

will be glad to find sufficient reasons for such an unexpected event, and for every step that has led to it. There can be no doubt: that particular and public inquiry will be made into this matter. The people, whose all is at stake, and who have been at such vast expence to fortify and maintain that post, have a right to expect it, and the eyes of the whole continent must be turned upon it. If there is blame, let it fall where it is due.

It is said that our men behaved with great spirit in several smaller actions previous to the abandoning the forts and lines at Ticonderoga. Lieutenant Hewitt bravely repulsed a party of the enemy at Mount Hope, with only 26 men. Our picket guard drove back another larger party of the enemy, and could hardly be prevented from pursuing them further than was tho't prudent. Our army was in high spirits, and under no apprehension of retiring from the enemy, just before orders for that purpose were given out.

The lines lately abandoned to the enemy, it is said, were too extensive; they required a larger force to man than was on the spot. If this is true, it is much to be regretted; as it is well known that a few Canadians and Indians, the last war, without any very regular and extensive works, stopped a large British army at that natural strong pass, and gave them a memorable defeat.

Yesterday morning returned into port the cartel from Rhode Island, commanded by Capt. Prince, jun. who has brought 55 seamen, including masters of vessels, in exchange for a like number he lately carried from this port.

Sunday last arrived a coaster from Sheepskut, which she left last Saturday morning. The skipper of which informs, that Capt. McNeill had put in there from a cruise, with a number of officers taken on board one of the British frigates called the Fox, of 32 guns, taken by him in conjunction with Commodore Manly.

A gentleman arrived in town last evening from Newbury Port, and informs that he saw a gentleman from Portsmouth, which place he left on Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock, who gave him an account that a cartel had arrived here from Halifax, the master of which says, that the Fox frigate, mentioned above, was retaken by a 64 gun ship, and had arrived at Halifax two days before he sailed; and that a 40 gun ship was in chase of Commodore Manly.

Extract of a letter from Salisbury, July 1.

"We make two cannon of 3 or 4 pounders, about 600 wt. of shot, a salt pan that weighs about 500 wt. and about half a ton of pig iron, every 24 hours."

Capt. Pierce, in an armed sloop belonging to Warren, in the state of Rhode Island, has taken and sent into a safe port to the southward, a large Jamaica man, with about 500 hogheads of sugar, &c.

A brig laden with rum, &c. taken by Capt. Rolland, in a privateer belonging to Salem, is sent into a safe port at the eastward.

F I S H - K I L L, July 24.

Extract of a letter from Albany, July 21.

"The last accounts from the northward are, that Maj. Yates (of the first New York regiment) with the troops under his command, has abandoned Fort George; but previous thereto, all the stores, to the minutest article, were removed from thence to Fort Edward. Part of the army still remain at Skeensborough; whether they will proceed on from thence, and endeavour to penetrate the country, is yet uncertain; but should they attempt it, there is reason to expect they will meet a warm reception.

"Colonel Skene (who is to be Governor of Ticonderoga, Crown Point, &c.) is with a body of the enemy at a place called Castleton, about 18 miles this side Mount Independence, where he is employed, by proclamations, threats, and flattering speeches, to endeavour to persuade the weaker from their allegiance to the states, and remain idle spectators of the ruin and depredations carried on through their country. Few of them have yet joined, and there is reason to expect few will, as C. I. Warner is near him with a body of troops, to oppose him in his designs.

"General Nixon, with about 1000 men, lies at and about Fort Ann, to obstruct the passages, and intercept the enemy's scouts, of whom our people daily make prisoners. The day before yesterday five were taken between Fort Ann and Skeensborough; three of them appeared like Indians, and upon being washed, were found to be Tories, who were gone over to the enemy from the neighbourhood of Fort Edward.

"General Schuyler continues his head quarters at Fort Edward, where he has a respectable army of continental troops and militia, all in high spirits. The stand will be made at Moses's creek, about four miles on this side of Fort Edward, a place well formed for defence.

"There is nothing from the westward; all is peace there. The Six Nations are gone to hold a conference with Butler and Sir John Johnston, at Oswego; after which they sent word by

two Indians they will immediately come down, and hold a conference with the commissioners at this place."

Extract of a letter from Fort Stanwix, June 27.

"There is not at present any appearance of our being attacked by the enemy; we are however making all the preparations for a defence which the state of the garrison admits. The Six Nations are in general friendly, and seem resolved not to take an active part against us. We are not therefore under any apprehensions from the body of the Indians, though we have reason to fear some mischief will be done by strolling individuals, who do not govern themselves by the sentiments of the nation to which they belong. A recent instance of barbarity shews that this fear is not groundless; I was but just come into the fort, when we received the disagreeable news of the cruel treatment of Cregg, and the murder of one Matthison, an alert privateer. Two Indians, about three quarters of a mile from the fort, having fired upon them, killed Matthison on the spot, and wounded the Captain in the back; after scalping them both, the savages ran off with precipitation. One of our dogs lighting upon the spot where the unfortunate victims were lying, made the first discovery; running to some of the soldiers, halting back to the tragical scene, and returning to the soldiers, with every appearance of uneasiness, he excited an anxiety in them to know what might be the cause of such extraordinary motions. This circumstance was the means of saving the life of Capt. Cregg; his wounds were immediately dressed, and he now lies under the care of Dr. Woodruff, who treats him with the greatest attention and tenderness; his recovery is probable. A number of sachems and warriors from the Oneida Castle and Erieke soon waited upon Col. Gransevoort, and expressed their sorrow for the accident, asserting their innocence, throwing the blame upon the Tory Indians, and declaring their readiness to use every means to discover the murderers, and bring them to justice; a number of them went out with our scouting parties to find out the villains, but they returned without coming up with them."

Twenty six sail of the enemy's shipping, said to be in the Sound a few days ago, are arrived at Rhode Island.

We are credibly informed that the infatuated Tories, who have been deluded by the specious promises of Barton, Brown, Baskirk, and others, have now too late had their eyes opened. Among other things, they were assured of returning to their families by the 1st of April, and if not, being carried out of the province; but presuming to repine at their hard fate, the grumblers have been clapped on board transports, in irons, &c.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, August 2.

Extract of a letter from Cape May, dated July 31, 1777, 5 o'clock.

"At eight this morning the fleet stood off, steering E. N. E. and are now out of sight, and have been there three hours. This morning I was, with many others, of opinion they were bound up the Delaware; but as they could have got in this morning, and did not, I am now of opinion they are making a retreat; if so, they have a fresh wind at S. S. W. which will carry them to the eastward very fast. I believe their whole fleet was in sight, though I could count only 190 sail."

The people of England are in daily expectation of receiving the news of Philadelphia's being in the hands of their General. Every ship that arrives, they are looking for the important intelligence. With what surprize will they hear that Gen. Howe has thrice undertaken the expedition, twice by land and once by water; that his heart hath both times failed him, and that he has not dared to put the matter to the trial; that less than 3000 men insulted him in New Jersey, and confined his whole army in New Brunswick; that when he dared to march out a few miles from that place, our brave countrymen chased him from the state; and when his fleet and army, changing their route, arrived at the mouth of the Delaware, the very report of our preparations melted their hearts, and they shrunk back baffled in their so long boasted enterprize?

On the 9th of May last the sloop Liberty, Captain Treene, with four hands, belonging to Egg Harbour, homeward bound from St. Eustatia, was met within soundings, about sunrise, by the Lark frigate, of 32 guns, Capt. Smith, who fired several shot at the sloop, and about four o'clock she hove to, when the Lark ran her down, the anchor of the frigate striking under her wa'e over her; Capt. Treene and two of his hands caught hold of the anchor, and got through the port holes on board the Lark, but were threatened to be knocked with handspikes, to prevent their getting on board; the other two men were left on the wreck, the sea sometimes washing them off, but by swimming they recovered it again. A packet in company bore down and passed by the wreck, and the men waved their hats, begging their assistance, but no attention was paid them. The sailors on board the Lark offered to go to their assistance, but no orders were given for that purpose, and the two men continued and probably perished on the wreck. The above was sworn to before a magistrate by one of the sloop's people that got on board the Lark, who lately arrived in this city.