Cabin Point, through Prince George to Blandford, and up to Waterbury, from thence through Suffolk by Col. Claiborne's, and to Hicks's ford and Walker's mill in Brunswick, and other intermediate places* where it may be convenient for the publick also to *Nutifax in North Carolina*, provided there be at least two hundred subscribers. The price of the papers twenty five shillings per annum, and the money to be paid on entrance, either to the subscriber or the printers. The printers only engage for one year, and in case of want of paper, or from any other accident their presses may be stopped, I do engage to return, on application, a proportionate part of the money to each subscriber. This business will be undertaken as soon as a number of subscribers shall be procured to make it worth undertaking.

DAVID MASON.

To be SOLD, by decree of the Hon. the COURT of ADMIRALTY, on the 6th of March next, at East Greenwich, in Gloucester county,

A SLOOP about forty or fifty tons burthen, together with her rigging, tackle, apparel, &c. taken up in Chesapeake bay by Capt. Richard Billups and the company under his command in September last, in which vessel was a quantity of FLOUR and BREAD. The said sloop, rigging, &c. may be seen by applying to Richard Billups, who lives near the place.

BEN. POWELL, Marshal.

WILLIAMSBURG, Feb. 25, 1778.

To be SOLD, by decree of the Hon. the COURT of ADMIRALTY, on Thursday the 12th of March next, in the town of Hampton,

A SCHOONER boat about twenty five or thirty tons burthen, with her rigging, tackle, apparel, &c. also a quantity of SALT, RUM, SAIL DUCK, and several other articles, lately taken by Capt. James Barron carrying supplies to the British ships of war.

BEN. POWELL, Marshal.

WILLIAMSBURG, Feb. 25, 1778.

At a COURT of ADMIRALTY held in the city of Williamsburg the 20th day of Feb. 1778,

ORDERED, that the clerk of this court make proclamation in the Virginia Gazette, for three weeks successively, requiring any person interested in a small schooner boat (her name unknown) lately captured by James and Richard Barron, with a quantity of canvas, rum, salt, some cash, and sundry other articles on board, to come into court and claim the same, otherwise the court will proceed to condemn the same according to law. There was also on board the said boat a negro man named Gawin.

(A copy)

WILLIAM RUSSEL, clerk.

DESERTED from the second state regiment, the following soldiers, viz. Benjamin Jacobs, George Brubwood, Thomas Moore, Christopher Carlton, William Allen, Arthur Watts, Robert Singleton, John Nash, jun. Robert Moore, George Moore, William Atkins, David Farinholtz, John Wheatly, jun. John Batts, Henry Wilmore, Albion Gordian, William Rainey, Benjamin Philips, James Mitchell, Major O'Dear, and Thomas Bannan. For the first mentioned nineteen deserters twenty dollars will be given for each, and forty dollars each for the two last mentioned.

January 21.

Extract of a

CAPT. Gifford

us, that on the 20th told him he had received information the Governour that which had just come in, it rose in London, and pulled a Bute's and North's houses. That an and violent against the King and Parliament. His Majesty was frequently insulted, and to the rage of the populace was obliged to keep himself retired. That no foreign troops are coming to America. That the manufacturers stamp their cloths with *American Liberty*. That several persons, speaking in favour of the ministerial measures, had been killed by the mobs. The Governour farther added, that it is reported in New York that Lord Chatham was offered to be at the head of administration, which he declined, unless the King and Parliament would confirm the independency of America, make peace with her at all events, and declare war against France.

Extract of a letter from Albany, dated Jan. 1.

"We have just been informed, from good authority, that the Canadians have taken up arms against General Carleton and the English troops, engaged and drove them into Quebec, where they are now surrounded by them. The Canadians expect to be supported by our people, as soon as the lakes open."

WILLIAMSBURG, MARCH 7.

BY a gentleman from Charlestown in S. Carolina, we have the melancholy account that a most dreadful fire happened in that city the 15th of January. It broke out between 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning, in a baker's shop, upon the corner of Union street, adjoining Queen street, burnt from the Bay as high up in town as old Church street, and down the Bay as low as Stailers alley, not leaving above a dozen or fifteen houses standing in all that compass. It continued without intermission till sunset, and was at length got under by blowing up a number of houses, the fire engines (of which there were about thirty) not proving sufficient to stop the rage of the flames. It was supposed that between six and seven hundred houses were burnt, which contained full three fourths of the trading part of the town, although only one life was lost, a woman who was a tenant in part of the baker's house. He himself has been since taken up, on the oaths of five men, who heard him say, the evening before the fire, that before 12 o'clock next day one half the town should be laid in ashes. This, added to many other circumstances, makes it believed that the city was on fire by design, for which the baker was certainly to suffer. The Governour and Council had directed all the public buildings to be opened for the reception of the unhappy sufferers, and that they should be served with provisions as the military.

A small Squadron, completely manned, was ready to sail from Charlestown the 8th ult. consisting of the following vessels, viz. the Randolph frigate of 36 guns, ship Moultrie, of 20, brig Fair American, of 16, brig Notre Dame, of 16, and the brig Volunteer of 14 guns. It was supposed they were fitted out to attack the British ships cruising off the bar, who have been very troublesome, and there were good grounds to believe found means to keep up a correspondence with some traitors in the city.

By letters from head quarters, dated the 13th ult. we learn that ships were getting ready to take in the Hessian troops, whose time of service was expired. This intelligence was received by deserters, numbers of whom come in daily.

From N. Carolina we learn, that Governour CASWELL had made up five thousand VOLUNTEERS, at the head of whom he was to march to reinforce General Washington in a few weeks.

The French vessel and her cargo, commanded by C. Colleton, which was treacherously given up to the

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enemy by some wicked and evil disposed persons in the county of Lancaster, at Carter's creek, has been fully paid for by the Governour, with advice of Council. This is published to announce to the world, that foreigners trading in this commonwealth may rely upon receiving all due protection, and the strictest justice.

The following reports now circulate in town, viz. That a New England privateer had lately landed part of her crew in the island of Providence, and stripped the forts of all the arms and ammunition in them. That advice was received in England of Burgoyne and his army surrendering; and that upon Lord North's moving in the House of Commons for a farther supply to carry on the war, it was rejected by a very great majority; and on a motion for withdrawing the shattered remains of their troops in America, it was agreed to by as large a majority. It is also said, that a detachment of our army has lately taken thirty seven waggon loads with forage going to Philadelphia, killed twenty of the escort, and made fifty prisoners.

A frigate of thirty guns, from France, is just arrived in North Carolina, deeply laden with all sorts of necessaries for the army.

Deaths.] At Col. Claiborne's, in Suffex, much lamented, Mrs. MARY FISHER, in her seventy fourth year. Through so long a life, her conduct was so truly amiable as to gain her the confidence, love, and esteem, of all her acquaintance.

Advertisements.

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WILLIAMSBURG, March 3, 1778.

WANTED, a quantity of SOLDIERS CLOTHES made with the utmost expedition. Any person willing to undertake this business may know the terms, and receive the materials, at the publick store in this city. Bond with security will be required, as well for the punctual and proper execution of the work, as the faithful application of the cloth, &c.

WILLIAM ARMISTEAD, C. S.

WILLIAMSBURG, Feb. 26, 1778.

A MEETING of the Visitors and Governours of William & Mary college is desired on the first Monday after the twenty fifth day of March next.

By order of the Rector.

JACOB BRUCE, C. C.

WILLIAMSBURG, March 6, 1778.

ALL persons indebted to the subscriber are desired to pay their respective accounts to Mr. John Rowsey, otherwise they will be put into the hands of an attorney, without farther notice. B. DICKSON.

THOSE gentlemen who favoured me with their business as an attorney will please to apply to Mr. William Dandridge, in Richmond, for any of their papers that were left in my hands.

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GEORGE MUTER.

A valuable collection of LAW BOOKS will be sold in Richmond on Monday the 6th of April (being Henrico court day) for ready money.

FOR sale by the subscriber in Charlotte county, against the first of May next, a fine assortment of DRUGS and MEDICINES, with pill boxes, vials, and bottles, a list of which may be seen at the post office in Williamsburg.

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WILLIAM CLARK.

HANOVER, March 2, 1778.

THE creditors of Col. Philip Johnson, who agreed to his deed of trust are once more and for the last time desired to furnish me with their accounts properly stated and authenticated. I shall be in Williamsburg early in April. In my absence Edmund Randolph, Esq; will be kind enough to receive them.

RO. C. NICHOLAS.

BY order of his Excellency the Governour, the men enlisted by Capt. Ancrom, Lieut. Southall, Stubbs, Phillips, and Opie, are to join my company in the state of artillery; for which reason I order all those men, before the fifteenth instant (March) to join the company in York garrison.

CHARLES de KLAUMAN.

Capt. State Artillery.

THE HIGH BLOODED HORSE D A M O N,

STANDS the ensuing season at Mr. Robert Walker's in Dinwiddie, and will cover at forty shillings the leap, five pounds the season, and six pounds insurance. Several extensive pastures, well enclosed, are provided for the mares gratis. All imaginable care will be taken of them, but no insurance against escapes or other accidents.

THE HIGH BRED HORSE

S E T M,

FORMERLY the Esq; of Maryland county, to be let for dollars the cover, all money to be paid by Sellm is a fine dark bay, fat, sound, and healthy, whose sire was old Crab, and dam the beautiful Selima, got by the Godolphin Arabian, and full sister to old Babram. His performances as a racer, I believe, have not been equalled by any horse that ever started on the continent. Good pasturage gratis, and proper care shall be taken of the mares; but I will not be answerable for accidents

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RICHARD PARKER.

THE commissioners appointed by act of Assembly for the more regular laying off the borough of Norfolk and for other purposes, will meet in Norfolk on Thursday the twenty sixth of March. It is desired that all who have business to transact with the commissioners will then attend prepared, that there may be no unnecessary delay. The landholders in the borough may greatly expedite the laying off the town and save themselves a considerable expense, by sending to the surveyor before the twenty sixth the limits and situation of their respective lots. This ought by no means to be neglected by those especially who intend soon to build.

To be SOLD, next Essex court day,

A TRACT of land containing five hundred acres, as fine as any in Virginia, and joining the town of Hobb's Hole, a place of considerable trade. Twelve months credit will be allowed, and the purchaser may have possession immediately, on giving bond, with approved security, to

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SARAH SCANDRET.
GRIFFIN BAUGH.

THE BEAUTIFUL THOROUGH BRED HORSE

SHAKESPEAR,

STANDS at my plantation in Gloucester county, and will cover mares the ensuing season at forty shillings the leap and four pounds the season; the money must be sent with the mares, otherwise they will not be received. Excellent pasturage gratis, but I will not be liable for accidents. Shakespear's sire was old Fearnought, his dam Moll Brazen, who was an imported mare, and her pedigree unexceptionable. He is a beautiful dapple gray, full fifteen hands and an inch high, in high order, and eager for business. MANN PAGE, North river.

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JOHN HARPER, & Co.

MOUNT PRODIGAL, February 18, 1778.

FOR sale, and delivered on purchase, a tract of land in Gloucester county, containing about sixteen hundred acres, lying at the head of Poropotank creek, to which there is a navigable landing bordered with very valuable marth, supported with good high land and swamp range, part of which has been cleared for a meadow. To this estate, fixed on a pleasant hill commanding an extensive prospect, there is an exceeding good dwelling-house with four large rooms on a floor, several good offices, a forty foot storehouse, coach-house, a number of plantation houses, and a neat falling garden, also valuable orchards of peach and apple trees. The creek, branching from York river, affords fish, oysters, and a variety of wildfowl, and has the advantage of water carriage from the land to the markets of Williamsburg and York. Those inclined to purchase will apply to the subscriber, or Thomas Writing, Esq; who is furnished with full power to sell the same.

JOHN HUBARD.

WILLIAMSBURG, February 25, 1778.

TAKEN out of mistake from Mr. Anderson's bar, a pair of saddle bags containing three linen shirts, one pair of shoes, one pair of silver buckles, three pair of stockings, and several stocks. Any gentleman that has got them I hope will return them to Mr. William Russell, as soon as he finds his mistake.

WILLIAM FRAZER.

To be SOLD for ready money, at King William courthouse, on Thursday the 26th instant (March)

A TRACT of LAND joining Coboak mill, containing 310 acres, whereon is a good dwelling-house, negro quarter, barn, &c. two peach orchards. It is a fine place for raising stock, convenient both to church and mill, and a bold stream of water runs on each side of the plantation.

JOHN PERRIN, jun.

To be sold by the subscriber, at his store in Petersburg, by wholesale, for ready money,

A VARIETY of coarse and fine linens, cotton and wool cards, best Hyson tea, a very large assortment of India handkerchiefs, India gingham for women's gowns, scarlet and blue cloth, sewing silk and thread, pepper, copperas, pins and needles, black silk handkerchiefs, white sugar by the cask, a box of well assorted medicines, and salt by the barrel.

JOHN KING.

WANTED immediately, a COPPERPLATE PRINTER. A person of a sober and good character, capable of carrying on this branch of business, may, by applying to Mr. William Sellers, printer in York town, Pennsylvania, or to Mr. John Dunlap, printer in Lancaster, enter into immediate employ.

TAKEN up in Louisa, a brindled cow, with one of her horns tipped off the bone, marked with a crop and two slits in the right ear, and an underkeel in the left.

WILLIAM HUGHES.

TAKEN up in King & Queen, in Sept. 1776, a brindled and white steer, about three years old, marked with a crop and slit in the right ear, and an overkeel in the left.

BETTY GAINES.

AFTER two weeks of this Gazette's publication, upon paper, but the very plain, from time to time with that useful commodity, them now fail to bring in a little danger of another rise, however, being risen to more value, owing to the enemy's getting the paper mills near Philadelphia, from whence we derived our chief supplies, he is under the necessity of asking TWENTY SHILLINGS per annum for his Gazette, one half to be paid on subscribing, the remainder when the year expires; and for advertisements he shall expect, in ready money, from every person, four shillings for one insertion, and three shillings each week after. If they exceed twenty lines, they must pay in proportion to their length.

Gentlemen in arrears for this Gazette must pay them up immediately, if they expect to be served with it any longer; and I shall be obliged to those who object to the advanced price to acquaint me, by post, that their papers may be discontinued.

As the printer is determined to furnish the publick with the earliest and most authentick intelligence, and with every article that can be picked up at this barren season, it will be out of his power to take in any considerable number of advertisements, so long at least as he is obliged to print upon this small paper; but, as far as he possibly can, he will strive to please every body.

No news, it is generally said, is good news; but as the opening of the campaign approaches fast, we must have some, let the complexion be what it will. Agreeable intelligence may very well be expected if our ILLUSTRIOUS GENERAL is properly supported with the needful and voluntary aid of his brave countrymen, a tribute justly due to such uncommon steadiness and merit. This noble conduct being pursued, the printer promises GOOD NEWS to his readers. A contrary behaviour (little to be dreaded, it is hoped) would be the certain downfall of American liberty, and silence her presses for ever.

For a NEGRO MAN about 18 years of age, of good qualities, the printer will give a good price.

Fifty DOLLARS Reward.

DESERTED from Col. *Harrison's* battalion of continental artillery, two soldiers, viz. *Peter Layland*, about thirty years old, five feet nine or ten inches high, has a down back, and stoops much in the shoulders, with red brown hair; he obtained a furlough of Col. *Harrison*, last July, to go to *Northumberland* county for twenty days. *John Fisher*, about twenty four years of age, five feet seven or eight inches high, has light brown hair, and is of a fresh complexion; he obtained a furlough of Col. *Carrington* last October, for twenty five days, to go to *Westmoreland* county. Both the above deserters carried away regimental clothes, blue coat faced with red, and white waistcoat and breeches. Whoever delivers the above deserters to the commanding officer in *York* or at *Williamsburg* shall have the above reward, or twenty dollars for each.

JOHN DANDRIDGE, Capt. of artillery.

STOLEN from the subscriber in *Fredericksburg*, the 17th instant (*January*) a dark sorrel horse nine years old, fourteen hands and a half high, paces and trots, branded on the near buttock W Y, shod all fours, one hind foot white, single tail, and has great spirit. Likewise a light fawn mare thirteen years old, fourteen hands high, shod before, brand supposed to be W G, single tail, trots and gallops, and has the pole evil. They are supposed to have been taken by soldiers from camp to *King William* and *King & Queen* counties, discharged. Whoever delivers the same to me in *Fredericksburg* shall have twenty dollars reward, with reasonable charges, and one hundred dollars on conviction of the thief. **JAMES JARVIS.**

WILLIAMSBURG, Feb. 3, 1778.

LOST or STOLEN out of Mrs. *Vele's* stable, a SADDLE and BRIDLE with plated stirrups and bit. Any person returning the same to Mrs. *Vele*, or to the subscriber at her house, shall have five pounds reward, and no questions asked.

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JOHN KEARNES.

FOR sale, the pleasant and healthy seat called **SCOTCH TOWN**, in *Hanover* county, 23 miles above *Hanover* town, and 27 above *Richmond*. The quantity of land is 1000 acres, 400 of which are cleared and under proper enclosures for farming. The soil is very good, and there is very fine meadow cleared and to clear in sufficient quantity. The best white marble is found there in abundance. The dwelling-house is about 88 feet long and 36 feet wide, very commodious, with a garden, and all office houses fit for the reception of a large family. Negroes, or money, will be accepted in payment. For farther particulars apply to Col. *Syme* in *Hanover*, or the printer of this Gazette.

THERE is for sale, at my plantation in *Amelia*, near *Butterwood* spring, fourteen likely young *Virginia* born NEGROES, who will be sold altogether or in families. They consist of young breeding women, boys, and girls. They will be sold only for ready cash. The terms may be known by applying to me in *Prince George* county, near the courthouse.

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RODERICK BLAND.

STRAYE or eight in blaze face, branded with a star and has a star on his forehead to such information dollars reward.

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from Mrs. *Vele's* in about four feet seven w, has a small dull rtly on both sides, ear buttock I believe, Whoever delivers the *Piping Tree*, or gives him again, shall have ten dollars reward.

JOHN REINS.

TAKEN up in *Botetourt*, near *Fort Lewis*, a strawberry roan mare four years old, about thirteen hands three inches high, not docket, but branded on the near shoulder and buttock IB in a piece. Appraised to fifteen pounds.

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JOHN YOCUM.

TAKEN up in *Orange*, a roan sorrel horse about eight years old, four feet four inches high, with a blaze in his face, his off hind leg white, had on a bell, and branded on the off buttock, as near as can be made out, with a figure of 9. Also a roan colt four years old last spring, about four feet four inches high, with a star in his forehead, branded on the near shoulder M, and on the near buttock W. Appraised, horse and colt to twelve pounds each.

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JOSEPH BELL.

TAKEN up in *Stafford*, a small black horse nine or ten years old, thirteen hands and a half high, and branded on the near buttock IP. Appraised to twelve pounds.

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SAMUEL MARTIN.

TAKEN up in *Stafford*, near Mr. *Hunter's* iron works, a bay horse near fifteen hands and a half high, four years old last spring, with a blaze in his face, a snip on his nose, and branded on the near buttock, but not distinguishable. Appraised to forty pounds.

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THOMAS MASEY.

TAKEN up in *Stafford*, a red steer about six years old, with a white spot in his forehead, a little white under his belly, and marked with a swallow fork in each year. Appraised to eight pounds.

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DANIEL MASON.

TAKEN up in *Effix*, a brindled and pied steer, with a star in his forehead, a white tail, about twelve years old, marked with a crop and swallow fork in the right ear, and with a crop and under-keel in the left. Appraised to forty shillings.

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PETER C. MULL.