MR. ADAMS'S LETTERS.

LETTER XXV.

AMSTERDAM, OCT. 27, 1780.

SIR,

QUESTION twenty-eighth.—"*Has America "gained, or loſt, by the mutual capture of "ſhips? How much is the benefit, or prejudice, of "it by calculation?*"

America has gained. She took early, from the Engliſh, ordinance and ammunition ſhips, and ſupplied herſelf in that way with thoſe articles when ſhe had them not, and could not otherwiſe obtain them; ſhe has taken, in this way, a great number of Britiſh and German ſoldiers; ſhe has taken a vaſt number of ſeamen, who have generally inliſted on board our privateers; ſhe has taken great quantities of proviſion, cloathing, arms, and warlike ſtores; ſhe has taken every year more and more, ſince, 1775, and will probably continue to take more and more every year, while the war laſts. I have certain intelligence, that there have been this year carried into Boſton and Philadelphia only, ninety-nine veſſels, in the months of July and Auguſt. On board of theſe veſſels there were not leſs than eight hundred ſeamen: Many of the ſhips were very rich. The veſſels the Engliſh have taken from the Americans were of ſmall value: This year they have been few in number.

I am not able to give you an exact calculation. The Quebec ſhips were worth from thirty to forty thouſand pounds ſterling each, and there were two-and-forty of them in number.

Privateering is a great nurſery for ſeamen; and if the Americans had not imprudently ſacrificed ſuch a number of their frigates and privateers in the attack and defence of places, theſe alone would, by this time, well nigh have ruined the Britiſh commerce, navy, and army.

I have the honor to be, &c.

JOHN ADAMS.

MR. CALKOEN.

LETTER, XXVI.

AMSTERDAM, OCTOBER 27, 1780.

SIR,

I BELIEVE you will be pleaſed, when I tell you, I now come to the twenty-ninth, and laſt queſtion, which is, "*What are the real damages "ſuſtained, or ſtill to be ſuffered, by the loſs of "Charleſton? And what influence it has had upon "the minds of the people?*"

An interruption of the commerce of indigo and rice; the loſs of many Negroes, which the Engliſh will ſteal from the plantations, and ſend to the Weſt-India iſlands for ſale; a great deal of plunder of every ſort; much unhappineſs among the people, and ſeveral lives of very worthy men will be loſt: But the climate will be death to European troops; and, at an immenſe expence of men and money, they will ravage for a while, and then diſappear.

The effect of the ſurrender of Charleſton, and the defeat of Gates, has only been to awaken the people from the dreams of peace.

The artifices of the Engliſh, holding out ideas of peace, ſeem to have deceived both the Americans and their allies, while they were only contriving means to ſuccour Gibraltar, and invade Carolina. The people are now convinced of their miſtake, and generally rouſed. But theſe diſaſters will have no more effect towards ſubduing America, than if they had taken place in the Eaſt-Indies. I have the honor to be, &c.

JOHN ADAMS.

MR. CALKOEN.

SEASONABLE HINTS.

AT this inclement ſeaſon, as our ſeamen are often put to difficulties, and our mercantile intereſt ſubject to great loſs in conſequence of the obſtruction which happens to the navigation by the formation of the ice in our rivers and bays, whereby veſſels have been impeded in their courſe ſometimes to the great injury of veſſels, loſs of property, and endangering, if not actual loſs of, the lives of many of that valuable claſs of men, the ſeamen—as well as attended with ſuffering and hardſhips; which it becomes the humane to endeavor to provide againſt, ſo far as is conſiſtent with their abilities: With this view, I have wiſhed that the following ſimple method of breaking away the ice a-head of the veſſel might generally be known—for which purpoſe the printers of the ſeveral newſpapers on the continent may give it a place in their papers.

When a veſſel is incloſed with ice, which is practicable to make a way through, let a boat be taken a-head of the veſſel, and fixed with a rope through the ring-bolt in the head of the boat, up to the head of the bowſprit; then hoiſt the fore-part of the boat up a little, ſo that it will have a bearing forward on this rope; faſten the ſtern of the boat to the head of the veſſel, and break away the ice about the bow of the veſſel, ſo as to let the ſtem of the boat ſink a little into the water, and about one third of the length of the boat from the ſtern, to have a bearing with the keel of the boat on the edge of the unbroken ice a-head: now load the boat with eight or ten barrels of flour, or other heavy lumber ſufficient, and let two men get into the boat, and rock it from ſide to ſide continually, at the ſame time have the neceſſary ſail ſet on board the veſſel, and the boat will break away with her keel, the ice, ſo as to admit a paſſage for the veſſel.

This method has been ſucceſſively practiſed in divers inſtances, ſo as to bring veſſels through a body of ice which appeared otherwiſe impracticable; and at the rate of three miles an hour, has cleared a paſſage out of creeks, and up creeks, through a body of ice which would bear, as my informant mentioned, a ſled and two horſes, to the admiration of ſome ſpectators.

The very aukward manner which ſome foreigners, who may be unpractiſed in navigating northern ſhores, have attempted to diſengage veſſels from among ice in our river, has induced the writer of this more particularly for their information, to communicate this ſimple method of breaking it for their benefit: The American navigators, being remarked for their activity and ingenuity, may not ſtand in need of any hints on this head. B.

From a Philadelphia paper.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

ABSTRACT *of* JOURNAL *of the* FIRST SESSION *of the* SENATE *of the* UNITED STATES.

THURSDAY, Auguſt 6.

THE Senate proceeded to a ſecond reading of a bill, entitled, "An act for allowing a compenſation to the Preſident and Vice Preſident of the United States," and committed it to Mr. Morris, Mr. Read, Mr. Elmer, Mr. Schuyler, Mr. Langdon, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Ellſworth, Mr. Strong, Mr. Few, Mr. Izard Mr. Lee.

"CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
MONDAY, July 27, 1789.

The Houſe proceeded to conſider the report of a committee of the whole Houſe, to whom was referred the report of the committee appointed to confer with a committee of the Senate, in preparing joint rules to be eſtabliſhed between the two Houſes, for the enrolment, atteſtation, publication, and preſervation of the acts of Congreſs; and to regulate the mode of preſenting addreſſes and other acts to the Preſident of the United States: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the following be eſtabliſhed joint rules between the two Houſes, to wit:

That while bills are on their paſſage between the two Houſes they ſhall be on paper, and under the ſignature of the Secretary or Clerk of each Houſe reſpectively.

After a bill ſhall have paſſed both Houſes, it ſhall be duly enrolled on parchment by the Clerk of the Houſe of Repreſentatives, or the Secretary of the Senate, as the bill may have originated in the one or the other Houſe, before it ſhall be preſented to the Preſident of the United States.

When bills are enrolled, they ſhall be examined by a joint committee of one from the Senate, and two from the Houſe of Repreſentatives, appointed as a ſtanding committee for that purpoſe, who ſhall carefully compare the enrollment with the engroſſed bills as paſſed in the two Houſes, and correcting any errors that may be diſcovered in the enrolled bills, make their report forthwith to the reſpective Houſes.

After examination and report, each bill ſhall be ſigned in the reſpective Houſes, firſt by the Speaker of the Houſe of Repreſentatives, and then by the Preſident of the Senate.

After the bill ſhall have thus been ſigned in each Houſe, it ſhall be preſented by the ſaid committee to the Preſident of the United States for his approbation, it being firſt endorſed on the back of the roll, certifying in which Houſe the ſame originated, which endorſement, ſhall be ſigned by the Secretary or Clerk, as the caſe may be, of the Houſe in which the ſame did originate, and ſhall be entered on the journal of each Houſe. The ſaid committee ſhall report the day of preſentation to the Preſident, which time ſhall alſo be carefully entered on the journal of each Houſe.

All orders, reſolutions and votes, which are to be preſented to the Preſident of the United States for his approbation, ſhall alſo in the ſame manner be previonſly enrolled, examined, and ſigned, and ſhall be preſented in the ſame manner, and by the ſame committee, as is provided in caſe of bills.

That when the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall judge it proper to make a joint addreſs to the Preſident, it ſhall be preſented to him in his audience chamber by the Preſident of the Senate, in preſence of the Speaker and both Houſes."

Read, and reſolved, That the Senate do concur in the report.

A meſſage from the Houſe of Repreſentatives, with a bill, entitled, "An act for regiſtering and clearing veſſels, regulating the coaſting trade, and for other purpoſes"—

An enrolled bill, entitled, "An act for the ſupport of light-houſes, beacons, buoys, and public piers"—

An enrolled bill, entitled, "An act to provide for the Government of the territory north-weſt of the river Ohio"—

An enrolled bill, entitled, "An act to eſtabliſh an Executive Department to be denominated the Department of War;"—Severally ſigned by the Speaker of the Houſe of Repreſentatives.

The three laſt mentioned bills were ſigned by the Vice Preſident, and delivered to the committee of enrolment for preſentation—Which was accordingly done.

Proceeded to the firſt reading of a bill, entitled, "An act for regiſtering and clearing veſſels, regulating the coaſting trade, and for other purpoſes,"

And aſſigned Monday next for a ſecond reading.

The Secretary carried to the Houſe of Repreſentatives the bill, entitled, "An act to eſtabliſh the Treaſury Department." with the reſolution of the Senate to *inſiſt* on their eighth amendment: Alſo

The concurrence of the Senate in the reſolve of the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the 4th of Auguſt, and the appointment of a committee on the part of the Senate, to conſider the buſineſs neceſſary to be tranſacted previous to a receſs of Congreſs. Adjourned.

ADVERTISEMENT.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL OF THE OHIO COMPANY.

WHEREAS, in the opinion of the Agents, it is very much for the intereſt of the proprietors at large, that all the lands of the purchaſe ſhould be divided and allotted as immediately as may be—And in order to accommodate them generally, by the option of claſſing as they may think proper, and drawing their rights or ſhares (where they may poſſeſs more than one) either together in contiguity, or by detaching and annexing them, to diſtinct claſſes or diviſions (at their own election) to give them the greater chance for variety in ſoil and ſituation—It is unanimouſly reſolved, That as ſoon as the exploring committee ſhall have appropriated the lands for donation ſettlements, in quantity ſufficient for all the proprietors, WINTHROP SARGENT, JOSEPH GILLIMAN, and RETURN J. MEIGS, Eſquires, who are hereby appointed a committee for that purpoſe, ſhall immediately make out, upon a large ſcale, a complete map or plan of the whole purchaſe from the beſt information, which they may be *then* able to obtain, expreſſing all the lands of the eight acre, three acre, city lots and commons, one hundred and ſixty acre, and donation lots, the reſerved lots of Congreſs, ſchool lots, and lots appropriated for religious purpoſes—alſo, the two townſhips given by Congreſs for an univerſity, and the towns or ſituations for towns to be reſerved by the company for a future allotment.—*That*, all the reſiduary lands ſhall be, by them, the ſaid committee of three, divided and numbered upon paper, into forty equal grand diviſions of twenty-five ſhares each, as like in quality as may be: That each grand diviſion be divided into five ſub-diviſions of five ſhares each, and each ſub-diviſion into ſections of ſingle ſhares:—That as ſoon as the map or plan is completed, the agents will form or claſs their ſubſcribers (who ſhall not previouſly claſs themſelves) by ſections or ſingle ſhares, into ſub-diviſions of five, and grand diviſions of twenty-five, and immediately proceed to drawing by lot for ſaid lands; by grand diviſions, ſub-diviſions and ſections: That in all draughts of ſub-diviſions (into ſections) which may be made up of proprietors, holding four, three, or two and ſingle ſhares, it ſhall be the uſage for the greateſt proprietor, or holder of the greateſt number of ſhares, to take his lands in contiguity, by lot, either in the ſouthern or northern part of the ſub-diviſion, where they ſhall be numbered from north to ſouth, and in the weſtern or eaſtern (by lot alſo) where they may be numbered from weſt to eaſt; and where ſub-diviſions may be made up of two proprietors of two ſhares each, and one of one ſhare, the two greateſt proprietors ſhall receive their ſections, by lot, either in the ſouthern or weſtern part of the ſub-diviſion. *Reſolved*, That the before named committee, be directed to prepare the names and numbers, and make all the neceſſary arrangements for the intended draught: That previous to the drawing for this ultimate grand diviſion of lands, there ſhall be returns of the proprietors, as they may be claſſed by the agents (or otherwiſe) lodged in the Secretary's office, and it is recommended in all caſes to conſult the inclinations and intereſts of the proprietors in the order of claſſing.

Reſolved, That the agents will give public notice of the time and place of drawing, and that there be two perſons no ways intereſted in the draughts, who ſhall be ſworn to the faithfully drawing out the names and numbers from the boxes, and who alone ſhall be employed in this buſineſs for the draught of grand diviſions, ſub-diviſions, and ſections.

Reſolved, That the Secretary cauſe the foregoing reſolutions to be publiſhed in the newſpapers of New-York, and the New-England States; to the end that the proprietors at large may have the option of claſſing themſelves as they may think proper: And they are hereby requeſted ſo to do, and to expreſs themſelves upon *this ſubject*, either to their reſpective agents, or by information in writing addreſſed to, and to be lodged with the Secretary, at his office in the city of Marietta, previous to the firſt Monday of March, 1790—Upon which day it is expected the diviſion will take place.

WINTHROP SARGENT,
Secretary to the Ohio Company.

Marietta, 3d November, 1789.

ADVERTISEMENT.

☞ *THE Gazette of the United States circulates in every part of the Union—being honored by ſubſcribers in Georgia, South and North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennſylvania, New-Jerſey, New-York, Connecticut, Rhode-Iſland, Maſſachuſetts, New-Hampſhire, and Diſtrict of Maine, Canada, Europe, and the Weſt Indies. This extenſive circulation renders it a proper vehicle for* ADVERTISEMENTS *of a general, commercial and governmental import:—By the particular deſire and advice, therefore, of a number of its patrons, this paper will be open for the reception of advertiſements of the above deſcription; which as they will convey intelligence of an intereſting nature, the Editor hopes their inſertion will meet the approbation of his friends in general. Should the number at any time amount to more than a page in the Gazette, they will be given in a Supplement.*

JOHN FENNO.

PRICE CURRENT.——NEW-YORK.

DECEMBER 26.——DOLLARS at 8s.

JAMAICA Spirits,	5/3. a 5/6	Do. 22 inch do.	1l. 6/.
Antigua Rum,	4/9. a 5/.	Do. 18. inch do.	18/
St. Croix, do.	4/4. a 4/8.	Butt white oak ſtaves,	35/.
Country, do.	2/10. a 3/.	Pipe do. do.	9l.
Molaſſes,	2/5. a 2/6.	Hogſhead do. do.	6l. 10/.
Brandy,	5/9. a 6/.	Do. do. heading,	8l.
Geneva,	5/.	Iriſh barrel do. ſtaves,	3l. 5/.
Do. in caſes,	28/. a 29/.	Hogſhead red oak do.	5l. 5/.
Muſcovado Sugar,	80/. a 72/.	Do. French do.	5l.
Loaf, do.	1/3.	Hogſhead hoops,	4l.
Lump, do.	1/1½.	White oak ſquare timber per ſquare foot,	10d.
Pepper,	3/3	Red wood, per ton,	28l.
Pimento,	1/9. a 2/.	Fuſtick,	10l.
Coffee,	1/8. a 1/9.	Beaver, per lb.	12/. a 16/.
Indigo, (Carolina)	3/. a 6/.	Otter per ſkin,	9/. 32/.
Do. French,	18/.	Grey fox,	4/7.
Rice,	22/.	Martin,	4/10.
Superfine Flour,	45/.	Racoon,	3/6 a 7/6.
Common do.	42/.	Muſkrat,	10d. a 14d.
Rye do.	25/.	Beaver hats,	64/.
Indian Meal,	18/.	Caſtor do.	48/.
Rye,	4/9. *pr. buſh.*	Chocolate,	14d.
Corn, (Southern)	4/.	Cocoa,	70/. a 80/.
Do. (Northern,)	4/3. a 4/6.	Cotton,	1/9.
Beef, firſt quality,	45/. a 48/.	Tar, pr. bar.	11/. a 12/.
Pork, firſt quality,	70/. a 75/.	Pitch,	16/.
Oats,	1/7.	Turpentine,	18/. a 20/.
Flax-ſeed,	5/6 a 5/9.	Tobacco, James River,	4d. a 3½d.
Ship bread per cwt.	21/.	Do. York,	4d. a 3½d.
Country refined bar-iron,	28l. a 30l.	Do. Rappahanock,	2d a 3½d.
Do. bloomery,	25l. a 26l.	Do. Maryland, coloured,	5½d.
Swedes do.	45l.	Do. Weſtern-ſhore,	2d a 3½d.
Ruſſia do.	30l.	Lead in pigs, pr cwt.	60/.
Pig-iron,	8l 10/. a 9l.	Do. bars,	68/.
German ſteel, per lb.	9d.	Do. Shot,	68/.
Nails American, by caſk. per. lb. 4d.	14d.	Red lead,	68/.
Do. do. do. 6d.	12d.	White do. dry,	95/.
Do. do. do. 8d.	9½d.	White do. in oil,	5l. 12/.
Do. do. do. 10d.	7½d a 8½d.	Salt-petre hams,	7½d.
Do. do. do. 12d.		Spermaceti candles,	3/.
Do. do. do. 20d.		Mould do.	11d. a 1/.
Do. do. do, 24d.		Tallow dipt,	9½d.
Pot aſh, per ton,	39l. a 40l.	Soap,	5d. a 8d.
Pearl aſh,	48l a 50l.	Caſtile ſoap,	9d. a 10d.
Bees-wax per lb.	2/3.	Engliſh cheeſe, pr. lb.	15d.
Mackarel per barr.	26/. a 30/.	Country do.	5d.
Herrings,	18/.	Butter,	1/.
Mahogany, Jamaica, per foot,	10d.	Hyſon tea,	11/. a 12/.
Dominico, do.	9d.	Sequin do.	6/6.
Honduras, do.	7d.	Bohea do.	2/3.
Logwood unchipped, per ton.	8l.	Ginſeng,	3/. a 4/6.
Do. chipped.	14l.	Starch Poland,	7d.
2 inch white oak plank, per m.	10l. 10/.	Snuff,	2/3.
1 inch do.	5l.	Allum ſalt, water meaſure, pr. buſh.	3/6.
2 inch white pine plank,	8l.	Liverpool do.	2/.
1½ inch do.	6l. 10/.	Madeira wine, pr. pipe,	60l. a 90l.
1 inch do.	3l. 10/.	Port,	46l.
2 inch pitch pine do.	10l.	Liſbon, pr. gal.	5/.
1½ inch do.	6l. 10/.	Teneriff,	4/.
1 inch do.	4l.	Fyall,	3/3.
Pitch pine ſcantling,	3l. 8/.	Dutch gun-powder, pr. cwt.	8l.
Cypreſs 2 feet ſhingles,	1l. 10/.	Nail rods, pr. ton,	36l.
Do. 22 inch do.	1l. 8/.	Lintſeed oil, pr. gal.	4/.
Cedar 2 inch do.	1l. 10/	Whale do. pr. barrel,	50/. a 56/.
		Spermaceti do,	6l.
		Shake-down hhds.	3/6