



# Mud Island Chronicle

Newf from the Garrison of Fort Mifflin



## WILLIAMSBURG, February 28

The first part of the first sentence in the tyrant's speech contains his true affections, viz. that "Nothing could have afforded him so much satisfaction as to have been able to inform Parliament, that his troubles here were at an end;" but in the same sentence and breath, he speaks of the oppressions of our leaders, whereas it is well known that no people would enjoy a greater share of freedom than we do, and that our leaders are fairly and freely chosen by the people, who have always cheerfully submitted to them and finishes the sentence with asserting the object of those leaders always was dominion and power; whereas he knows full well, that, till he forced us to renounce allegiance to him, by a series of oppressions and cruelties unparalleled in the annals of mankind, and solemn and sincere protestations, we constantly looked upon him as our liege Sovereign; and that every Assembly, or Convention, and every county committee, made solemn and sincere protestations of their loyalty and attachment to his Crown and Government; that the last petition of our Congress prayed that we might be continued under his protection, and subject to all the laws and regulations that were in force in 1773, and asked that but for peace, liberty and safety; he knows also full well that had we been aiming for Independence, we might sooner obtain it, and would have been in a much better condition for war, as every day's experience teaches him.

He adds, "they have rejected, with circumstances of indignity and insult, the means of conciliation held out under the authority of our commission." What were the means of conciliation, and how held out? Does he mean Lord Howe's, or rather Lord Drummond's proposal, that we should return under his yoke, on his promise that some acts should be revised, and I know not what done with the Governors instructions? Does he call it "holding out the means of reconciliation?" For an Admiral with a powerful fleet, and a General with a fierce and formidable army, to block up our harbors, and cruise our coasts, and butchering hundreds of people, to propose such terms as these, and to private persons too, for Lord Howe would not consent to treat with the Committee of Congress, but as private Gentlemen. Could we have been more insulted? Or could there have been a greater mockery than such a manner of proposing a reconciliation? But suppose no objection had been made to the humiliating manner in which they were proposed, and uplifted knife or hatchet, ready by his command to strike the fatal stroke on many helpless women and innocent babes on our extensive frontiers? Had all the savage tribes been as ready to undertake the bloody work for him, as some were, and had they been successful, it would have been out of his power to have checked them in their cruel career, till they had despoiled whole countries. Had the Tories in the different States possessed more courage, and had our slaves their cruelty and ingratitude, they would have been engaged in the interior and lower parts of the country, in the same work of death and desolation, whilst the Indians were, with unabating ardor, toiling at it on our frontiers. This might have been our situation for aught that George III, or Lord Howe could tell at the time they mocked us with proposals of peace! But it has been asked by us a thousand times, and never answered, why, if the British King meant to treat with us, if he meant to suffer us to enjoy peace, or if he did not intend at all events to revenge the insult, he thought had been offered him, did he not recall his army, and his inhuman emissaries from amongst the Indians? The falsehood then of this part of his speech is too evident and glaring, and it will stand recorded as an everlasting monument of his wickedness and cruelty.

His next sentence contains an honest concession at least, that much mischief may accrue to him from this war of his own seeking, and I am glad to find that he there acknowledges that it may have a considerable effect on the system of all Europe. Then follows a plain

concession that he has not yet found much unanimity at home as he could wish "one great advantage, however," says he, "will be derived from the object of the rebels being openly avowed and clearly understood; we shall have unanimity at home," but shamefully adds, "founded on the general conviction that justice and NECESSITY of our measures;" for there is not an honest man in England who is acquainted with our proceedings in America and who does not see the injustice and folly of his measures; and yet he impiously attributes his success in Canada to "the blessings of Divine Providence." I will here remark, by the bye, that he is very thankful to Heaven, and thinks highly of the bravery and good conduct of his fleets and armies, that have enabled him to RECOVER CANADA. It is not three years since he thought that five thousand men were able to march through America, but he is very thankful that seven thousand of his best troops have been able to keep their ground in Canada. As to the blessing of Providence, I think that has been greatly in our favor, as might be shown in a thousand instances which gratitude prompts me to fully point out at a future time; and even if the instance before us, I think we have more reason to be thankful than he has; for had we got possession of Quebec, it would have cost an immense expense of blood and treasure to have kept it; our forces would have been too much scattered abroad, and theirs, which are now in Canada, might have been in Philadelphia. He next mentions his success in New York, which every sensible American must see has been of service to us, not only by emboldening his army to attempt to march to Philadelphia, and so put it in our general's power to chastise them as he has, but by enabling General Howe to send such a flattering and true account of his rapid successes, as must even the crafty tyrant of his guard, and induce him to think when he hears them than no farther "preparation is necessary" for another campaign.

He proceeds to tell, according to his custom, of the assurances of amity he has received from the several courts of Europe, but at the same time shows that he put but little confidence in them, for says he "nevertheless it is expedient we should be in a respectable state of defense at home." From this part of his speech, we have confirmation of the accounts we have had of a quarrel between Spain and Portugal. In reading this sentence, I was shocked when I came to "I hope that all misunderstandings may be removed, and Europe continue to enjoy the inestimable blessings of peace." Good God! What a Monster! That he should wish for peace in Europe only, that he might prosecute with more vigor a cruel and bloody war in America! For he could have nothing else in view in this wish, as it is well known that the destruction of thousands in the East Indies, the butchery of the unhappy Caribs, the miseries of war in Corsica and Poland and the dreadful carnage in battles between the Russians and Turks, were viewed by him with pleasure and unconcern; and what can be said for his calling peace an INESTIMABLE blessing, and yet, thus inhumanly robbing us of it! In his address to my Lords and Gentlemen, he then asserts that "no people ever enjoyed more happiness or lived under a milder government than the revolted provinces. I must desire the readers of this part of the speech to pursue the proceedings of Congress, if they do not see the falsehood of this assertion. It is curious enough to find him attributing our "improvements in every art," which he meanly says "we boast so much of," and our numbers, etc to the mildness of his government, which has been a series of oppressions and cruelty. No sooner had he patched up a peace with France and Spain than he prepared for war with his subjects, and began it by trying the strength of his prerogative at home, and hardening the hearts of his troops, and training them up to slaughter their fellow citizens without remorse. His fleets were brought on by the same kind of discipline to be able to go through the destructive work they are now

engaged in. Captains of ships of war were made Customs House Officers, and were soon rendered very expert in pursuing, searching, and plundering all vessels which fell in their way. They were taught that our trade was altogether under the direction of Parliament, and were awed into a belief that it was our duty to submit to every oppression and insult they might offer. If we dared to complain, or think of resistance, we were to be convinced that resistance was in vain. The little vessels of the distressed trader in these colonies, flying from their ships of war with a few comforts and necessities of life, bough of the cheaper markets than England afforded, gave them an idea that their ships would always sweep our seas. The success of the hired ruffians of Bentford, and the guards of St. George's fields led the tyrant to believe his armies would meet on resistance in America. His ships and tenders had effectively cut off our supply of species from the West Indies with which remittances were made to England in his grandfather's reign. He then began to execute Sir William Keith's scheme of raising a revenue in America, a scheme which has been rejected as dangerous in the reign of George II. Pharaoh like he attempted to make bricks without straw. From the fertility of our soil and the blessing of heaven on our labors, great numbers of acquired comfortable fortunes under the milder government of his predecessors, and from the natural ingenuity of our people, we have rivalled the Europeans in arts and science. But it may well be doubted whether we should not have been at this day in the depths of ignorance and wretchedness had we never experienced more "happiness and a milder government" than we did under George III. And had our ancestors known nothing of the blessings of liberty, and had they not bled for it in England, to secure it to the ungrateful and infatuated people of that island, or had they not fled to enjoy it here, or had we always been ruled with a rod of iron, we might need indeed to have been in such a state of misery and ignorance as to not know the rights of mankind or how to vindicate them. But the intolerable oppression, insults, and diabolical cruelty we experienced under his reign must have driven us to despair which would easily enable us to "make head against the whole power," as he calls it, "of the mother country." But the difficulty he finds now in conquering America, he foolishly attributes to her vast power, acquired purely by the merciful effects produced by unanimity and zeal amongst a brave people struggling for their dearest rights and privileges. I am your humble servant,

AN AMERICAN

## BOSTON, February 6

*extract of a letter from Boudreaux, Dec 13*

I have the pleasure of informing you that the honorable BENJAMIN FRANKLIN esq. has arrived safe at Namtz on the 6<sup>th</sup> and instantly set out for Paris. He took tow prizes on the Cape loaded with wine and brandy, which he sent to Quiberoon bay, between this and Namtz. The people at large here are all your friends and I believe the government of France are disposed to favor you. A war between the powers of France, Spain, and Great Britain is said to be unavoidable. Great preparation for war is being made all over Europe.

## IN CONGRESS, February 24

RESOLVED, that the Board of War be directed to send letters, by express, to the colonels or other commanding officers of the several regiments now raising and recruiting in the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia, ordering them to immediately march the troops enlisted under their command to join the army under General Washington. Proper officers being left behind to recruit companies or corps and to bring up the recruits.



# Mud Island Chronicle

## Newf from the Garrison of Fort Mifflin



### LONDON, OCTOBER 31, 1776

A speech by King George III to Parliament:

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My Lords and Gentlemen: Nothing could have afforded me so much satisfaction as to have been able to inform you, at the opening of this session, that the troubles, which have so long distracted my colonies in North America, were at an end; and that my unhappy people, recovered from their delusion, had delivered themselves from the oppression of their leaders, and returned to their duty: but so daring and desperate is the spirit of those leaders, whose object has always been dominion and power, that they have now openly renounced all allegiance to the crown, and all political connection with this country; they have rejected, with circumstances of indignity and insult, the means of conciliation held out to them under the authority of our commission; and have presumed to set up their rebellious confederacies for independent states. If their treason be suffered to take root, much mischief must grow from it, to the safety of my loyal colonies, to the commerce of my kingdoms, and indeed to the present system of all Europe. One great advantage, however, will be derived from the object of the rebels being openly avowed, and clearly understood; we shall have unanimity at home, founded in the general conviction of the justice and necessity of our measures.

I am happy to inform you, that, by the blessing of Divine Providence on the good conduct and valor of my officers and forces by sea and land, and on the zeal and bravery of the auxiliary troops in my service, Canada is recovered; and although, from unavoidable delays, the operations at New York could not begin before the month of August, the success in that province has been so important as to give the strongest hopes of the most decisive good consequences: but, notwithstanding this fair prospect, we must, at all events, prepare for another campaign.

I continue to receive assurances of amity from the several courts of Europe; and am using my utmost endeavors to conciliate unhappy differences between two neighboring powers; and I still hope, that all misunderstandings may be removed, and Europe continue to enjoy the inestimable blessings of peace: I think nevertheless that, in the present situation of affairs, it is expedient that we should be in a respectable state of defense at home.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons: I will order the estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you. It is matter of real concern to me, that the important considerations which I have stated to you must necessarily be followed by great expense: I doubt not, however, but that my faithful Commons will readily and cheerfully grant me such supplies, as the maintenance of the honor of my crown, the vindication of the just rights of Parliament, and the public welfare, shall be found to require.

My Lords and Gentlemen: In this arduous contest I can have no other object but to promote the true interest of all my subjects. No people ever enjoyed more happiness, or lived under a milder government, than those now revolted provinces: the improvements in every art, of which they boast, declare it; their numbers, their wealth, their strength by sea and land, which they think sufficient to enable them to make head against the whole power of the mother-country, are irrefragable proofs of it. My desire is to restore to them the blessings of law and liberty, equally enjoyed by every British subject, which they have fatally and desperately exchanged for all the calamities of war, and the arbitrary tyranny of their chiefs.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS

As the subscriber proposes leaving the country in April next, he requests the favor of those who have unsettled accounts with him, for business transacted at this place on account of COLIN DUNLOP & SONS of Glasgow, to apply, in order that their respective balances may be ascertained by specialty or otherwise before his departure; and those who have any claims against him, or said company, are desired to make them known.

ALEX CAMPBELL

#### ADVERTISEMENTS

##### *Ten Dollars reward*

Deserted from Col. Charles Harrison's regiment of artillery, DUNCAN COWAND, a short well-made man with red hair and eyes, by trade a ditcher. He has taken bounty money from three or four recruiting officers and will no doubt endeavor to deceive more. I have reason to think he is lurking about GERMANTOWN, where I enlisted him.

WILLIAM GAINES

Lieut. of artillery

Deserted from company, JOHN WEBSTER, of Abington, about 22 years old, 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, has blue eyes and light hair, his dress I cannot describe. I will give TWENTY DOLLARS for delivering him to me, or the commanding officer at Chester.

ABNER CRUMP, Cpt.

GEORGE COX, of my company, who has been for some time absent on furlough, is hereby ordered to repair immediately to CHESTER, to join his company otherwise he will be treated as a deserter. Those persons who are properly authorized to receive the wages of JOHN TAYLO, WILLIAM HAMLET, and FREDERICK HIX deceased, are desired to apply to me at CHESTER for what is in my hands.

ABNER CRUMP, Cpt.

#### 140 DOLLARS REWARD

Deserted from capt Francis Moore's company in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Georgia battalion, the 16<sup>th</sup> of this instant (February) the following soldiers, viz, NATHANIEL HALL and THOMAS ELLIS (who I understand are gone northward), LITTLETON WILLIAMSON, BEVERLEY SHELTON, JOHN JORDAN, WILLIAM ADAMS, and ELISHA HEATCOCK. The above reward will be given for delivering the said deserters to capt Moore's company on their way to Georgia, or ten dollars for each, upon their being delivered to capt Andrew Geter, or any other commissioned officer or secured in the New Castle jail until I can get them. The five last mentioned deserters I imagine are in New Castle, having relations in the area.

ABRAHAM JONES, ensign

#### FOR SALE

A sloop about 3000 bushels burthen, with her rigging, tackle, and apparel, now laying in the Susquehanna near Perry Point. Any person inclinable to purchase may see the vessel, and know the terms by applying to the subscribers in Port Perry.

MALLORY & TOOD

#### FOR SALE, now on the stocks,

A new well build BRIG, burthen about 110 tonnes, double decked, and fitted for the West India trade. Any gentleman inclinable to purchase may, by applying to mr RICHARD PARKER of New Castle county, be acquainted with the terms, and will be shown the vessel on the North East river.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY, three or four SAILORS, who will meet with good encouragement by applying to

ALEX BELL

Those persons entitled to shares in the prize lately taken by capt THOMAS LILLY, are desired to apply immediately, with proper certification from the captain, to the subscriber, otherwise they will be proportioned between the rest of crew,

BENJAMIN POWELL, marshal

LOST by the subscriber near FAIRMONT, about the first of May last, a sorrel mare about 4 feet 6 inches high, no brand perceivable, has a large blaze in her face inclining to the off side, her hind feet white, glass eyes, and paces and gallops well; she was bred in Lancaster county, and would probably go back there. Whoever delivers this said mare to mr JOHN GEORGE in FAIRMONT shall have 10 dollars reward, or 15 if delivered to col Edmund Pendleton of Carolina at the encampment in Valley Forge.

AMBROSE WALDEN

#### ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED IMMEDIATELY, four or five good HOUSE CARPENTERS for which a good price will be given by applying to me.

FRANCIS JARAM

The subscriber has for SALE, any quantity of exceedingly good PIT COAL, at the falls of the Schuylkill River, Price one shilling per Bushel, for ready money only.

THOMAS SOWELL

TO BE SOLD on Monday the 31<sup>st</sup> instant (March) at the late dwelling house of Mr WILLIAM PEARSON, deceased, for ready money, a variety of HOUSEHOLD and KITCHEN FURNITURE, also a CART and TEAM OF HORSES, a very good DOUBLE CHAIR, and several head of CATTLE. The sale is to begin at 10 o'clock.

MARY PEARSON, administerix

The following ARTICLES of MERCHADISE are for sale at the brick house next door above Mr Purdie's printing office, wholesale or retail, viz, PAPER, HATS, SHOES, LINEN, ready made SHIRTS, DRUGS and MEDICINES, best Boudreaux WINE, and a great variety of other things by

MILON & HORACE

To be Sold, Wholesale or Retail at the shop occupied by Mr Blovet Passeur, the following Article, viz, COURSE and FINE LINEN, CALICOES, HANDKERCHIEFS, BOOK MUSLIN and RIBBONS of all kinds, LACE RUFFLES for Gentlemen and Ladies, GLOVES, POMADE and POWDER of PARIS, Ladies TOILETS, LIQUORS of every sort.

As I am to leave the country in a short time, those who have any just claim against MICHAEL & JOHN WALLACE & CO are desired to apply and they shall be discharged.

MICHAEL WALLACE

#### JUST IMPORTED

In the ship NONSUCH, from MADRID and to be sold by SHAW & CHISHOLM at the house of John Shaw, near the State House, a neat assortment of mahogany framed LOOKING GLASSES, BACKGAMMON TABLES, DRAUGHTS BOARDS, TEA CHESTS, CRIBBAGE BOARDS, DECANTER STANDS, KNIFE BOXES, and a variety of WALKING STICKS.

N. B. Imported in the same ship, a neat fine toned PIANO FORTE, to be sold at A CHISHOLMS.

### For the Mud Island Chronicle

Cold winter past, the icicles no more  
Hang pendant from the snowy mantled eves;  
All nature now looks smiling as before,  
The pouting buds are rip'ning into leaves,  
The tuneful birds proclaim the rising year,  
While sportive lambkins skip along the green;  
Bedeck'd with flowers the verdant fields appear,  
And spring in all her luster now is seen,  
Yet what avail the pleasing scenes around,  
Since cruel war its crimson flag displays,  
Amidst our fields, where the shrill clarions sound,  
And war alarming drums their voices raise?  
Where late the peaceful hind was wont to dwell,  
In martial form the embattled legions stand!  
A friend, perhaps, by his own friend here fell,  
And here a brother by a brother's hand,  
The mother, quite disconsolate, does mourn,  
Her son (perhaps an only child) is slain;  
The bride impatient waits her lord's return,  
Who now, alas! Will never return again.  
That all-consuming discord soon may cease;  
Endow our lands with happiness again,  
And I, and all the world with ENDLESS PEACE.

PORT ROYAL, March 16, 1773