

dron under M. Duchasault, and that three more ships are fitting out for the same purpose; so that the squadron will be composed of 19 ships of the fifth rate, who are to take on board 6 months provision. We are assured, that towards next spring there will be at Brest, Rochfort, and Toulon, 60 ships and frigates, all armed, and ready to sail on the shortest notice.

BOSTON, June 2.

Capt. Clouston, in a brig belonging to this state, has taken six prizes, and was left in chase of a seventh the 16th of April; the sixth prize laden with salt, bread, &c. bound from Topsham in England to Newfoundland, is arrived at a safe port; as is also a brig, bound from London for Guinea, laden with arms, powder, cordage, &c. a snow, from Newfoundland for London, with fish; and a sloop, from Lisbon, with wine and lemons, are hourly expected. Two brigs laden with herrings, from Scotland for the Straights, Capt. Clouston burnt.

We also hear Capt. Thompson, in the Rising States, has taken four prizes, one of which he burnt.

Yesterday a brig arrived safe in port, in 21 days from Guadaloupe, with a cargo of salt. We hear she brings an account of many captures being made and carried in there.

An intercepted letter from a tory in New York to his wife in the Jerseys, says, "You must not expect to see me this summer, as the plan of going to Philadelphia is laid aside for this campaign."

June 5. We hear from Ticonderoga, that the enemy were discovered by an officer of the rangers, the 28th ult. on the lake at Split Rock, with two schooners, seven armed gondolas, and a large number of batteaux; and as he heard their morning gun fired some miles below, supposes their whole army to be on their way to that place.

PHILADELPHIA, June 12.

Extract of a letter from Providence, dated June 2.

"Last week a prize brig arrived at Boston, taken in the channel of England eight days after she came out. She brings public intelligence to the beginning of April, whereby we learn that they had received the account of our successful attacks on Trenton and Princeton last winter, which caused the blood thirsty part of the ministry for some time to carry gloomy countenances. The effect was glorious for the noble Americans; the ministry were refused any farther foreign supplies, which we understand were previous to this agreed for. Howe is ordered this summer to act only upon the defensive; Carlton to retire to Quebec, and forward all his troops to the assistance of Howe, excepting a sufficient number to act on the defensive in Canada.

"This day I saw Mr. —, who informs me of his mother, Mrs. — coming from Newport by a flag last Saturday week; she says, a few days before she came away, she was at the house of Mr. John Miller, who came in and said 'the jig is over with us.' Mrs. Miller asked why. He answered, that upwards of thirty letters were then in town, received by the officers from England, all agreeing that a French war was inevitable. Good news to hear of the tories crying out 'the jig is over.'"

We learn, from good authority, that the Governor of New Orleans, on the Mississippi, has seized 14 or 15 sail of vessels belonging to Great-Britain, by way of reprisal, for seizing a sloop on lake Ponchartrane; and for several other insults offered to the Spanish government, particularly seizing a number of American vessels in the Mississippi last year. The Governor has also ordered all the subjects of George of Britain, or as they are termed by the Spaniards, *the royalists*, to depart his government immediately.

By letters from the southward, we learn that Col. Elbert has marched at the head of a small brigade against the enemy in East Florida; and that, from the well known abilities of this Gentleman, great expectations are formed. The reduction of St. Augustine seems to be very properly considered by the southern states as an object of great importance. At present it is the enemy's key to the Indians. It would be an excellent one in the hands of the continent to the Spanish settlements.

We are told that out of 60 sail of vessels, with provisions for the West Indies, under convoy of the Druid, 40 of them were missing, out of which 26 are known to be taken by the American privateers.

Extract of a letter from Sinepuxent, dated June 4.

"On Sunday the 1st instant the schooner Hawke, Zephaniah Eldridge, bound from Boston to Alexandria, ran ashore near this place. The cargo will be saved."

The Hon. Congress have resolved that Albany, Ticonderoga, Fort Stanwix, and their dependences, be henceforward considered as forming the northern department.

June 14. By a letter from General Sullivan, dated 7 o'clock this morning, at Princeton, we are informed that the enemy are advancing in two columns, one by the way of Princeton to Trenton, and the other by Grig's mills and Sowerland's meeting, in order to come, as is supposed, by Coryell's ferry.

General Sullivan, it is said, has marched to intercept the last division.

A Gentleman, who left Trenton at 10 o'clock this morning, says that he heard a heavy firing, from which it is supposed some of the advanced parties have engaged.

It is reported that the great and mighty George the Third, who never heard a gun fire in his life but at a show, has applied, in very humble terms, to the Landgrave of Hesse, for a reinforcement of eight hundred and five men. A vast affair indeed!

WILLIAMSBURG, June 27.

Extract of a letter from a general officer, dated camp, Middle Brook, June 13, 1777.

"For fear I should not have an opportunity of writing you after today for some time to come, and knowing your anxiety for our safety and success, have sit down in order to tell you what is on the carpet, and if the alarm guns do not fire before I finish, shall be happy.

"We have been encamped on this ground about 20 days, had just got all our old warriors drawn together, and began to live in a most social manner. Sir William, that disturber of man's peace, could not endure to hear of our happiness; he is likely to give us some trouble in a day or two, indeed I look for it every moment. Our intelligence says their waggons are now loaded, and every preparation making to move suddenly; from every circumstance, Philadelphia is their object. We are watching their motions, and are preparing to move at one minute's warning. Our game will be to act on their flanks and rear, and am much mistaken if we shall not hang exceedingly heavy on his hands. They have assembled all their troops at Brunswick, and a formidable appearance they make. New York, Long Island, Staten Island, Amboy, and the communication from thence to Brunswick, are drained in a great measure of troops. Howe has come over himself, and is determined to put his much talked of plan in execution. If we can give him a rap over the fingers, it settles the campaign. I have the greatest hopes this may be done, as our army are in the highest spirits, and well found with every necessary implement for the purpose; it is now as well arranged as any army in the universe, and it is a pleasure and honour to belong to it; every thing goes on with the greatest regularity, troops well clothed, well armed, and the greatest abundance of good provisions, the hospitals furnished with every accommodation necessary for the sick (of which, thank God, we have but few) the ablest surgeons on the continent employed to attend them, and, in short, so different are we circumstanced to what we have been used to, that the continental army is visited and admired by thousands from all parts of the world. Shall this vast flourishing, free, and independent continent, fall a sacrifice to British tyranny, for the want of men under these circumstances? Avert it, Heavens! Shall the Americans be called poltroons? The want of men to drive this hostile foe to the devil, gives too much room for the epithet. If ever Virginia relaxes from her former spirited conduct, through a supineness of soul, may she feel the rod. I am told it will not be the case, which has roused my drooping spirits; and your countrymen, now in the field, will exert every nerve to keep the cruel enemy at bay, till our reinforcements get up. The American scale greatly depends on the events of this campaign; every exertion is necessary to make it preponderate, both in the cabinet as well as the field. Lose no time in completing your deficiencies. We have sent numbers of officers on the recruiting service; find them men by some means or other. Business in the fighting way accumulates. The drum sounds to arms. Adieu."

Extract of a letter from General Arnold, to General Mifflin in Philadelphia, dated Coryell's ferry, 11 o'clock at night, June 15th, 1777.

Dear General,

"I have received no intelligence from General Washington since 4 o'clock last evening, at which time the enemy were encamped at Somerset court-house, supposed to be 7000 in number, under the command of Generals Howe and Cornwallis; this is doubtless their main body. Their first design seems to have been to cut off General Sullivan's retreat, and possess themselves of this place; finding that General Sullivan had frustrated their intentions by a forced march, they appear to have given over their first design, and now wish to draw General Washington from his strong hold, which if they can effect, probably a body from Brunswick will take possession of it. Gen. Washington will doubtless disappoint them, as he remains quiet in his encampment. The militia turn out in great numbers in the Jerseys. General Sullivan has gone to Flemington, 12 miles from this; the troops who arrive here are immediately sent off after him. I am very fearful the enemy will retreat to Brunswick before you arrive with your reinforcements, and oblige us to attack them at disadvantage; for fight them we must, when all our reinforcements are in, we cannot avoid it with honour.