

A gentleman arrived in town last week from New Jersey, informs us that General Sullivan, with 1500 men, under Generals Smallwood and Borie, went from Merristown last Thursday se'nnight at noon, crossed at Elizabeth town point, and was on Staten Island at day break the next morning. One party went towards New York till they got in fight of it, the other went towards Amboy; in their course killed many of the new levies, and took Colonels Allen, Barton, and Dongan, 2 majors, 4 captains, 6 lieutenants, 2 surgeons mates, and 203 privates, with which they crossed to Amboy about 2 o'clock. About 3 o'clock the rear guard of our army, consisting of 126 men, was attacked, and twice repulsed the assailants, who suffered much in killed, but our party having expended all their ammunition, were obliged to surrender: among which are Col. Antill, Major John Stewart, of Maryland, a Major of Col. Hazen's regiment, and two other Majors, with 6 or 7 other officers. Four officers of ours are missing.

On the 15th of June died at Jamaica, his Excellency Sir Basil Keith, Governor of that island.

Extract of a letter from Hanover (East Jersey) dated August 24.

"About 11 o'clock last night I returned to this place, from an excursion upon Staten Island. Thursday, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the division marched from this place, and arrived at Elizabeth town at 10 in the evening; moved down to Halsted's point, where there were boats collected, and, and at day break the division had completely crossed. Col. Ogden, with his own regiment, Col. Dayton's, and about 100 militia, crossed at the same time at the Old Blazing Star. General Sullivan moved with General DeBorste's brigade, to attack Col. Barton's regiment that lay at the New Star. General Smallwood, with his brigade, moved in another column to the Dutch church, to attack Col. Bufcark's regiment; and Col. Ogden marched in another column to attack Allen's, Lawrence's, and Dungan's regiments, that lay about the Old Star. General Smallwood's guide, instead of bringing him in the rear of the regiment, led him in full front of them. They formed on the east side of the bridge, and the General was moving over in a solid column to attack them; but the enemy, unwilling to be shot at, retreated to their lines in the north east part of the island. Instead of Bufcark's, it was a British regiment which retreated so precipitately that the General took their stand of colours, burnt seven small armed vessels, and a large barn full of forage. The General being ordered not to go any further than that place, joined General Sullivan at the New Star, who had in a little time settled the matter with Col. Barton's regiment, they being but few in number, and the greatest poltroons I ever saw.

"They made a shew of fighting, but did not stand to receive our fire; we took about 30 of them, and their Colonel. Col. Ogden's party advancing with the utmost precipitation, drove the cowardly enemy before them, took Col. Lawrence, 3 captains, 6 subalterns, 1 doctor, and 80 privates. General Sullivan marched the division to the Old Star, and got them all over except the rear guard, which the enemy advanced upon and took. The bravery of the little party commanded by Major Stewart would do honour to the first troops in the world; they were posted behind a hedge, and kept up such a blaze upon the enemy, that they were forced to retreat every time they advanced; the little party, consisting of not more than 50 men, having bravely maintained their post, and expended their ammunition, Major Stewart, whose gallant behaviour would do honour to the first of characters, told his party that he had too great a respect for their bravery to sacrifice them, that he would surrender himself, and give those that could swim an opportunity to get off; they all pulled off their hats, and begged him not to surrender; that some of them had two cartridges left, that they would fire them, and stand by him till they were cut to pieces. Stewart fixed a white handkerchief upon the point of his sword, and walked as cool as if he had been going to shake hands with a friend; many of the party got over the river. The action was grand, though horrid. I plainly saw the whole. We have lost 3 majors, some captains, subalterns, stragglers, and in all 127 privates."

S I R, Head Quarters, August 25, 1777.

A MESSENGER is just arrived with the enclosed letters from General Arnold and Col. Gansevoort; I am happy in communicating them to your Excellency. Great honour is due to Col. Gansevoort, Lieut. Col. Willet, and the officers and soldiers of the garrison under their command; I cannot too warmly recommend them to Congress. The gallant defence of Fort Stanwix, must convince all the western nations of Indians of the superiority of the American arms.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

H O R A T I O G A T E S.

His Excellency JOHN HANCOCK, Esq; President of Congress.

S I R, Head Quarters, August 28, 1777.

IN the packet I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency a copy of a letter I received last night from Major General Arnold. The defeat and disgrace with which the enemy have

been obliged to retreat from Fort Schuyler, added to the complete and brilliant victory gained by Gen. Stark and Col. Warner at Bennington, gives the brightest lustre to the American arms, and covers the enemies of the United States with infamy and shame. The horrid murders and scalplings paid for and encouraged by Lieut. Gen. Burgoyne, previous to his defeat at Bennington, will for ever stain the honour of the British arms. In one house the parents, with six children, were most cruelly butchered; and this polite macaroni paid ten dollars for each of their scalps. Heaven has, I hope, in store, some punishment for such unheard of crimes.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,
H O R A T I O G A T E S.

The Hon John Hancock, Esquire.

DEAR SIR,

Fort Schuyler, August 22, 1777.

THIS morning at 11 o'clock I began a heavy cannonade upon our enemies works, which was immediately returned by a number of shells and cannon. About 3 o'clock several deserters came in, who informed me that General St. Ledger with his army was retreating with the utmost precipitation; soon after which, I sent out a party of about 60 men to enter their camps, who soon returned and confirmed the above account. About 7 o'clock this evening Hanjort Schuyler arrived here, and informed me that Gen. Arnold with 2000 men were on their march for this post; in consequence of which I send you this information.

I am, dear Sir, your's, &c.

P E T E R G A N S E V O O R T, Colonel.

To the Hon. Gen. Arnold, or officer commanding the }
army on their march to Fort Schuyler. }

Mohawk river, ten miles above Fort Daton, August 23, 1777.

Five o'clock, P. M.

DEAR GENERAL,

I wrote you the 21st instant from the German Flats, that from the best intelligence I could procure of the enemy's strength, it was much superior to ours; at same time enclosed you a copy of the resolutions of a council of war, and requested you to send me a reinforcement of 1000 light troops. As the enemy had made their approaches within 200 yards of the fort, I was determined at all events to hazard a battle, rather than suffer the garrison to fall a sacrifice. This morning I marched from the German Flats for this place; the excessive bad roads, and necessary precautions in marching through a thick wood, retarded us so much that we have but this moment reached this place, where I have met an express with an enclosed letter from Col. Gansevoort, acquainting me that the enemy had yesterday retired from Fort Schuyler with great precipitation. I am at a loss to judge of their real intentions, whether they have returned home, or retired with a view of engaging us on the road. I am inclined to the former, from the account of the deserters, and from their leaving their tents, and considerable baggage, which our people have secured.

I shall immediately detach about 900 men, and make a forced march to the fort, in hopes of coming up with the rear, and securing their cannon and heavy baggage. I am, dear General,

Your affectionate obedient humble servant,

Hon. Major Gen. Gates.

B. A R N O L D.

Fort Schuyler, August 24, 1777. Ten o'clock at night.

DEAR GENERAL,

I wrote you yesterday that the enemy had retreated from this place; at 5 o'clock this evening, by a forced march of 22 miles, through a thick wood, I reached this place, in expectation of harralting the enemy in their retreat. Col. Gansevoort had anticipated my design, by sending out a small party, who brought in four royals, and a considerable quantity of baggage, with a number of prisoners and deserters. The enemy went off with the greatest precipitation, leaving their tents standing, their provisions, ammunition, &c. which have fallen into our hands.

I am, dear General, your affectionate,

Hon. Major Gen. Gates.

B. A R N O L D.

Published by order of Congress.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'ry.

Extract of a letter from General WASHINGTON to CONGRESS, dated August 25, 1777.

"AMONG the copies you will find Gen. Burgoyne's Instructions at large to Lieut. Col. Baum, pointing out the objects of his command, when he was first detached. What we had before was after he marched, and was an answer to a report he had received from him. There was also a mistake in his name before, being called Bern in the copies sent by General Lincoln."

I N S T R U C T I O N S for Lieut. Col. Baum.*

The object of your expedition is to try the affections of the country, to discontent the councils of the enemy, to mount Piefel's dragoons, to compleat Peter's corps, and to obtain large supplies of cattle, horses and carriages.

* Lieut. Col. Baum is dead of the wounds he received in the engagement with General Stark.