

one off to them, it not being in our power to guard the whole river, and the gentlemen, rather than destroy the boats (which would have effectually prevented the slaves getting on board the ships) would run the risk of losing some hundred pounds; as an instance of this, Capt. Townsend Dade had his batteau drawn up and locked in his barn; the night following ten negroes took his oxen, broke open the door, carried her back to the river, and effected their escape. The sufferers, when I came away, were Mr. Fitzhugh of Chatham, three fellows, one wench, and four children; Mr. Fitzhugh of Marmion, one fellow; Colonel Henry Fitzhugh, five fellows; Major Smith, three fellows; Henry Fitzhugh, one fellow; Thacker Washington, two fellows; Mr. Maxley, one wench. I was charged with a flag from Colonel Skisker, to endeavour a recovery of those negroes, but received for answer "they were determined to protect all that came on board." The ships lay off Boyd's Hole four days, all which time they were constantly trading with the Marylanders. We could plainly distinguish carts come down to the water side, discharge their loads, and take from on board the boats what they carried on shore. If a stop is not put to this illicit trade, we shall be eternally infested with those pirates.

Extract of a letter from a Member of Congress, dated York town, Dec. 9, 1777.

"Much is expected from the spirit of Virginia. I hope she will not fall short of the opinion entertained of her. Much good may be done before General Howe can be reinforced."

Monday last 4 negro fellows, belonging to one Mr. Jones of Hampton, attempted to get on board the St. Albans's man of war, two of them were drowned in the attempt, the other two got on board, but the Captain immediately sent a flag ashore with them.

Postscript of a letter, dated Sunday evening, York-town, Dec. 7.

"By accounts from the camp, since the above was wrote, a general action was inevitable, as the two armies were drawn up in order of battle, on Sunday last, when our piquets were drove in by the enemy, and Col. Irwin, of the Pennsylvania force, taken, who had also possessed themselves of Chestnut Hill."

On Saturday the 15th of November 1777, died, near Germantown, Capt. James Foster, of the 15th Virginia regiment. If ever military ardour and patriotic zeal deserved an eulogium, it may, with truth be said, to be due this brave and gallant officer:

Ye patriots, ye have lost a friend;
Ye soldiers, ye have lost a brother.

NEW BERN, January 2, 1778.

Yesterday arrived here the Sloop Heart of Oak, Capt. Dennison, from Martinico, Schooner Sam, Capt. Davis, from St. Eustatius, a Schooner from Bermuda with Salt, a French Schooner from Hispaniola, two Schooners from the Northern States, and a French Snow is arrived at the Bar from Cape Francois.

By Capt. Dennison, we have an Account of the Arrival at Martinico of a large Fleet of Transports from France, having on board 6000 Troops, and convoyed by a 64 Gun Ship and 6 Frigates; also, by Capt. Cunningham, from Hispaniola, we have certain Advice of the Arrival there from France of a Fleet of 50 Sail, having on board 10,000 Troops, and convoyed by more than 20 Sail of Men of War, many of them capital Ships. The Work intended to be done with this Armament was kept a profound Secret; but the most probable was to seize the Island of Jamaica, as a Declaration of War against England was hourly expected in the French Islands.

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in the Island of St. Christophers, to his Friend in this State, dated Nov. 25.

"The British Fleet for the Leeward Islands is just arrived here, and I have seen all the English Papers. They contain a great deal of News. A War with France is inevitable. Lord Stormont has left the Court of France, and the French Ambassador has left the Court of London. The greatest Scene of Hurry and Confusion in England with pressing Men and manning their Fleet. The Court of France has negotiated a Loan of 100 Millions of Livres with the States of Holland. The Spanish Flota has sailed from the Havanna with the richest Cargo ever known for Spain, which without any Doubt will be employed to support the House of Bourbon against their haughty Neighbours the English in this most favourable Conjunction, the continental Ambassadors at the Court of France having received the greatest Assurances that most of the Powers of Europe will acknowledge the American Independency. You may guess at my Situation here, where the Americans, in all Companies, are execrated with the most bitter and envenomed Expressions, and where the Spirits of the People are kept up with the following News, which circulates here for Truth from the first Tables in the Island down to the Barber's Shop, viz. That General Howe is in full and quiet Possession of Philadelphia, having totally defeated General Washington. That General Burgoyne is in North Carolina, having conquered the several States as he passed thro', that Lord Dunmore is in Possession of Boston, having beat

down all their Forts, and that the Rebels were every where flying for Mercy. General Burgoyne's Defeat has been clearly proved here, notwithstanding which it gains no Credit, and so greatly has some secret and fatal Delusion pervaded the Councils of the British Nation, that they shut their Eyes against Truth and Daylight, and sin against their Senses, as did the Jews of old Time, and seem to stand in need of a similar Calamity to make them act as reasonable Beings. Provisions excessive high here. Arrived at Martinica, Heart of Oak, Dennison, Viper, Stowe, and Rachel, Smith, from N. Carolina. Taken, Sloop —, Bailard, from South Key, belonging to Hampton, Sloop Coriers, from Charlestown, carried into St. Kitts."

* * * Our Readers are desired to correct an Error of the Press which passed unnoticed in our last, where, in the Newbern Paragraph, the Judges were said to be appointed for this District, which should have been, for this State.

ADVERTISEMENT S.

Chesterfield in Virginia, Dec. 20, 1777.

For sale, and now stands at the subscriber's plantation at the Falls of James river, Chesterfield county, in the state of Virginia,

THE two noted stud horses, viz. REGULUS, a beautiful bay, full sized, well marked, and remarkable for getting fine foals, both as to beauty and size. He was bred by the late Colonel Baylor, and got by his famous horse Fearnought, out of Jenny Dismal, who was got of Old Dismal; he won 1000 guineas sweepstakes and five king's plates, without ever being once beaten; his sire was the Godolphin Arabian, Jenny Dismal was got by Lord Godolphin's Whitefoot; Regulus won 50l. at Port Royal, at Annapolis in Maryland two 50 pounds, where he beat the famous running horse Apollo, and the first rate horses in Maryland; at Upper Marlborough 50l. at Leeds town 60l. and at Fredericksburg the jockey club of 100 guineas, at which time he carried 10 stone, and although a covering horse, he beat Mr. Page's horse Damon, Mr. Brent's horse Figure, Mr. Spotswood's horse Eclipse, and several others.

RANTER, a fine bay, finely marked, with a very lofty carriage, better than 15 hands high, and is allowed by judges to be as beautiful and fine formed a horse as any ever imported to Virginia. The following is the pedigree which came in with him: Ranter was got by Dimple, son of the Godolphin Arabian, out of the Hampton Court Moona barb mare, his dam by a famous horse of Lord Craven's, his grandam by Crab; Crab was got by the Alcock Arabian, his dam by the Duke of Devonshire's Basto, out of a daughter of a sire of Leeds and the Byerley Turk, his grandam was full sister to Mixbury, both got by the Curwen bay barb, out of a daughter of Spot, son of the Silby Turk, his grandam by the chestnut white legged Lowther barb, out of the Vintner mare; Ranter's dam was sister to Mastin by the dam's side, Mastin's dam was got by Crab, his grandam by Bloody Buttocks, his grandam by Greyhound; Martin was got by Cade, who was got by the Godolphin Arabian; Cade's dam was the famous Roxana; Martin at four years old won the 1000 guineas at Newmarket, was matched the next day to run against the Duke of Ancafter's horse Dart for 500l. a side, which he won, and was sold by Sir Charles Sedley to the Duke of Ancafter the same evening for 400l. There is also for sale, at the same place, several fine brood mares, and a number of full blooded colts and fillies, from one to four years old. Credit may be had for half the purchase money.

WILLIAM BLACK.
N. B. If not sold in two months hence, they will be carried to Charlestown, South Carolina.

NEWBERN, December 20, 1777.

WHEREAS it hath pleased his Excellency Richard Caswell, Esq; Governor, &c. of this State, to order a Court of Enquiry to be held by the continental Officers under my Command, to take into Consideration the Petition of sundry Persons, who are or were Soldiers in the continental Army raised in this State, and suggest they have served the Time for which they were enlisted, and from whom Discharges are withheld: Therefore I hereby desire all Officers now within this State, that are on the continental Establishment, to meet me at Newbern the 7th of January next, to hold the aforementioned Court; at which Place all those who think they are intitled to Discharges, are also desired to attend.

JOHN LUTRILL.

WANTED,

A Journeyman, PRINTER. Any person that is a good hand, may have great Wages, and constant Employ, by applying at the printing Office in Newbern.