

By an express which arrived this morning, we are informed the enemies fleet were seen last night from Turkey point.

**BALTIMORE, August 26.**

On Thursday last appeared off the mouth of Patapsco river, the enemy's fleet, consisting of near 300 sail of men of war, transports, &c. They came to anchor just below the Bodkin Point, where they continued till Friday; when they weighed anchor, set sail, and proceeded up to the mouth of Elk river, and came to off Turkey Point, within sight of Cecil courthouse and Charlestown. It has been reported they landed some of their troops, but it proceeded from their sending a number of boats to Pursusa island, lying between Harford and Kent counties, on which was a large stock of cattle, sheep, &c. some of which they have taken off. Should they attempt to land on the Main, they may depend on having a proper reception. We flatter ourselves of having it in our power to say as much for the Maryland militia, as now is with justice said of the brave New England militia, under the command of Brigadier Gen. Stark, at Bennington.

**WILLIAMSBURG, Sept. 5.**

*Extract of a letter from Major Forsyth, aid de camp to Major Gen. Stephen, dated Christiana bridge, August 27, 1777.*

"Yesterday his Excellency, and most of the general officers, with a good many light horse, left Wilmington, in order to reconnoitre the country below this. We were down as far as the Head of Elk, where we found some people very busy in carrying off some public stores. A large body of the enemy have landed opposite Cecil courthouse, some say 4 or 5000. They have done nothing yet. The militia turn out with great spirit, and patrol down about them. A serjeant deserted yesterday, but was sent off to Lancaster, by which means we did not see him. Whilst we were dining at Mr. Alexander's, at the Head of Elk, an express arrived from General Sullivan, with letters for his Excellency, of the 24th of August, informing that he had crossed over and beat up the enemy's quarters on Staten Island, had taken two Colonels, wounded two others mortally, and made prisoners about 160 privates, and that 3 or 400 more must have been wounded. He has destroyed a large quantity of hay which they had collected, taken a considerable quantity of baggage and arms, and destroyed all their tents. After most of our men had re-crossed, the enemy plucked up spirit and fell upon the rear of about 100, commanded by Major Stewart, and another Major, whose name I do not remember, and obliged them, with about 40 men, to surrender prisoners of war, but not before they had expended all their ammunition, and made the enemy give way. It was owing to the rascals who carried over the boats, and would not proceed above half way, that those brave men fell into the enemy's hands. Upon the whole, it is a glorious stroke, and an exceeding good answer to Peter Livius's letter.

"Our good success to the Northward you no doubt have heard; we are informed 300 more are taken by the Blue Mountain boys, but this is uncertain.

"Our army is now near Wilmington, and will soon be joined by General Sullivan. Our men in good spirits, and the militia turning out almost to a man; so that if Howe should attempt to take a walk into the country, he will be apt to lose a leg or an arm. We only stop here to take breakfast, and then set off for Wilmington."

*Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, August 26, 1777.*

"General Howe is landing his men near the Head of Elk, and General Washington is gone to stop his career with 12,000 continental troops; and the militia are called in, which in a few days more will make 12 or 15,000 more. And then! take care Howe!"

A letter from a member of Congress to a gentleman in this state, says Lord Chatham has taken his seat in the House of Lords, and in a most elegant speech recommended an immediate reconciliation with America, which alone he said could save his sinking country; that they had no more prospect of conquering America than he should have of conquering Great Britain with his old crutch, holding it up to them at the same time; that all the powers of Europe were ready to take advantage of their distracted weak state.

**LONDON, May 15.**

There is a talk of sending the greatest part of the forces that remain in England to serve in America, and of embodying the militia for the defence of the kingdom in their stead, horse and foot guards excepted.

*Extract of a letter from Leipsic.*

"The American war must prove a destructive one to Great Britain. France never had so fair an opportunity of lowering the pride of your nation. My Lord Stormont says very prettily, in his memorial from your trembling and affrighted court, that if the French assist or encourage the Americans, her own subjects may revolt. What artifice! what stupidity! Is it possible that

her small and inconsiderable island could resist her force for a single moment? France knows better; and moreover, she is too wise to be deceived by specious men, or delusive arguments. The truth is, that the English ministry now run great risks from the danger to which they have exposed themselves by their violence and their folly, and are ready to give up all Newfoundland, and the half of your present insupportable taxes, to dupe the French, and to escape the fatal consequences which they foresee must arise from their foolish designs against America. But France knows her interest too well; she will form an alliance with America. She will, by these means secure to herself perpetual security, and she will convince all the world that she is more provident than you think her to be."

May 29. The matter which has so long taken up the attention of the ministry, to very little purpose, is at length finally settled. The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland is, we hear, to propose to the Parliament of that kingdom to raise ten regiments of Irish Catholics, to be employed in the carrying on the American war. The officers, as well as men, are to be all Catholics; and ten Catholic Peers, and men of large fortunes, have already offered their services, and engaged to raise the complements of their respective battalions of 700 men each, without putting government to the expence of a single shilling levy money. This measure is intended to have a double operation: First, with respect to the immediate objects; secondly, in procuring the most able veteran officers in Europe from the respective foreign services the Irish Catholics are at present engaged in.

**NEWBERN, September 19, 1777.**

A few Days ago we received an Account from the Bar, that two English Brigs, one a very large one, the other mounting 10 or 12 Guns, were arrived within the Bar, and had taken several Vessels which lay there, particularly a large French Brig. There were many Vessels there ready to go out, but the chief of them escaped by running up into the Rivers again. The utmost Dispatch is making here to drive these Sheepstealers from whence they came, for tis supposed the fat Mutton on the Banks has been the chief Temptation to this desperate Manoeuvre. The Sturdy Beggar Privateer, of 14 Carriage Guns and 100 Men, the State Brig. Pennsylvania Farmer, of 16 Guns and 80 Men, and the Heart of Oak, a Sloop of 10 Guns and 50 Men, belonging to this Town, are preparing to sail with all Expedition, in Quest of the English pirates.

**STATE of NORTH CAROLINA.**

By his EXCELLENCY

**RICHARD CASWELL, Esquire, Governour, Captain General, and Commander in Chief, of the said State.**

**A PROCLAMATION.**

**WHEREAS** It will be difficult for the Inhabitants of this State to supply themselves with Common Salt, unless the Exportation and Transportation thereof be prohibited, I have therefore thought proper by and with the Advice of the Council of State, to issue this my Proclamation hereby prohibiting the Exportation and Transportation of Salt from this State after this date, untill the Expiration of thirty Days from the date hereof; of which all Naval Officers, Merchants, and other Persons are required to take notice.

GIVEN under my Hand, and Seal at Arms, at Newbern, the 2d Day of September, in the Year of our Lord 1777, and in the second Year of our Independence.

**RICHARD CASWELL.**

By his Excellency's Command,  
**J. GLASGOW, Sec.**

**ADVERTISEMENTS.**

**In CONGRESS, August 6, 1777.**

**THE COMMITTEE of TREASURY** report, That they have conferred with the MANAGERS of the STATES LOTTERY, and find that a considerable number of tickets remain unfold in the hands of the managers, as well as of their agents in the several states; that from the present state of the lottery, and the uncertainty of the enemy's intentions, the committee recommend the drawing to be postponed till the 6th day of November next; and that a further quantity of tickets be transmitted to the several states, and that it be recommended to their respective executive powers to give all the assistance they can to expedite the sales thereof.

Resolved, That Congress concur with this report, and direct the Board of Treasury to cause the same to be carried into effect.

*Copy from the Journals.*

**WILLIAM C. HOUSTON, Dep. Sec.**