

pers which would devulge the whole affair more fully and circumstantially, here he could do *viva voce*. He had spoke handsomely of the behaviour of his troops to this day, under the most severe trials of mind and body. He said there had been much desertion, but it would be found an honourable desertion, if that epithet could be given to desertion; they had left letters greatly to their credit behind them of signing the motives for their desertion.

He thought it his duty to refute the reasons given by the Congress for their conduct.

He sent a second letter to the Congress, soliciting leave to come home, in case they adhered to their former resolutions.

He read a letter from General Washington to him, as part of his speech, dated "head quarters, Pennsylvania, March 11, 1778;" a most elegant, generous and handsome letter to general Burgoyne, of some length.

Coming home, was upon his proposal, he never was considered by the convention of Saratoga as a prisoner; but his proposal to come home, was to return, if required by the Congress, provided the terms of the convention should be protracted beyond the probable time. He came home to do justice to himself and his fellow soldiers, sufferers under a convention signed by his own hand.

A further reason for the committee to proceed, was in his mind, because his name had been so often and so seriously called forth into debate in that house, and so freely treated without doors. The idea gone forth was, that blame was imputable somewhere; and if ministers were innocent, he was guilty. He wished every minister to put himself, for an instant, in his situation. Finding himself under an interdict, in the presence of his country, where is he to justify himself so well as in this house? He sought military enquiries; he was denied them: Why then deny likewise a parliamentary enquiry? The parliamentary enquiry goes not only to the execution of measures, but the measures themselves. Much was due to the men and officers under his command: Why was he denied, through ministerial policy, the presence of his sovereign, to lay their services before him.—General Howe indeed had the consideration and goodness to fill up the vacant commissions in the northern army, at his (general Burgoyne's) recommendation; yet they had meritorious hopes from the crown.

Here he, with great force of argument and spirit, animadverted on the disposition of some persons, to throw all blame off their own shoulders, at the loss of the honour, and sacrifice of the reputations of the officers and soldiers of this country.

He complained that in some parts his orders were superfluous, in others deficient. He again urged the production of his papers.

He disclaimed having any share in taking the command of Canada in any degree from general Carleton, of whose ability, conduct, and zeal for his country, no man had a higher sense: He wished all his letters on that head had been produced and not partial letters: General Carleton was confirmed in the government of the Canadian province and army before his commission was signed or solicited, and he himself thought the appointment perfectly wise of Mr. Carleton. The expedition towards Albany was not his, though the mode of carrying it on was in a great measure his. He proposed a more extensive and different system of war; he totally disavowed the *saving clause* in his instructions to proceed and cross the Hudson's river. He proved that general Frazer had always joined with him in the construction of his orders, and in his plans and hazard of the execution.

Sir William Howe, and general Carleton, with whom he had never differed, nor expressed nor thought disadvantageously of—(far from it) would, he was sure, be equally ready and anxious to vindicate their conduct as he was. If he was guilty, he said, he was deeply guilty. Here he spoke most pathetically and firmly; he called for enquiry; he said he would put not only his life, but what was dearer to him, his honour, his character, and every thing to the test.

He said, whatever might be the error or offence of the general at Saratoga, the troops under his command, once led on, had so exerted themselves, shewn such fortitude and heroism, as to de-

serve the public thanks. On their merit he spoke very forcibly and circumstantially.

Since the catastrophe at Saratoga, and the residence of the northern army at Cambridge, their deportment had been agreeable to military duty, military honour and the honour of their country. He desired an enquiry to see whether the Americans on the principles of public faith are justified in suspending the capitulation of Saratoga, under pretence of an infraction on his part. He compared his case to that of the Romans, when they passed under the yoke of the Sabines, when the general was called before the senate, he made a speech on his justification; but he ended that speech by desiring, that in case the enemy should unreasonably urge the conditions of peace, the treaty might not be abided by, but that he might be sent as a victim to atone by his death, or be sent in chains to the enemy. Such a measure he wished for himself with the Congress, if there should be found the same breach of faith in the enemy. He then reported his wish for an enquiry. He spoke openly and manfully for two hours.

JUNE 2. We are assured, that at the close of the present sessions of parliament, the attorney general will be made lord Chancellor, and created a peer of the realm; the solicitor general will have the chief justiceship of the common pleas; Mr. Dunning, the attorney generalship; and Mr. Mansfield, the solicitor generalship. It is also said, that Mr. Mansfield will be a candidate for the borough of Tamworth (as a representative for which place the attorney general holds his seat in parliament) and it is expected he will be chosen without opposition.

Yesterday a chapter of the order of the Garter was held at St. James's, when the earl of Rochford, and lord viscount Weymouth, were elected and invested with the ensigns of the said order.

On account of the indisposition of the earl of Suffolk, a private chapter of the Garter was held at the Queen's palace, when his lordship was elected, and invested with the ensigns of the said order.

Yesterday lord North kissed his majesty's hand on being appointed lord warden and admiral of the Cinque Ports, in the room of the earl of Holderness, deceased.

Yesterday Edward Thurlow, Esq; took the oaths and his seat in the house of peers by the title of lord Thurlow, baron Ashfield; and after both houses of parliament were prorogued, the right hon. earl Bathurst went to St. James's, as did lord Thurlow, when the former resigned the great seals into the hands of his majesty, which were immediately presented to lord Thurlow, who kissed his majesty's hand on his promotion to the high office of lord Chancellor of Great Britain.

JUNE 3. As soon as the commons came to the bar, the speaker addressed his majesty, in a short, pertinent, and well conceived speech. He assured him, that his faithful commons had in the course of a long and important session voted cheerfully, the most ample supplies, and that he made no doubt they would be faithfully applied to the several purposes for which they were granted; that they had passed several acts for effecting a conciliation with our American colonies, and trusted that they would prove the means of bringing about so desirable an end: That it was with great satisfaction they observed his majesty had embodied that constitutional defence, the national militia; and the more so, as it would enable his majesty to employ the standing military force of the kingdom in operations abroad, and in the defence and protection of our distant dependencies: And finally, that his faithful commons had every rational ground to expect that, by a proper exertion of his forces by sea and land, he would be enabled to punish the perfidy, and repress the insolence of his natural enemies.

The speaker having concluded his speech, the royal assent was given to the sinking fund bill, lord Chatham's annuity bill, and three other bills.

PHILADELPHIA, August 20.

"THURSDAY last the sloop Friends Adventure, capt. Bennet, arrived here from Boston. A few days before she fell in with the Monmouth British ship of war, of 64 guns, the captain of