

BY HIS EXCELLENCY
JOHN BURGOYNE, Esquire,

Lieutenant-General of his MAJESTY'S Forces in America, Colonel of the Queen's Regiment of Light Dragoons, Governor of Fort-William, in North-Britain, one of the Representatives of the Commons of Great-Britain in Parliament, and commanding an Army and Fleet in an Expedition from Canada, &c. &c. &c.

THE forces entrusted to my command are designed to act in concert, and upon a common principle with the numerous armies and fleets which already display, in every quarter in America, the power, the justice, and when properly fought, the mercy of the King; the cause in which the British arms are thus exerted, applies to the most affecting interest of the human heart: And the military servants of the crown, at first called for the sole purpose of restoring the rights of the constitution, now combine with the love of their country, and duty to their sovereign, the other extensive incitements, which spring from a due sense of the general privileges of mankind. To the eyes and ears of the temperate part of the public, and to the breaths of suffering thousands in the provinces, be the melancholy appeal---Whether the present unnatural rebellion has not been made the foundation of the completest system of tyranny that ever GOD. in his displeasure, suffered for a time, to be exercised over a froward and sul-born generation: Arbitrary imprisonments, confiscation of property, persecution and torture, unprecedented in the inquisitions of the Romish church, are among the palpable enormities that verify the affirmative: These are inflicted by Assemblies and Committees, who dare to profess themselves friends to liberty, upon the most quiet subject, without distinction of age or sex, for the sole crime, often from the sole suspicion, of having adhered in principle to the government under which they were born and to which, by every tie divine and human, they owe allegiance. To consummate these shocking proceedings the profanation of religion is added to the most profligate prostitution of common reason! The consciences of men are set at naught, and multitudes are compelled not only to bear arms, but also to swear subjection to an usurpation they abhor.—Animated by these considerations, at the head of troops in the full powers of health, discipline and valour, determined to strike where necessary, and anxious to save where possible, I, by these presents, invite and exhort all persons, in all places where the progress of this army may point, and by the blessing of God I will extend it FAR, to maintain such a conduct as may justify me in pro-

tecting their lands, habitations and families. The intention of this address is to hold forth security, not depredation, to the country; to those whose spirit and principle may induce them to partake the glorious task of redeeming their countrymen from dungeons, and re-establishing the blessings of legal government, I offer encouragement and employment, and upon the first intelligence of their association, I will find means to assist their undertakings. The domestic, the industrious, the infirm, and even the timid inhabitants, I am desirous to protect, provided they remain quietly at their houses; that they do not suffer their cattle to be removed, or their corn or forage to be secreted or destroyed; that they do not break up their bridges or roads, or by any other act, directly or indirectly, endeavour to obstruct the operation of the King's troops, or supply or assist those of the enemy. Every species of provision brought to my camp, will be paid for at an equitable rate, in solid coin.-- In consciousness of christianity, my royal master's clemency, and the honour of soldiership, I have dwelt upon this invitation, and wished for more persuasive terms to give it impression; and let not people be led to disregard it by considering the immediate situation of my camp, I have but to give stretch to the Indian forces under my direction, and they amount to thousands, to overtake the hardened enemies of Great-Britain; I consider them the same wherever they may lurk. If, notwithstanding these endeavours and sincere inclination to assist them, the phrenzy of hostility should remain, I trust I shall stand acquitted in the eyes of God and men, in denouncing and executing the vengeance of the state against the wilful outcast.——The messengers of justice and of wrath await them in the field, and devastation, famine, and every concomitant horror that a reluctant but indispensable prosecution of military duty must occasion, will bar the way to their return.

J. BURGOYNE.

Camp at the River BOMGRET, }
 June 23, 1777. }

By order of his Excellency the Lieutenant General,

Robert Kingston, Secretary.