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Whitehall, September 29, 1776.

THE following Letters from Vice-Admiral Lord Viscount Howe, and General Howe, to Lord George Germain, brought by the Sandwich Packet from Staten Island to Falmouth in Thirty-seven Days, were this Day received.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Lord Viscount Howe to Lord George Germain, dated Eagle, off Staten Island, August 11, 1776.

MY LORD,

CONCEIVING it of the utmost Importance, in Pursuit of the Objects of the special Commission with which I had the Honor to be charged by His Majesty, that the Colonies in Rebellion should have the earliest Information of His Majesty's most gracious Intentions, with Respect to the Restoration of Peace, and the granting of Pardons to such of His Majesty's Subjects as, by a speedy Return to their Allegiance, might deserve the Royal Mercy; I thought proper, in the Course of my Voyage, to prepare a Declaration to that Effect, together with a circular Letter addressed to the Governors, or, in their Absence, the Lieutenant-Governors or Chief Magistrates, of the respective Colonies; Copies of which I have the Honor to inclose to your Lordship, N^o 1 and 2.

I had little Expectation that these Letters and Declaration would reach the Hands of His Majesty's Governors—My Object was, that they should be circulated as much as possible throughout the Provinces; and I hoped to have found an Opportunity of landing them soon after the Time of their Date, by means of some Vessel I might meet with upon the Coasts; but no Opportunity offered 'till I arrived off the Harbor of New York on the 12th of last Month, when I dispatched the First Lieutenant of the Eagle to Amboy, with those intended for the Colonies to the Southward of New York, directing him to deliver them to any Person who might appear in Authority, and to desire they might be forwarded by the Post.

The inclosed printed Paper, N^o 3, which came accidentally to my Hands, will inform your Lordship of the Resolution of the General Congress, upon their Receipt of the above-mentioned Packets, which it seems were transmitted by Mr. (called General) Mercier, the Commanding Officer at Amboy, to Mr. Washington at New York, and by him to the Congress.

Captain Burnaby, in the Merlin Sloop, was charged with the Packets for the Colonies of Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New Hampshire, and directed to land them at Rhode Island. On the 28th of last Month he returned, with a Letter to me from Mr. Cooke, acknowledging the Receipt of my Letter and Declaration, and acquainting me that he had communicated them to "the General Assembly of that State," then sitting at Newport, who would transmit Copies of them to "the most Honorable the General Congress of the United States of America, to whom every Application ought to be addressed, and must be referred." A Copy of Mr. Cooke's Letter to me is inclosed, N^o 4.

As the Issuing the above mentioned Letters and Declaration is the only Measure I judged necessary to take before I could have a Conference with General Howe, I have nothing further to add in this separate Dispatch, but my Hopes of being informed by your Lordship, that my Conduct is honored with his Majesty's Approbation.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

HOWE.

Copy of the Paper numbered 1, referred to in the above Letter.

Eagle, off the Coast of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, June 20, 1776.

SIR,

BEING appointed Commander in Chief of the Ships and Vessels of His Majesty's Fleet employed in North America, and having the Honor to be by His Majesty constituted one of His Commissioners for restoring Peace to His Colonies, and for granting Pardons to such of His Subjects therein, as shall be duly solicitous to benefit by that Effect of His gracious Indulgence; I take the earliest Opportunity to inform you of my Arrival on the American Coast, where my first Object will be an early Meeting with General Howe, whom His Majesty hath been pleased to join with me in the said Commission.

In the mean Time, I have judged it expedient to issue the inclosed Declaration, in order that all Persons may have immediate Information of His Majesty's most gracious Intentions: And I desire you will be pleased forthwith to cause the said Declaration to be promulgated, in such Manner, and in such Places within the Province of _____, as will render the same of the most public Notoriety.

Assured of being favoured with your Assistance in every Measure for the speedy and effectual Restoration of the Public Tranquillity, I am to request you will communicate, from Time to Time, such Information as you may think will facilitate the Attainment of that important Object in the Province over which you preside.

I have the Honor to be,
With great Respect and Consideration,

SIR,

Your most obedient humble Servant,
(Signed) HOWE.

Copy of the Paper numbered 2, referred to in the above Letter.

By Richard Viscount Howe, of the Kingdom of Ireland, one of the King's Commissioners for restoring Peace to His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in North America, &c. &c. &c.

DECLARATION.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, to prohibit all Trade and Inter-course with the Colonies of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three lower Counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, and for other Purposes therein mentioned, it is enacted, that "it shall and may be lawful to and for any Person or Persons appointed and authorized by His Majesty, to grant a Pardon or Pardons to any Number or Description of Persons, by Proclamation in His Majesty's Name, to declare any Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, or any County, Town, Port, District or Place, in any Colony or Province, to be at the Peace of His Majesty; and" that "from and after the Issuing of any such Proclamation in any of the aforesaid Colonies or Provinces, or if His Majesty shall be graciously pleased to signify the same by His Royal Proclamation, then, from and after the Issuing of such Proclamation," the said Act, with respect to such Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, County, Town, Port, District or Place, shall cease, determine, and be utterly void." And whereas the King, desirous to deliver all His Subjects from the Calamitous War, and other Oppressions which the go; and to restore the said Colonies