

ATURDAY, May 26, 1787.

T H E

[No. XXXV.]

# GEORGIA STATE GAZETTE

O R

## INDEPENDENT REGISTER.

FREEDOM of the PRESS, and TRIAL by JURY, to remain inviolate forever. *Constitution of Georgia.*

AUGUST A: Printed by JOHN E. SMITH, Printer to the State; Essays, Articles of Intelligence, Advertisements, &c. will be gratefully received, and every kind of Printing performed.

*From the Columbian Magazine.*

Letters relative to the treatment of Captain Asgill, while prisoner in the American army; being a full refutation of the charges of inhumanity exhibited in London against General Washington.

*(Concluded from No. XXXII.)*

No. VII.

Postscript to Col. Dayton.

S I R,

I AM informed that Capt. Asgill is at Chatham, without guard, and under no restraint. This, if true, is a considerable improvement upon the young gentleman treated with all the tenderness possible, consistent with his present situation. But until his fate is determined, he must be considered as a close prisoner, and be kept in the greatest security. I request therefore that he may be sent immediately to the Jersey line, where he is to be kept close prisoner in perfect security till further orders.

No. VIII.

To Col. Dayton, 2d. New-Jersey, Chatham.

Head Quarters, 22d June, 1782.

S I R,

I have received your two letters of the 17th and 18th instant. The only object I have in view in ordering Capt. Asgill to be confined to the huts was the perfect security of the prisoner. This must be attended to. *But I am very willing, and indeed wish every indulgence to be granted him, that is not inconsistent with that.*

When I ordered on an officer for the purpose of retaliation, I mentioned my willingness that he should make any application to the British commander in chief, in whose power alone it lay to avert his destiny; but I, at the same time, desired it to be announced that I should receive no application nor answer any letter on the subject, which did not inform, that satisfaction was made for the death of Capt. Huddy. I imagine you was not informed of this circumstance, or you would have prevented Major Gordon's application on the subject. I am, &c.

G. WASHINGTON.

No. XI.

Postscript of a letter to Col. Dayton, 2d New-Jersey, Morristown, dated Head Quarters, Newburgh, August 25, 1782.

"P. S. You will leave Capt. Asgill on parole at Morristown, until further orders."

No. X.

To His Excellency General Washington, Commander in Chief.

Col. Dayton's Quarters, Chatham,  
May 17th, 1782.

On the 30th of last month I had the honor of addressing your Excellency in writing, stating the manner of my confinement and the circumstances that induced me to claim your protection. Being ignorant of the fate of my letter, it would be very satisfactory to me if your Excellency would be pleased to inform me if it has been received. In consequence of your orders Col. Dayton was desirous of removing me to camp, but being ill of a fever, I prevailed on him to let me remain at his quarters close confined, which indulgence I hope will not be disapproved of. *I cannot conclude this letter without expressing my gratitude to your Excellency for ordering Col. Dayton to favour me as much as my situation would admit of, and in justice to him I must acknowledge the feeling and attentive manner in which those commands were executed.*

I have the honor to be,

With great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
CHARLES ASGILL, Lieut. and Capt.  
1st regt. foot guards.

No. XI.

To Capt. Ludlow, 1st bat. British guards, New-York.

Head Quarters, August 5, 1782.

S I R,

Persuaded that your desire to visit Capt. Asgill at Chatham, is founded in motives of friendship and humanity only, I inclose you a passport for the gratification of it.

The inclosed letters for that gentleman, came to me from New-York, in the condition you will receive them: you will have an opportunity of presenting them with yourselves. Your own letters came under cover to me *via* Ostend.

I have the honor to be,

Sir, your most obedient servant,

G. WASHINGTON.

P A S S P O R T.

Capt. Ludlow of the British guards has my permission (with his servant) to pass the American post at Dob's ferry, and proceed to Chatham. He has liberty also to return to New-York the same way.

Given at Head Quarters, the 5th of August, 1782.

G. WASHINGTON.

No. XII.

To Capt. Charles Asgill, 1st bat. British guards, prisoner, Chatham.

[Head Quarters, 7th October, 1782.]

S I R,

I have to acknowledge your favor of the 27th of September.

The circumstances which produced in the first instance your unfortunate situation, having in some measure changed their ground, the whole matter has been laid before Congress for their directions. I am now waiting their decision.

I can assure you I shall be very happy should circumstances enable me to announce to you your liberation from your disagreeable confinement. I am, &c.

G. WASHINGTON.

No. XIII.

To Capt. Charles Asgill.

S I R,

It affords me singular pleasure to have it in my power to transmit to you the inclosed copy of an Act of Congress of the 7th inst. by which you are released from the disagreeable circumstances in which you have been so long. Supposing you would wish to go into New-York as soon as possible, I also inclose a passport for that purpose.

Your letter of the 18th of October came regularly to my hands. I beg you to believe that my not answering it sooner did not proceed from inattention to you, or a want of feeling for your situation. I daily expected a determination of your case, and I thought it better to await that, than to feed you with hopes that might in the end prove fruitless. You will attribute my detention of the inclosed letters, which have been in my hands a fortnight, to the same cause.

I cannot take leave of you Sir, without assuring you, that in whatever light my agency in this unpleasant affair may be viewed, I was never influenced, through the whole of it by sanguinary motives; but by what I conceived to be a sense of my duty, which loudly called upon me to take measures, however disagreeable, to prevent a repetition of those enormities which have been the subject of discussion. And that this important end is likely to be answered without the effusion of the blood of an innocent person, is not a greater relief to you than it is to Sir, Your most obedient, humble servant,

G. WASHINGTON.