

more settlers are added, our wood markets will undoubtedly fall so low as not to render cutting an object for people of common sense properties unless the article of planting be admitted, which is not likely to take place.

The 6th article of the treaty of peace between Spain and Great-Britain will point out to you the extent of our limits in this country which are much contracted to what they were formerly.

The Spaniards still continue to receive "or slaves and others, when they desert to them, let their crimes be of what complexion they may. This is one of the greatest grievances we labour under, and the very reason why *Rio Hondo* has not one settler, although it is the best river for log-wood within the lines. This particular grievance has been long complained of to no effect, which with other matters already mentioned, will not be very inviting to new settlers, who have any means left of employing their lives otherwise. But if any there be with you, who are anxious to try their fortunes in this quarter, my own opinion of the business is, they had best defer it until the determination of government is fully known, respecting the Mulattoes, the country to be sure is, for richness of soil, and purposes of soil, perhaps the best in the world. But the Spaniards, like the dog in the manger, will let no one do any thing with it, nor will they do any thing themselves."

Towards the close of the last year, several large French transports, having on board about one thousand Acadian families, arrived at New Orleans from Rochelle in France. To these emigrants the Spanish Government hath allotted lands in different parts of Louisiana. A number of Acadians are also expected to settle in the Floridas.

#### HALIFAX, JUNE 15.

Last Thursday the General Assembly of this province met, when his Excellency the Governor was pleased to make the following Speech to both Houses.

Gentlemen of the Council, and House of Assembly.

At the close of the last session several matters, then before you, were left undetermined: and were deferred for further consideration and resolutions in a future session.

I have therefore called you together, thus early, that you may resume the consideration of these matters; and form such conclusions on them as shall appear prudent and necessary; giving them the deliberation due to matters of such importance.

The laws which will expire at the end of this year, and should be re-enacted, will necessarily come under your observation, together with those which require additional amendment or explanation.

You will receive from the proper officers, all papers necessary for your information, and I recommend to you dispatch and unanimity.

The Address of his Majesty's Council, to his Excellency JOHN PARK, Esq. Captain General and Governor in Chief, in and over his Majesty's province of Nova Scotia, the Islands of St. John and Cape Breton, Vice-Admiral of the same, &c. &c. &c.

SIR,

HIS Majesty's Council return your Excellency their thanks for your speech at opening this session of the General Assembly.

We shall cheerfully join the House of Assembly in considering such matters of importance, as were left for further deliberation, and in re-enacting such laws as may be found necessary.

And we beg leave to assure your Excellency we shall have in view the honor and dignity of the crown, the ease and happiness of your Excellency's administration and the prosperity of the province.

Halifax, June 10, 1786.

The humble address of the House of Representatives to General Assembly.

To his Excellency JOHN PARK, Esq. Captain General and Governor in Chief, in and over his Majesty's province of Nova Scotia, the Islands of St. John and Cape Breton, Vice-Admiral of the same, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

WE his Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects met in General Assembly return you our sincere thanks for your speech at the opening of the session, and from the experience which we have already had of your prudent and just administration, we are happy to be again assembled under your government.

We shall carefully consider the several matters which you have been pleased to recommend to us, and we beg leave to assure you, that we will use our utmost diligence to determine the same, together with all other matters which may come before us, in such way as shall appear to us to be most for the

honor and advantage of his Majesty's government, and the true interests of the province.

We thank your Excellency for having been pleased to direct the proper officers to lay before us all papers necessary for our information, in the consideration of which, and all other public business we shall endeavor to preserve that unanimity and to use that dispatch you have been pleased to recommend.

10th June, 1786.

Last Saturday arrived the Brisk sloop of war, Captain Buller, from England.—The Brisk left Plymouth the 4th of May.—We see little material in the papers brought by her.—America appears to be scarcely mentioned in them.—No alteration of consequence has taken place in the affairs of Europe.—Mr. Pitt continues to retain his influence in the councils of the nation.—Sir Guy CARLETON was preparing to sail for Quebec in the *Thais* frigate.—His Royal Highness Prince William Henry may shortly be expected here in the *Pegasus* frigate, of 28 guns.

Thursday last sailed for England, the Lord Hyde Packet.

The time of the General Assembly since its sitting has been mostly taken up with the hearing of private petitions.

Since our last arrived the *Ariadne* from Pasmaguedy.

#### CAPE BRETON,

The Address of the Grand Jury to the Hon. RICHARD GIBSON, Esq. Chief Justice of the Island of Cape Breton and its dependencies.

SIR,

WE his Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects the grand jurors now on panel for the said island, beg leave to address your honor and to return you our most sincere thanks and grateful acknowledgments for your speech made to us in the last session on Friday the 5th inst.

We are well assured of the truth of what you have been pleased to say, that "our excellent system of jurisprudence, on which our lives, our liberties, our properties, our peace and security, so greatly depend, cannot be carried on with impartiality and energy necessary to give it a due weight and influence, to effect those desirable purposes, if the courts of justice and civil magistrates, appointed for carrying the laws into execution, do not sit and act in their official capacities in perfect peace and security, free from the remotest apprehension or danger of insult, forcible opposition, resistance, interruption and violence."

We most feelingly deplore that it has been the misfortune of this government to have had a strong armed military force actually employed in the most glaring and insulting manner to impede the officers of justice, on several occasions, and in a most unprecedented manner to refuse a *felix* under the eye of the commanding officer of his Majesty's 33d regiment of foot, when under charge of an executive civil officer, and a guard of citizens conveying him to prison, and as an aggravation of this most daring act, it was done by commissioned officers of the said regiment.

Nothing could possibly have given us more satisfaction than your honor's orders for continuing all criminal causes now pending before the supreme court, over until the court can sit and act with that freedom, safety and security, and have that obedience paid to its authority, which is essentially necessary for a free, fair, regular and impartial execution of the laws; at the same time we do assure your honor, that also we might in all probability have received injuries from the military and the few discontented people amongst us, for doing our duty to our King, our country and our glorious constitution. Yet we were determined as honest men to sacrifice our fears and apprehensions to the public weal; and we should have executed our office with fearlessness, brightness, and the most distinguished impartiality.

We are confident with your honor, that his Majesty will not suffer his authority to be violated by any act of men, and we hope that ere long we shall see an end to our troubles through the benign exertions of the royal power.

We shall, agreeable to your recommendation, observe ourselves, and inculcate among the people, a firm, peaceable and patient conduct under the present difficulties, and we do assure your honor that we have a perfect reliance on his Majesty's goodness for relief.

We have remarked with the most heartfelt pleasure and satisfaction, that ever since your honor has presided over us as his Majesty's Chief Justice, that you have faithfully endeavored to guard the constitution and save it, and his Majesty's authority from insult; and are very that your patriotic and impartial conduct has not met with the desired and merited success.

Allow us to offer you our sincere wishes for your health and happiness, and that you

may live long to support and defend the British laws, is our ardent prayer.

We have the honor to be,

With the greatest respect,

Sir, Your most obedient,

Most faithful, and

Most humble servants,

(Signed) THOMAS JENNET, Foreman.  
Cm. Secis.

Sydney, 10th day of May, 1786.

#### SHELBURNE, MAY 25.

On Friday last, a court of oyer and terminer and general goal delivery was held here, for the county of Shelburne; the Hon. S. S. BLOWERS, Esq. attorney general of the province, and the Hon. ISAAC WILKINS, Esq. petitioning as judges, by a special commission issued for the purpose, by his Excellency the Governor. The want of room from Halifax to this part of the province, rendering it impossible for the supreme court to perform their circuits hither, we cannot but consider the issuing this special commission, as a fresh instance of his Excellency's attention to the interests and prosperity of this settlement, in bringing culprits to immediate justice, and in saving a very heavy expense to the county.

The court was opened by the Hon. S. S. BLOWERS, Esq. in a very elegant and pertinent charge to the grand jury. After which, the trial of four negroes, Britton Murray, Anderson Moor, William Green, and Cato Mentes, for a burglary, committed at the house of Mr. Weirley, on Pell's road, came on; and in about an hour and a half they were found guilty, upon the fullest evidence, and cleared conviction, when they were remanded to prison; and Joseph Ginnam, on an accusation of a rape on the body of Spain Pero, a negro girl, was brought to the bar and arraigned. The court then adjourned till next day, when the trial of the said Ginnam, came on, and the jury, without leaving the bar, found him not guilty. The four negroes were then again brought to the bar, and after being addressed in a very solemn and pathetic manner by Judge Blowers, sentence of death was passed upon them. Some favorable circumstances appearing in behalf of Cato Mentes, the jury prayed leave to recommend him for mercy.

The above being the only causes to try at this court, it was adjourned *pro die*.

We might perhaps be accused of neglect, were we not to mention the filiality, decency, and good order, with which the whole business of the court was conducted, and the particular attention of JAMES CLARKE, Esq. high sheriff of the county, to the business of it: And although among the crowds that attended, there was not, perhaps, a single person, but what approved the justice of the sentence passed on the above unhappy wretches, yet the pathetic manner in which they were addressed from the Bench, and the serious solemnity with which sentence was passed upon them, impressed every countenance with awful gloom and sorrow, nor was there a whisper heard to disturb the general silence.

On Sunday last, the Hon. S. S. BLOWERS, Esq. sailed in the Greyhound yacht for Liverpool, where he is to hold a court of oyer and terminer for Queen's county, and where, we are informed, a prisoner is to be tried for the murder of his wife: After this he returns immediately to Halifax, where the Hon. the General Assembly of the province, of which he is Speaker, meets the 8th of next month.

The Assembly of New-York have granted the five per cent. duty to Congress.

JUNE 8. The following extract is taken from a Halifax paper. The purpose of it is corroborated by some gentlemen arrived at this place from Jamaica, and who left it the middle of April. It was said at Jamaica, that such orders had been sent to all the West-India Islands and the Bahamas.

Extract of a letter from Major Parker and Stevens, merchants, of Kingston, Jamaica, to a gentleman in this town, dated April 10, 1786.

"No vessel whatever will be permitted to clear out, with any kind of produce of this island, for the American States; therefore must leave good markets for our own colonies. This will place the gill instant.

The dry season that had prevailed preceding the commencement of this week, has not only been attended with disadvantage to vegetation, but has occasioned a good deal of damage by the raging of fires, kindled for the purpose of consuming brush and rubbish. On Friday last the wind being fresh the fire raged with so much fury on the other side of the river, round the barracks, that it was with the utmost difficulty they, with the houses contiguous to them, were preserved from being totally consumed. To the spirited and active exertions of his Majesty's 17th regiment quartered there, and the assistance of the inhabitants of the town, who went over with the fire engines and buckets, may be entirely attributed the

preservation of them; other than the house of Major Hook, and the regimental hospital, which, notwithstanding, every endeavor were entirely burnt. On Monday it came on a drizzling rain, and in all appearance has extinguished the fire, so that we hope to hear of no more damage arising from them.

The prejudice done to vegetation by the drought, we are led to hope, is not by any means so great as was apprehended; especially if we may judge from the number of bouquets, and the large fine of many of them, that graced the bosoms of almost all ranks, on Sunday last, and it affords a pleasing corroboration, that the heavy dew we experienced during the nights of the dry season, have in some measure compensated for the want of rain; and the present thriving and beautiful appearance of our gardens, is a further pleasing proof of it.

#### ST. JOHN, JUNE 27.

At a special court of oyer and terminer and general goal delivery, held at Fredericton on Tuesday the 27th instant, David Nelson and William Harbord, were capitally convicted, for the murder of Pierre Barrow, an Indian, and ordered for execution on Friday the 30th. Some circumstances appearing in Harbord's favor he was reprieved before the Chief Justice left the court.—Joseph Saunders for counterfeiting an order from — Mr. Kay, in 4 livres French, and obtaining thereby five shillings 39. laves.—Duncan McCombe convicted of grand larceny, received benefit of clergy was branded and discharged.

On Friday last was executed at Fredericton, in the county of York, David Nelson, in pursuance of the sentence of the court of oyer and terminer and general goal delivery, and there by special commission in the year instant.

This unfortunate man was a *disfranchised* man of the late regiment of Queen's Rangers, and his fate is the more a subject of regret, because, having served his King and country with credit as a good soldier, he had just been distinguished for his industrious services at a letter on the land offered him by government. In an unguarded moment, however, he appears to have forgot the favor which he owed to the favor of God and his country—he was, stamped, on a trifling provocation, in first open and killed one of the native Indians—and, being clearly convicted of the murder, he has now paid the forfeit which the impartial voice of JUSTICE demanded.

His trial (which was attended by a numerous concourse of the inhabitants) was conducted with the greatest solemnity—the cause excited very appropriately the deepest interest and sympathy in all who were present; but a decided spirit of acquiescence in the due course of justice was at the same time equally remarkable. The grand jury, in finding the bill of indictment, and the jury by verdicts convicting the prisoner was convicted, were evidently impressed with the justness of duty which in good men, must ever prevail over all the considerations.

The same spirit of duty and good order appeared on the melancholy day of execution, and the county of York has, in every part of this important event, given to the present a large example which merits universal attention.

Saturday last being the anniversary of the festival of St. John the Baptist, the same was observed in this city, by the First and Second Regiments of Light No. 154 (or military lodge) and Hibernia with the usual solemnities. At the military lodge was sung the following song composed by a brother.

I. WHEN God this Earth from nothing brought  
And Chaos heard the Almighty call,  
The morning Stars exulting sang,  
And Majesty remained all.  
Hail, Great Power! while universal song,  
Enamour'd Sons and Stars sing I.

II. Thy generous Sons in every clime,  
How could they ever know thy light,  
And smiling at the signs of Time,  
Secure his empire ever stay.  
Hail, Great Power! thou art.

III. Thy mighty Art, the Master light  
Thou' Great and Rome has long extolled,  
And now the world with thee is told,  
To sing thy glories in thy Word.  
Hail, Great Power! thou art.

IV. And for, as if by magic light,  
Beneath Beulah's smiling care,  
A crowded City built thy light,  
And joyful Worth finds refuge there.  
Hail, Great Power! thou art.

V. By patient toil a country land is  
To find improvements rich and good,  
For this the watch, by glory from is  
On CARLETON'S brow shall shine the Word.  
Hail, Great Power! thou art.

VI. And when, by Fate thy light is long,  
The World shall be thy light in time,  
With Reason's central, Heaven's song,  
The CHART and BEYOND, let us sing.  
Hail, Great Power! while universal song,  
Shall tell of Thy eternal day!

2nd June, 24 June, 1786.