

Extract of a letter from General Gates, dated Saratoga, October 13, 1777.

S I R,

I have the satisfaction to present your Excellency with the convention of Saratoga; by which his Excellency Lieutenant General Burgoyne has surrendered himself, and his whole army into my hands; and they are now upon their march to Bolton. This signal and important event, is the more glorious, as it was effected with so little loss to the army of the United States.

ARTICLES of CONVENTION
between Lieutenant General Burgoyne, and Major General Gates.

1. The troops under Lieut. Gen. Burgoyne are to march out of their camp, with the honors of war, and the artillery of the intrenchments, to the verge of the river, where the old fort stood; where the arms and artillery are to be left, the arms to be piled by word of command, of their own officers.

2. A free passage to be granted to the army, under Lieutenant Gen. Burgoyne, to Great-Britain, upon condition of not serving again, in North-America, during the present contest, and the port of Bolton is assigned for the entry of transports, to receive the troops, whenever Gen. Howe shall so order.

3. Should any cartel take place, by which the army under Lieut. Gen. Burgoyne, or any part of it, may be exchanged, the foregoing article to be void, as far as such exchange shall be made.

4. The army under Lieut. Gen. Burgoyne to march to Massachusetts Bay, by the easiest, most expeditious, and convenient rout, and to be quartered in, near, or as convenient as possible, to Bolton, that the march of the troops may not be delayed, when transports arrive to receive them.

5. The troops to be supplied on the march, and during their being in quarters, with provisions by General Gates's orders, at the same rate of rations, as the troops of his own army, and if possible, the officers, horses and cattle are to be supplied with forage at the usual rate.

6. All officers to retain their carriages, batt-horses, and other cattle, and no baggage to be molested or searched, Lieut. Gen. Burgoyne giving his honour, there are no public stores secreted therein. Major General Gates will of course take the necessary measures for the due performance of this article. Should any carriages be wanting for the transportation of officers baggage, they are, if possible to be supplied by the country, at the usual rate.

7. Upon the march, and during the time the army shall remain in quarters, in the Massachusetts-Bay, the officers are not, as far as circumstances will admit, to be separated from their men. The officers are to be quartered according to their rank, and are not to be hindered from assembling their men for roll-calls, and other purposes of regularity.

8. All corps whatever of General Burgoyne's army, whether composed of sailors, bateau-men, artificers, drivers, independant companies, and followers of the army, of whatever country, shall be included in the fullest sense, and utmost extent of the above articles; and comprehended in every respect as British subjects.

9. All Canadians, and persons belonging to the Canadian establishment, consisting of sailors, bateau-men, artificers, drivers, independant companies, and many other followers of the army, who come under no particular description, are to be permitted to return there: they are to be conducted immediately by the shortest route, to the first British post on Lake George, are to be supplied with provisions in the same manner as the other troops, and are to be bound by the same condition, of not serving during the present contest in North America.

10. Passports to be immediately granted, to a officer, not exceeding the rank of captain, who shall be appointed by Lieut. Gen. Burgoyne, to carry dispatches to Sir William Howe, Sir Guy Carleton, and to Great-Britain, by the way of New-York; and Major General Gates engages the public faith, that these dispatches shall not be opened. These officers are to set out immediately, after receiving their dispatches, and to travel by the shortest routes, and in the most expeditious manner.

11. During the stay of the troops in Massachusetts Bay, the officers are to be admitted to parole, and are to be allowed to wear their side-arms.

12. Should the army under Lieut. Gen. Burgoyne find it necessary to send for their cloathing, and other baggage to Canada, they are to be permitted to do in, in the most convenient manner, and the necessary passports granted for that purpose.

13. These articles are to be mutually signed and exchanged, to morrow morning at 9 o'clock, and the troops under Lieut. Gen. Burgoyne, are to march out of their intrenchments at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

J. BURGOYNE.

Camp at Saratoga, Oct. 16, 1777.

Published by order of Congress,

CHA. THOMSON, Secr.

Extract of a letter from General Gates, dated Albany, October 20, 1777.

S I R,

"Inclosed is the copy of a letter I have this day sent to Major General Vaughan; who, I am told, commands the burning party, in Hudson's River. It goes by the boat that carries Gen. Burgoyne's officer to Sir William Howe; such answer as I receive, shall be sent to your Excellency."

Albany, 19th October, 1777.

S I R,

With unexampled cruelty you have reduced the fine village of Kingston to ashes, and most of the wretched inhabitants to ruin. I am informed you also continue to ravage and burn all before you, on both sides of the river.—Is it thus your King's Generals think to make converts to the royal cause? It is no less surprizing than true, that the measures they adopt to serve their master, have the quite contrary effect. Their cruelty establishes the glorious act of Independency, upon the broad basis of the general resentment of the people.

Able generals, and much older officers, than you can pretend to be, are now by the fortune of war, in my hands,—their fortune may one day be yours, when, Sir, it may not be in the power of any thing human to save you from the just revenge of an injured people.

I am, Sir, your most obedient
humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

The honorable John Vaughan, Major General.

Published by order of Congress,

Cha. Thomson, Secretary.

In CONGRESS, Nov. 1, 1777.

Forasmuch as it is the indispenfible duty of all men, to adore the superintending providence of Almighty God: to acknowledge with gratitude their obligation to him for benefits received, and to implore such farther blessings as they stand in need of; And it having pleased him in his abundant mercy, not only to continue to us the innumerable benefits of his common providence; but also to fit us for us, in the prosecution of a just and necessary war for the defence and establishment of our undoubted rights and liberties: particularly in that he hath been pleased, in so great a measure, to prosper the means used for the support of our troops, also to crown our arms with most signal success:

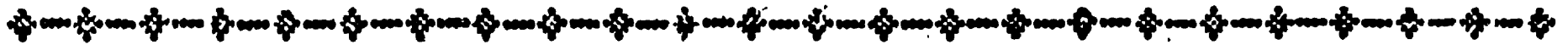
It is therefore recommended to the legislative or executive powers of these United States, to set apart **THURSDAY**, the 18th day of December next, for *Solemn Thanksgiving and Praise*: That at one time and with one voice, the good people may express the grateful feelings of their hearts, and consecrate themselves to the service of their divine benefactor: and that, together with their sincere acknowledgment and offerings, they may join the penitent confession of their manifold sins, whereby they had forfeited every favor; and their humble and earnest supplications that it may please God through the merits of Jesus Christ, mercifully to forgive and blot them out of remembrance. That it may please him, graciously to afford his blessing on the government of these States respectively, and prosper the public council of the whole. To inspire our commanders both by land and sea, and all under them, with that wisdom and fortitude which may render

them fit instruments, under the providence of Almighty God, to secure for these United States, the greatest of all human blessings, *Independence and Peace*. That it may please him, to prosper the trade and manufactures of the people, and the labor of the husbandman, that our land may yet yield it's increase. To take schools and seminaries of education, so necessary for cultivating the principles of true liberty, virtue and piety, under his nurturing hand: and to prosper the means of religion, for the promotion and enlargement of that kingdom, which consisteth "*in righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.*"

And it is further recommended, That servile labour, and such recreation as though at other times innocent, may be unbecoming the purpose of this *appointment*, may be omitted on so solemn an occasion.

Extract from the minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.



LANCASTER, Printed by **FRANCIS BAILEY**.