

NEW-YORK, March 7.

Last Monday one of his Majesty's fleets of war, arrived in four days from Chesapeake, many letters by this vessel are expressive of the great exertions made by Brigadier General Arnold, whose post is already made very formidable by new works, on which are mounted a number of heavy cannon and field pieces; so that Portsmouth the head quarters is now secure against the united enterprises of France and of the Congress. A very respectable fort is also constructed at the Great Bridge, where also a sufficient number of brass cannon are mounted, it is ten miles from Portsmouth, the key of the country, commanding the grant road to North-Carolina.-----
The leading inhabitants of Princess Ann County having been informed, that General Arnold's intentions were to maintain a British garrison in their country declared they would co-operate in all measures to drive out every man disaffected to his Majesty's government, secure tranquility of that loyal county, and supply the troops with all sorts of stock and provisions, which has reduced the prices to very moderate rates, and enabled General Arnold to form a magazine of provisions, which was to accompany a detachment of between 400 and 500 men, to move on the 28th of February up James River, and make a diversion in favour of Earl Cornwallis, these were under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Dundas.---There were accounts received at Portsmouth, that his Lordship with seven hundred cavalry, and four thousand infantry having crossed the Dan, a branch of the Roanoke River, about one hundred and eighty miles from Portsmouth, and was proceeding with great expedition in pursuit of the rebel army under Mr. Green. The Generals Stubert Gregory and Muhlenburgh had collected all the force they could assemble and gone to oppose his Lordship, whose object was supposed to be immediate possession of Petersburg, a very important post on James River. General Leslie, with another army is advancing by quick marches to support his Lordship's operations, ---Wildness and despair has seized the inhabitants, their troops and their leaders.---The passage of the Yadkin was an event which greatly increased their dismay, for it was presently succeeded by his Lordship's crossing Jefferson and Taylor's Ferry, on Roanoke, which separates Virginia, from North Carolina; the latter Ferry is computed to be about 60 miles distant from Petersburg.