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NILES'  
**WEEKLY REGISTER,**

CONTAINING

POLITICAL, HISTORICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL, SCIENTIFIC,		ASTRONOMICAL, STATISTICAL, AND BIOGRAPHICAL,
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**DOCUMENTS, ESSAYS, AND FACTS;**

TOGETHER WITH

NOTICES OF THE ARTS AND MANUFACTURES, AND A RECORD  
OF THE EVENTS OF THE TIMES.

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H. NILES, EDITOR.

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*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.—VIRGIL.*

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FROM SEPTEMBER 1814 TO MARCH, 1815.—VOL. VII.

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BALTIMORE:

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# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 1 of VOL. VII.] BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1814. [WHOLE NO. 157.]

*Hec olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann

## No. 1 of Volume VII.

### CONDITIONS OF THE WEEKLY REGISTER.

This paper is issued every Saturday, at Baltimore, at \$5 per annum, payable in advance; and makes two heavy volumes a year.

It is packed with so great care that it reaches the most distant post offices in safety. In evidence of this—a gentleman living 1100 miles hence, informs that he has never lost a paper. But missing numbers, to a reasonable amount, are gratuitously supplied; whether lost in the mail or otherwise accidentally destroyed, application being made therefor, free of expense to the editor.

The work may be had from its commencement, or from the beginning of any volume, the current year in advance being added to the charge for the volumes desired, as follows:

From No. 1 (Sept. 7, 1811) to 156, or (Sept. 1814) three years, \$15—advance to Sept. 1815, \$5—20 dollars.

From No. 27, being No. 1 of vol. II, or March 7, 1812, 24 years, to Sept. 1814, \$12.50—advance to Sept. 1815, vol. 5—\$17.50. And so on.

Vol. III, began Sept. 5, 1812; vol. IV. March 6, 1813; vol. V. Sept. 4, 1813; vol. VI. March 5, 1814—vol. VII. commences with this number.

A heavy extra supplement of 12 sheets was published for the 5th volume. The price of it is \$1; which must be added to the above by those who desire it. It will, therefore, cost \$21 to obtain a complete set; which may be forwarded by mail to any part of the union at a trifling expense. This supplement contains a great deal of highly interesting and important matter, and attaches as well to any other volume as to the fifth, having its own index with it.

Further patronage is respectfully solicited. No drudgery shall be spared to deserve it, by registering the events of these important times, as well as to present other matter of laborious composition, as usual. Grateful for favors received, and jealous of the good opinion held of this work, our old and approved course shall be pursued. Conscious of the rectitude of his motives, the barkings of faction shall not tempt the editor to turn to the right hand or to the left; and, while a free spot remains to fix a press upon, and he has the power to support it, he humbly trusts the REGISTER will continue to vindicate the "principle of the revolution," and maintain the constitution of the United States, without regard or reference to individuals or parties. All sorts of personal controversies shall be avoided, as heretofore; and every attention be excited to embody the events of the day, in order, harmony and truth.

The support of the friends of the WEEKLY REGISTER is particularly needed. The immediate presence of the enemy severely affects the usual proceeds of the establishment, and we must look to those removed from the theatre of war for the means of meeting our increased expenses. The advance, with the payment of what may be due, if any, is earnestly solicited of all; remittances may be made by mail, as usual, and at the risk of the editor, to Baltimore, from which he has no present prospect of moving. And even if he should, matters are so arranged that the mails

will have their usual safety. The establishment of the REGISTER is such that, in any morally possible event the work will be continued. We speak pointedly on those things on account of several late communications.

## Editorial Address.

At the commencement of a volume, it has been our custom to indulge in some speculations on the past, or anticipations of the future. In the noise and bustle of our city, with the general derangement of business, we have little opportunity for that quiet and retirement that we delighted to appropriate to such objects; and what we would or might say must be postponed until a more convenient season. On one event, only, shall we offer a remark.

The hate with which we have always said *Great Britain* regarded us, is now exhibiting by a Gothic-like war, which the late strange events in *Europe* enables her to carry on with extraordinary force and energy. The barriers with which civilized nations have circumscribed their military operations, are cast down by the foe; and the contest, began for unalienable rights on the sea, is becoming a struggle for liberty and property on the land. The shores of the *Chesapeake* are lighted by the flames of farm houses and cottages, hitherto respected in war; and the fruits of the earth are wontonly consumed by the invader's orch. Whatever of private property pleases him, he lays hold of as prize; and wickedly destroys what he cannot carry away. Household furniture has been a favorite object of his vengeance, and negroes and tobacco are his darling spoils! His late capture of *Washington City* is an honor to the valor of his soldiery; but his conduct in burning the capitol, the president's house and the public offices, is a disgrace that he will not wipe away, more easily than we shall the ——— something that permitted the irruption. The capitals of the greatest empires and kingdoms of the old world were frequently captured by the contending parties, in the late wars. The *oultaw*, *Bonaparte*, entered *Lisbon*, *Madrid*, *Amsterdam*, *Berlin*, *Vienna*, [several times] *Moscow*, *Turin*, *Rome*, *Naples*, and the capitals of ten or fifteen of the minor states of *Europe*, but never, in the case of the *Kremlin* excepted, destroyed a public building undevoted to military purposes; and that was not demolished until it was evident that the people of *Moscow* would themselves destroy the city. Let us look at it fairly! See the capitulation of *Alexandria* in the last number of the REGISTER; and tell me, on what occasion that "relentless tyrant" exacted so severe terms on a people at his mercy, as the *Scotchman*, captain Gordon has done? We heard much of the contributions he imposed; but never did a city that submitted—that threw itself on his clemency, suffer like *Alexandria*. It is no matter that the conduct of the *Alexandrians* was base and pusillanimous, so as to excite rather the contempt than the pity of their countrymen—for it does not affect the principle of the terms offered by the enemy to a defenceless, non-resisting place. It is an act that the most furious and unfeeling of all the men that the events of the French revolution brought to power under *Bonaparte*, would pronounce savage and base; and contrary to every thing

that should govern an honorable enemy. R. track the history of the last twenty years, and behold all the interesting incidents that that fruitful period affords—follow *Napoleon from Cairo to Moscow*, and you will not find a *single* parallel for the proceedings of the “religious and magnanimous” British at *Washington and Alexandria*. I bring forward *Bonaparte*, not to excuse him; but to condemn the hypocrites that trumpeted forth his enormities to excuse their own, ten-fold more cruel and barbarous. The scales are falling from the eyes of our people; if the blaze of the capital shall enlighten their mind, and remove their prejudice, so that they may see the character of our enemy as it really is—the present safety and future peace of the United States, is cheaply purchased, by the capture of *Washington* and destruction of the public buildings thereat.—The capitals of every power in *Europe*—*London, Stockholm and Constantinople*, from peculiar circumstances excepted, have fallen into the hands of their enemies; and treaties have been dictated at some of them at the will of the conqueror. Our capital has also been polluted by a triumphant enemy. We ought to have prevented it—but it is a common lot—it was evacuated with precipitation—and has had no other effect than to rouse the nation to arms; and we hope, to give energy where, indeed, it was wanted. It will make a great noise in *England*; for *John Bull* will easily believe the city to be ten miles square; but much will he wonder, if one shall say to him, that it contained only 8,000 inhabitants, and had less weight in the affairs of the nation, except by the mere residence of the functionaries of the government, than the ruined horse at *Old Sarum*.

The times are interesting and, indeed, momentous. It seems the fixed determination of the enemy, profiting by the peculiar circumstances of *Europe*, and of his own military force, to attempt to dragoon us into “*unconditional submission*.” But there is a spirit in man that resists abused power. We shall become an united people; and with the resources we possess, will fritter down his forces, “a little here and a little there;” and, spite of his strength, teach him that the homes of freemen shall not be disturbed with impunity. A pity, indeed, is it, if we have not as good materials to repel an intruder as *Spain*!—What is to be seen at *Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New-York* shews, that we are not yet prepared to abandon one iota of our just rights; and, I trust in God, we never shall be. *Fiat justitia ruat cælum*. THE REPUBLIC SHALL LIVE! and the people be led to virtue, to patriotism, to a NATIONAL CHARACTER and HOME FEELING, by the “events of the war.” The defects of our system, or the errors of our practice, shall be discovered by experience, (sometimes, indeed a “*dear school*”), and our strength, and the best way of applying it, be ascertained as our wants demand its exertion. *Nothing is to be despaired of by those determined to effect an honorable purpose*. But in such determination is involved an exercise of all our natural or acquired faculties—and, if the people do not bring forward their means to support the government they themselves have established—they must expect to fail in this contest for their homes and fire-sides; and prepare themselves to become “*flow-ers of wood and drawers of water*” to the spoilers of “*peace, liberty, and safety*.” Our cause is just, and we who established civil and religious freedom in America will sustain it, if we deserve the rich heritage. Courage, then! let every one come forward in the way that he can best serve the nation, and the end shall be glorious; though inconveniences and sufferings must be encountered. Let faction cease—let party moderate its warmth—and *political peace* be established until the *foreign war* is done. “*DON'T GIVE UP THE SHIP!*”

## Events of the War.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—  
A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the enemy by a sudden incursion have succeeded in invading the capital of the nation, defended at the moment by troops less numerous than their own, and almost entirely of the militia; during their possession of which, though for a single day only, they wantonly destroyed the public edifices having no relation in their structure to operations of war, nor used at the time for military annoyance; some of these edifices being also costly monuments of taste and of the arts, and others depositories of the public archives, not only precious to the nation as the memorials of its origin and its early transactions, but interesting to all nations, as contributions to the general stock of historical instruction and political science.

And whereas, advantage has been taken of the loss of a fort, more immediately guarding the neighbouring town of *Alexandria*, to place the town within the range of a naval force, too long and too much in the habit of abusing its superiority wherever it can be applied, to require, as the alternative of a general conflagration, an undisturbed plunder of private property, which has been executed in a manner peculiarly distressing to the inhabitants who had, inconsiderately, cast themselves upon the justice and generosity of the victor:

And whereas, it now appears, by a direct communication from the British commander on the American station, to be his avowed purpose to employ the force under his direction “in destroying and laying waste such towns and districts upon the coast as may be found assailable;” adding to this declaration the insulting pretext that it is in retaliation for a wanton destruction committed by the army of the United States in *Upper Canada*, when it is notorious, that no destruction has been committed, which, notwithstanding the multiplied outrages previously committed by the enemy, was not unauthorised, and promptly shown to be so; and that the United States have been as constant in their endeavors to reclaim the enemy from such outrages, by the contrast of their own example, as they have been ready to terminate, on reasonable conditions, the war itself:

And whereas, these proceedings and declared purposes, which exhibit a deliberate disregard of the principles of humanity, and the rules of civilized warfare, and which must give to the existing war, a character of extended devastation and barbarism, at the very moment of negotiations for peace, invited by the enemy himself, leave no prospect of safety to any thing within the reach of his predatory and incendiary operations, but in manful and universal determination to chastise and expel the invader:

Now, therefore, I, James Madison, president of the United States, do issue this my proclamation, exhorting all the good people thereof, to unite their hearts and hands in giving effect to the ample means possessed for that purpose. I enjoin it on all officers, civil and military, to exert themselves in executing the duties with which they are respectively charged. And more especially, I require the officers commanding the respective military districts, to be vigilant and alert in providing for the defence thereof; for the more effectual accomplishment of which, they are authorised to call to the defence of exposed and threatened places portions of the militia most convenient thereto, whether they be or be not parts of the quotas detached for the service of the United States under requisitions of the general government.

On an occasion which appeals so forcibly to the

proud feelings and patriotic devotion of the American people, none will forget what they owe to themselves; what they owe to their country and the high destinies which await it; what to the glory acquired by their fathers, in establishing the independence which is now to be maintained by their sons, with the augmented strength and resources with which time and Heaven had blessed them.

In testimony whereof, I have herewith set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be fixed to these presents.

Done at the city of Washington, the first day of September in the year of our Lord, 1814, and of the independence of the United States the 39th.

JAMES MADISON.

By the president,

JAMES MONROE, secretary of state.

FOURTH MILITARY DISTRICT.—Head quarters, Philadelphia, Aug. 26, 1814.

GENERAL ORDER.—The militia of the city of Philadelphia, who have volunteered their services, and the militia who have been drafted, detailed and organized under the requisition of the president of the United States, of the fourth of July last, and general orders of the commander in chief of Pennsylvania, of the 27th of the same month, will parade this morning at 10 o'clock, in Sixth-street, right on Chesnut-street, equipped completely for the field.

By order of general Bloomfield,

WILLIAM DUANE, adj. gen.  
AFTER ORDERS.

The captains will proceed with their companies with all possible expedition to Kennet's square, Chester county, where they will encamp and be mustered.

The contractor will supply provisions on the returns of the commanding officer of companies, until further orders.

The quarter-master-general will furnish transportation. By order of general Bloomfield,

WILLIAM DUANE, Adjutant general.

NEW-JERSEY. Head-Quarters, Trenton, Aug. 29, 1814.—The demonstrations of the enemy must now evince to every reflecting man, a determined hostility to the freedom and independence of America. That their proposition for peace is insidious, designed to lull us into security, and paralyze the efforts of the nation. The Gothic barbarity exercised in the demolition of public edifices unconnected with war, manifest their envy and hatred of our prosperity, and the practical freedom and independence of our government. We have no choice left but submission to a haughty unjust foe, or a manly resistance. If the enemy are not at our own doors, they are at our neighbors, affording us at once admonition to be in readiness, and time for preparation. It behoves us, therefore, to avail ourselves of this circumstance, to put ourselves in a posture of defence. The commander in chief, therefore solemnly calls on the whole body of the militia of the state, to prepare themselves with every weapon of defence within their reach, to turn their immediate attention to perfecting themselves in the art of war—to be in readiness to march on the shortest notice, to protect every thing dear to freemen—to shield their wives and their children, their fire-sides and their altars, from the ferocity of a barbarous army, collected from the outcasts of Europe, and the filth of the West India Islands, and disembogued on our shores, for the purpose of compelling the free born sons of America to absolute submission to the will of a proud, unjust nation, a corrupt ministry, and a profligate prince:

The commander in chief enjoins it on the commanders of divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions, squadrons, troops and companies, to use every exertion within their power to be in readiness for actual service. At the same time he has to inform them that he has used, and is now using, every means within the compass of his resources to supply the deficiency in munitions of war, and which will be brought into action in a manner best calculated for practical use. The commander in chief thinks it scarcely necessary to remind the intelligent militia of New Jersey, that the invaluable legacy of our freedom was transmitted to us by the patriots of our revolution; that it is a pious duty to their memory to preserve it unimpaired, and transmit it as a patrimonial inheritance to our children. We have reason to believe that the same just and beneficent Deity that preserved our country amid the perils and vicissitudes of the revolution, will still save it from the malignant vengeance with which it is at this time threatened: Should we for a moment hesitate to suffer privations, abandon our imaginary pursuits of wealth, suspend political dissensions, and unanimously draw our swords with an unalterable determination never to sheathe them until our country is safe, we are unworthy the high title of freemen and fit only for slaves. WILLIAM PENNINGTON.

PENNSYLVANIA. General Orders.—The landing upon our shores by the enemy hordes of marauders, for the purpose avowedly to create by plunder, burning and general devastation, all possible individual and public distress, gives scope for action to the militia of Pennsylvania to repel that foe, and with just indignation seek to avenge the unprovoked wrongs heaped on our unoffending country. The militia generally within the counties of Dauphin, Lebanon, Berks, Schuylkill, York, Adams, and Lancaster, and that part of Chester county which constitutes the 2d brigade of the 3d division, and these corps particularly who when danger first threatened, patriotically tendered their services in the field, are earnestly invited to rise (as on many occasions Pennsylvania has heretofore done) superior to local feeling and evasions that might possibly be drawn from an imperfect military system, and to repair with that alacrity which duty commands, and it is fondly hoped inclination will prompt, to the several places of brigade or regimental rendezvous that shall respectively be designated by the proper officer, and thence to march to the place of general rendezvous.

Pennsylvanians, whose hearts must be gladdened at the recital of the deeds of heroism achieved by their fellow-citizen soldiers now in arms on the lake frontier, and within the enemy's country, now the occasion has occurred, will with ardor seek and punish that same implacable foe now marauding on the Atlantic shores of two of our sister states.—Under these impressions, and confident that obedience will be given to the pressing call of our country, the commander in chief issues the following

GENERAL ORDERS.

HARRISBURG, 26th Aug. 1814.

To John M. Hyneman, Adjutant General.

You are commanded, in consequence of the requisition from the constituted authorities of the union, to have prepared for marching, and to have marched to Yorktown, the place of rendezvous, 5000 men, Pennsylvania militia, from the 2d brigade of the 3d division, and from the 4th, 5th, and 6th divisions, which detachment is to consist of volunteers who have, or who may tender their services, of flank companies, infantry and riflemen, who are to march in companies, and of drafted militia, designated for

service under general orders of the 22d July last past, which shall be organized into one division and two brigades (if not otherwise directed) on the 5th day of September next, agreeably to law and conformably to the regulations prescribed for the United States army.

For the command of which division I designate major-general Nathan Watson, and brigadiers general John Foster and John Addams. The major-general and the officers and men under him, are to obey the command, and execute the orders of general William Winder, commandant for the United States, within the 10th military district.

The troops may be marched from York either in division after organization, or in smaller bodies before organization, if it further the service and general Winder shall so direct; and to such place as by him shall be designated.

Term of service to be six months unless sooner discharged by the authority of the United States.

SIMON SNYDER,

Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.  
N. R. BOLLEAT, adj.-de-camp

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

HARRISBURG, 27TH AUG. 1814.

The recent destruction of the capitol of the United States, the threatened and probable conflagration of the metropolis of a sister state, and the general threatening aspect of affairs, warranting the opinion that an attack is meditated by the enemy on the shores of the Delaware; the governor, to guard against surprise, and to have ready an efficient force of freemen to repel the enemy in case of such an event, orders and directs the militia generally, within the counties of Philadelphia, Bucks, Montgomery, Delaware, Chester, Lancaster, Dauphin, Lebanon, Berks, Schuylkill, Lehigh, Northampton and Pike (in addition to those drafted and designated for the service of the United States under the orders of the 22d July, who are already subject to the orders of brigadier-general Bloomfield) to be held in readiness to march at a moment's warning to such place as may be designated in subsequent orders that will issue if the exigencies of our country shall require.

The several brigade inspectors within their respective bounds, are commanded to execute promptly this order. The generals and other officers are urged to assist in the providing of equipments for the men. Those for whom arms cannot be found within the respective brigade bounds, will, it is presumed, be furnished by the United States, at the place of rendezvous.

It is confidently hoped, the ardor and love of country which pervades the hearts of Pennsylvanians at the present alarming crisis, will induce many to form themselves into volunteer corps, and immediately to march for Philadelphia. It is thus a proper spirit to resist an intolerant foe will be evinced, and many difficulties obviated. The governor promises himself the satisfaction of meeting there an host, nerved with resolution to live free or die, in defence of their liberties and their country. He will act with them in any capacity for which his talents shall fit him.

SIMON SNYDER,

Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.  
N. B. BOLLEAT, adj.-de-camp.

VIRGINIA. *By the Governor*—A Proclamation—Having received intelligence that the enemy took possession of Washington, on Wednesday the 24th inst. and immediately, without discrimination of public or private property, entirely destroyed that city: having every reason to believe that the other towns in the district of Columbia are destined to, if they have not already undergone the same fate; being also informed that the enemy has landed a

force in the neighborhood of Fredericksburg, threatening that town with like destruction; perceiving that his operations are principally directed against Virginia; and considering that his past conduct forbids any, the least, reliance on his respect for the laws of civilized warfare; that, on the contrary, it is plainly his intention to lay waste, with fire and sword, every part of the country which may fall under his power; so that no hope remains for the safety of whatever is dear and valuable to men, but in prompt and vigorous resistance, combining every resource which the government can command, or the people voluntarily afford:—

I have therefore thought proper to issue this my Proclamation, to assure the good people of this Commonwealth, that every effort has been made, and is making, to embody the militia, and, by all possible means, to provide such a force as may be able to repel and chastise the invaders, hereby inviting in addition thereto, the aid of volunteers of every description, from every part of the state; earnestly calling upon all men, capable of bearing arms, and particularly such as are young and without families, to repair to the standard of their country, to defend their homes, their property and their liberty, their wives, their children, and their aged parents. Let all volunteers bring with them knapsacks, clothes, and all arms and accoutrements in their possession; let them repair to the city of Richmond, hereby appointed their place of rendezvous, singly or in companies, and above all, without delay; to which end, it is recommended and desired, that such as can, should come mounted. They will be organized under the immediate orders of the Executive. On an occasion like the present, demanding whatever of zeal and courage and patriotism exists amongst us, the Executive will not fail to do its duty to the utmost of its ability, nor allow itself to fear that the people will be wanting to themselves.

Done at Richmond, this 26th day of August, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, and of (L. S.) the Commonwealth the thirty-ninth.

JAMES BARBOUR.

The spirit of Virginia is completely roused; and her gallant sons by thousands have already marched to meet the enemy. The very "bones and nerves" of the state have entered into the contest. The conflagration of the Capitol has lighted a flame that, conducted by talents, shall avenge the wanton, barbarian deed, and retribute the wrongs of Hampton, and the desolated shores of the Potomac, &c. on the heads of the destroyers. The like observations apply equally to New-Jersey and Pennsylvania.

#### MICHILLIMACKINAC.

Copy of a letter from Lt. Col Croghan to the Secretary of War, dated

U. S. S. War Niagara, off Thunder Bay, Aug. 9th, 1814.

Sir—We left Fort Gratiot (head of the Straits St. Clair) on the 12th ult. and imagined that we should arrive in a few days at Malshadash Bay. At the end of a week, however, the commodore from the want of pilots acquainted with that unfrequented part of the lake, despaired of being able to find a passage thro' the island into the bay, and made for St. Joseph's, where he anchored on the 20th day of July. After setting fire to the fort of St. Joseph's, which seemed not to have been recently occupied, a detachment of infantry and artillery, under major Holmes, was ordered to Sault St. Mary's, for the purpose of breaking up the enemy's establishment at that place. For particulars relative to the execution of this order, I beg leave to refer you to maj Holmes' report herewith enclosed. Finding on my arrival at Michillimackinac, on the 26th ult. that the enem-

had strongly fortified the height overlooking the old Fort of Mackinac, I at once despaired of being able with my small force, to carry the place by storm, and determined, (as the only course remaining) on landing and establishing myself on some favorable position, whence I could be enabled to annoy the enemy by gradual and slow approaches, under cover of my artillery, in which I should have the superiority in point of metal. I was urged to adopt this step by another reason, not a little cogent; could a position be taken and fortified on the island, I was well aware that it would either induce the enemy to attack me in my strong holds, or force his Indians and Canadians (the most efficient, and only disposable force) off the island, as they would be very unwilling to remain in my neighborhood after a permanent footing had been taken. On enquiry, I learned from individuals who had lived many years on the island, that a position desirable as I might wish, could be found on the west end, and therefore immediately made arrangements for disembarking. A landing was effected on the 4th inst. under cover of the guns of the shipping, and the line being quickly formed, had advanced to the edge of the field spoken of for a camp, when intelligence was conveyed to me, that the enemy was ahead, and a few seconds more brought us a fire from his battery, of 4 pieces firing shot and shells. After reconnoitering his position, which was well selected; his line reached along the edge of the woods, at the further extremity of the field and covered by a temporary breast work; I determined on changing my position, (which was now two lines, the militia forming the front) by advancing maj. Holmes' battalion of regulars on the right of the militia, thus to outflank him, and by a vigorous effort to gain his rear. The movement was immediately ordered, but before it could be executed, a fire was opened by some Indians posted in a thick wood near our right, which proved fatal to maj. Holmes and severely wounded captain Desha, [the next officer in rank.] This unlucky fire, by depriving us of the services of our most valuable officers, threw that part of the line into confusion from which the best exertions of the officers were not able to recover it. Finding it impossible to gain the enemy's left, owing to the impenetrable thickness of the woods, a charge was ordered to be made by the regulars immediately against the front. This charge altho' made in some confusion, served to drive the enemy back into the woods, from whence an annoying fire was kept up by the Indians.

Lieut. Morgan was ordered up with a light piece to assist the left, now particularly galled; the excellent practice of this brought the enemy to fire at a longer distance. Discovering that this disposition from whence the enemy had just been driven, (and which had been represented to me as so high and commanding) was by no means tenable, from being interspersed with thickets, and intersected in every way by ravines; I determined no longer to expose my force to the fire of an enemy deriving every advantage which could be obtained from numbers and a knowledge of the position, and therefore ordered an immediate retreat towards the shipping.

This affair, which has cost us many valuable lives, leaves us to lament the fall of that gallant officer maj. Holmes, whose character is so well known to the war department. Captain Vanhoro, of the 19th infantry, and lieut. Jackson of the 24th infantry, both brave intrepid young men, fell mortally wounded at the head of their respective commands. The conduct of all my officers on this occasion merit my approbation. Capt. Desha, of the 24th infantry, although severely wounded, continued with his com-

mand until forced to retire from faintness through loss of blood. Capts. Saunders, Hawkins and Sturges, with every subaltern of that battalion, acted in the most exemplary manner. Ensign Bryan, 2d rifle regt. acting a lieutenant to the battalion, actively forwarded the wishes of the commanding officer. Lieuts. Hickman, 28th infantry, and Hyde of the U. S. marines, who commanded the reserve, claim my particular thanks for their activity in keeping that command in readiness to meet any exigency. I have before mentioned lieut. Morgan's activity: his two assistants, lieut. Pickett and Mr. Peters, conductor of artillery, also merit the name of good officers.

The militia were wanting in no part of their duty. Col. Cotgreave, his officers and soldiers, deserve the warmest approbation. My acting assistant adjutant gen. capt. N. H. Moore, 28th infantry; with volunteer adjutant M'Comb, were prompt in delivering my orders. Capt. Gratiot of the engineers, who volunteered his services as adjutant on the occasion, gave me valuable assistance.

On the morning of the 5th, I sent a flag to the enemy, to enquire into the state of the wounded (two in number) who were left on the field, and to request permission to bring away the body of major Holmes, which was also left, owing to the unpardonable neglect of the soldiers in whose hands he was placed. I am happy in assuring you, that the body of maj. Holmes is secured, and will be buried at Detroit with becoming honors.

I shall discharge the militia to-morrow, and will send them down, together with two regular companies to Detroit. With the remaining three companies I shall attempt to destroy the enemy's establishment in the head of *Naw-taw-wa-sa-ga* river, and if it be thought proper, erect a post at the mouth of that river.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to remain, sir, your obedient servant.

G. CROGHAN, Lt. Col. 2d Riflemen.

Hon. J. Armstrong, Secretary of War.

*Copy of a letter from maj. A. H. Holmes, to lieut. col. Croghan, dated*

On board the U. S. schr. Scorpion, 27th July, 1814.

SIR—Pursuant to your orders of the 1st inst. I left the squadron with lieut. Turner of the navy, and arrived at the Sault St. Mary's at noon the day after; two hours before, the North West Agent had received notice of our approach, and succeeded in escaping with a considerable amount of goods, after setting fire to the vessel above the falls. The design of this latter measure was frustrated only by the intrepid exertions of Mr. Turner, with his own men and a few of capt. Saunder's company.

The vessel was brought down the falls on the 25th, but, having bilged, Mr. Turner destroyed her. Much of the goods we have taken were found in the woods, on the American side, and were claimed by the agent of John Johnston, an Indian trader.

I secured this property because it was good prize by the maritime law of nations as recognized in the English courts, (witness the case of admiral Rodney adjudged by lord Mansfield) further, because Johnston has acted the part of a traitor, having been a citizen and a magistrate of Michigan territory, before the war, and at its commencement, and now discharging the functions of a magistrate under the British government. Because his agents armed the Indians from his stores at our approach; and lastly because those goods or a considerable part were designed to be taken to Michilimackinac. Pork, salt and groceries compose the chief part. Johnston himself pas-

ged to Michilimackinac since the squadron arrived at St. Joseph. With high respect

A. H. HOLMES, major 52d infantry.  
Lieutenant colonel Croghan, 2d rifle commanding.

A true copy from the original report.

N. H. MOORE, acting adjutant general.  
*Return of the killed, wounded and missing of a detachment commanded by lieutenant colonel C. Croghan in the affair of the 4th of August, 1814.*

On board the United States sloop of war Niagara, 11th August, 1814.

*Artillery.*—Wounded 3 privates.

*Infantry.*—17th Regiment; killed 5 privates, wounded 2 sergeants, 2 corporals, 15 privates. Two privates since dead. Two privates missing.

19th Regiment; wounded 1 captain, 19 privates, captain J. Vanhorn, since dead—one private since dead.

24th Regiment; killed 5 privates, wounded, 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 3 sergeants, 1 corporal, 1 musician, 5 privates. Captain Desha severely, lieutenant H. Jackson since dead; one sergeant since dead.

32d Regiment; killed 1 major, major A. H. Holmes. *United States marines.*—Wounded 1 sergeant.

*Ohio militia.*—Killed, 2 privates, wounded 6 privates, 1 private since dead.

*Grand total.*—1 Major and 12 privates killed.

2 Captains, 1 lieutenant, 6 sergeants, 3 corporals, 1 musician and 38 privates wounded.

2 Privates missing.

The above return exhibits a true statement of the killed, wounded and missing in the affair of the 4th instant. N. H. MOORE, captain 28th infantry.

*Acting assistant adjutant general.*

*Extract of a letter from general M. Arthur to the secretary at war, dated*

MADEN, Aug. 18, 1814.

"The squadron under commodore St. Clair is still cruising on lake Huron; have taken two small vessels and are in pursuit of others. I trust it will be able to remain on the Upper Lakes until the garrison at Mackinaw and the British posts in that quarter will be reduced for want of provisions."

*Extract of a letter from col. B. Hawkins to the secretary at War, dated.*

CHEREK AGENCY, Aug. 16, 1814.

"General Jackson terminated his negotiations with the Creeks on the 9th, and left there on the 11th with the regular troops going by water down the Usuma. The line of limits is Coosau river with a reserve of two miles square for Fort Williams, to the falls of the river seven miles above fort Jackson, thence eastwardly to a point 2 miles north of Ofuchshee (a large creek six miles below fort Decatur) thence across Tallapoosa to the mouth of the creek, and up the same ten miles in a direct line thence to Chattoohchee, and across it at the first creek two and a half miles below Okelayocemma about 68 miles north of the confluence of Chattoehoe and Fliat, thence to Georgia with an eventual reservation to accommodate the Kinnards."

GEN. ARMSTRONG'S LETTER.

*To the Editors of the Baltimore Patriot.*

It may be due to myself, and is certainly due to others, that the reasons under which I retired from the direction of the War Department, at a juncture so critical as the present, should be fully and promptly known to the public. These reasons will be found in the following brief exposition of facts.

On the evening of the 29th ultimo, the President called at my lodgings, and stated that a case of much delicacy had occurred; that a high degree of excite-

ment had been raised among the militia of the district; that he was himself an object of their suspicions and menaces; that an officer of that corps had given him notice, that they would no longer obey any order coming through me as secretary of war; and that in the urgency of the case, it might be prudent so far to yield to the impulse, as to permit some other person to exercise my functions in relation to the defence of the district.

To this statement and proposition I answered substantially as follows—that I was aware of the excitement to which he alluded, that I knew its source and had marked its progress; that the present was not a moment to examine its more occult causes, objects and agents: that it ostensibly rested on charges known to himself to be false, that it was not for me to determine how far the supposed urgency of the case made it proper for him to yield to an impulse so vile and profligate—so injurious to truth and so destructive of order; but that for myself, there was no choice; that I could never surrender a part of my legitimate authority, for the preservation of the rest—that I must exercise it wholly, or not at all; that I came into office, with objects exclusively public; and that to accommodate my principles or my conduct to the humours of a village mob, stimulated by faction and led by folly, was not the way to promote these; and that if his decision was taken in conformity to the suggestions he had made, I intreated him to accept my resignation.—This he declined doing. It was an extent, he was pleased to say, to which he meant not to go; that he knew the excitement was limited, as well with regard to time as to place; that he was now, and had always been, fully sensible of the general zeal, diligence and talent, which I had put into the discharge of my duty, and that it would give him pleasure, were I to take time to consider his proposition. I renewed the assurance of my great personal respect and my readiness to conform to his wishes on all proper occasions. I remarked, that whatever zeal, diligence and talent I possessed, had been employed freely but firmly, and according to my best views of the public good, and that as long as they were left to be so exerted, they were at the service of my country—but that the moment they were made to bow to military usurpation or political faction, there should be an end of their public exercise. We now parted, with an understanding that I should leave Washington the following morning.

It has been since stated to me, as a fact (to which I give the most reluctant belief) that on the morning of the 29th, and before my arrival in the city, a committee of the inhabitants of Georgetown, of whom Alexander C. Hanson, editor of the Federal Republican, was one, had waited on the President, by *deputation*, and had obtained from him a promise that I should no longer direct the military defences of the district. On this fact, all commentary is unnecessary.

It but remains to exhibit and to answer, the several charges raised against me, and which form the ground work of that excitement, to which the President has deemed it prudent to sacrifice his authority, in declining to support mine. They are as follows:

1st. That from ill-will to the district of Columbia and a design to remove the seat of government) I gave orders for the retreat of the army, in the affair of the 24th ult. under circumstances not making retreat necessary or proper.

This charge has not for its support the shadow of truth. The commanding general will do me the justice to say, that I gave him no such order, and



that he was and is under the impression, that the retreat was made earlier than I believed it to be proper. To the president I appeal, whether I did not point out the disorder and retreat of a part of the first line, and soon after the action began, and stigmatise it as base and infamous.

That in despite of the remonstrances of general Winder, and by the interposition of my authority, I had prevented him from defending the capitol.

This charge contains in it a total perversion of the truth. When the head of the retiring column reached the capitol, it was halted for a moment. General Winder here took occasion to state to Mr. Monroe and myself, that he was not in condition to maintain another conflict, and that his force was broken down by fatigue and dispersion. Under this representation, we united in opinion, that he should proceed to occupy the heights of Georgetown.

3d. That I had withdrawn the covering party from the rear of fort Washington, and had ordered captain Dyson to blow up the fort without firing a gun.

This charge is utterly devoid of truth. The covering party was withdrawn by an order from general Winder, and captain Dyson's official report shews, that the orders under which he acted, were derived from the same source, though, no doubt, mistaken or misrepresented.

4th. That by my orders, the navy yard had been burned. This like it's predecessors, is a positive falsehood.

Perceiving that no order was taken for apprising commodore Tingey of the retreat of the army, I sent Mr. Bell to communicate the fact and to say, that the navy-yard could no longer be covered. The commodore was of course left to follow the suggestions of his own mind, or to obey the orders, if orders had been given, of the navy department.

5th. And lastly, that means had not been taken to collect a force sufficient for the occasion.

As the subject of this charge may very soon become one of congressional enquiry, I shall at present make but a few remarks:

1st. That no means within reach of the war department had been omitted or withheld—that a separate military district, embracing the seat of government, had been created; that an officer of high rank and character had been placed in charge of it; that to him was given full authority to call for supplies and for a militia force of fifteen thousand men; that to this force was added the 36th regiment of the line, a battalion of the 38th, detachments of the 12th, of the artillery, and of the dragoons, the marine corps, and the crews of the flotilla, under the special command of commodore Barney—making a total of 16,300 men.

General Winder's official report of the engagement of the 24th ult. shews, how much of this force had been assembled, and the causes why a greater portion of it had not been got together. These will be found to have been altogether extraneous from the government, and entirely beyond its control; and

2d. That from what is now known of the enemy's force, of the loss he sustained in the enterprise, of the marks of panic under which he retreated, &c. &c. it is obvious, that if all the troops assembled at Bladensburg, had been faithful to themselves and to their country, the enemy would have been beaten, and the capital saved.

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Baltimore, 3d September, 1814.

Copy of a letter from com. Barney to the secretary of the navy,

Farm, at Elk Ridge, Aug. 23, 1814.

Sir—This is the first moment I have had it in my power to make a report of the proceedings of the forces under my command since I had the honor of

seeing you on Tuesday, the 23d inst. at the camp at the "Old Fields." On the afternoon of that day we were informed that the enemy was advancing upon us. Our army was put into order of battle and our positions taken; my forces were on the right flanked by the two battalions of the 36th and 38th regts. where we remained some hours. The enemy did not, however, make his appearance. A little before sunset general Winder came to me and recommended that the heavy artillery should be withdrawn, with the exception of one twelve pounder to cover the retreat. We took up the line of march, and in the night entered Washington by the Eastern Branch bridge. I marched my men, &c. to the marine barracks, and took up quarters for the night. About two o'clock, gen. Winder came to my quarters, and we made some arrangements. In the morning I received a note from gen. Winder, and waited upon him. He requested me to take command and place my artillery to defend the passage of the bridge on the Eastern Branch, as the enemy was approaching the city in that direction. I immediately put my guns in position, leaving the marines and the rest of my men at the barracks, to wait further orders. I was in this situation when I had the honor to meet you with the president and heads of departments, when it was determined I should draw off my guns and men, and proceed towards Bladensburg, which was immediately put into execution. On our way I was informed the enemy was within a mile of Bladensburg; we hurried on, though the day was very hot, and my men much crippled from the severe marches we had experienced the preceding days. I preceded the men, and when I arrived at the line which separates the District from Maryland, the battle began. I sent an officer back to hasten on my men—they came up in a trot. We took our position on the rising ground, put the pieces in battery, posted the marines under captain Miller, and flotilla men, who were to act as infantry under their own officers, on my right, to support the pieces, and waited the approach of the enemy. During this period the engagement continued—the enemy advancing, and our army retreating before them—apparently in much disorder. At length the enemy made his appearance on the main road in force and in front of my battery, and on seeing us made a halt; I reserved our fire, in a few minutes the enemy again advanced, when I ordered an 18 pounder to be fired, which completely cleared the road; shortly after, a second and third attempt was made by the enemy to come forward, but all who made the attempt were destroyed. The enemy then crossed over into an open field and attempted to flank our right. He was there met by three 12 pounders, the marines under captain Miller, and my men acting as infantry, and again was totally cut up. By this time not a vestige of the American army remained, except a body of five or six hundred posted on a height on my right, from whom I expected much support from their fine situation. The enemy from this period never appeared in front of us. He however pushed forward his sharpshooters, one of whom shot my horse from under me, which fell dead between two of my guns.—The enemy, who had been kept in check by our fire nearly half an hour, now began to outflank us on the right. Our guns were turned that way—he pushed up the hill about 2 or 300 men towards the corps of Americans stationed as above described, who to my great mortification made no resistance, giving a fire or two and retiring.

In this situation we had the whole army of the enemy to contend with; our ammunition was expended, and unfortunately the drivers of my ammunition waggons had gone off in the general panic.

At this time I received a severe wound in my thigh. Captain Miller was wounded, sailing master Warner killed, acting sailing master Martin killed, and sailing master Martin wounded; but to the honor of my officers and men, as fast as their companions and messmates fell at the guns, they were instantly replaced from those acting as infantry. Finding the enemy now completely in our rear and no means of defence, I gave orders to my officers and men to retire. Three of my officers assisted me to get off a short distance, but the great loss of blood occasioned such a weakness that I was compelled to lie down. I requested my officers to leave me, which they obstinately refused, but upon being ordered, they obeyed; one only remained. In a short time I observed a British soldier and had him called, and directed him to seek an officer; in a few minutes an officer came, who, on learning who I was, brought general Ross and admiral Coekburn to me. These officers behaved to me with the most marked attention, respect and politeness, had a surgeon brought and my wound dressed immediately. After a few minutes conversation, the general informed (after paying me a handsome compliment) that I was *paroled*, and at liberty to proceed to Washington or Bladensburg, as also Mr. Huffington, who had remained with me, offering me every assistance in his power, giving orders for a litter to be brought, in which I was carried to Bladensburg. Captain Wainwright, first captain to admiral Cochrane, remained with me, and behaved to me as if I was a brother.

During the stay of the enemy at Bladensburg, I received the most polite attention from the officers both of the navy and army.

My wound is deep, but I flatter myself not dangerous; the ball is not yet extracted. I fondly hope a few weeks will restore me to health, and that an exchange will take place, that I may resume my command, or any other that you and the President may honor me with. Yours, respectfully,

JOSHUA BARNEY.

Hon. Wm. Jones, secretary of the navy.

CAPTURE OF THE AMERICAN FRIGATE ESSEX.

From the *Jamaica Chronicle* of July, 21.

Intelligence of the capture of the above frigate in the Bay of Valparaiso, in the Chili seas, reached admiral Brown yesterday, brought by the *Argo* frigate, who politely favored us with a copy of the following letter, addressed to him, by captain Hillyar, of the *Phoebe*, detailing the particulars of the affair:—

*U. S. ship Phoebe, Valparaiso bay, 30th, May 1814.*

SIR—I have the honor to acquaint you that, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the 28th inst. after nearly four months anxious watching with his majesty's brig *Cherub*, for the United States frigate *Essex* and her companion, to quit the port of Valparaiso, we saw the former under way, and immediately the two ships made sail to close with her.

On rounding the outer point of the bay and hauling her wind, for the purpose of endeavoring to weather us, and escape, she lost her main topmast, and afterwards, not succeeding in an effort to regain the limits of the port, she bore up and anchored so near the shore (a few miles to lee-ward of it), as to preclude the possibility of either of his majesty's ships passing ahead of her without risk: as we drew near, my intention of going close under his stern was frustrated, from the ship's broaching off, and from the wind blowing extremely fresh. Our first fire commenced a little past four and continued about ten minutes, but produced no visible effect; our second, a few random shot only, from having increased our distance by wearing, was not apparently more successful; and having lost the use of our main sail, jib and mainstay, appearances were a little inauspicious; in standing

agian towards her, I hailed the *Cherub*, and signified my intention of anchoring, to captain Tucker, for which we were not ready before with springs, directing him to keep under sail, and take a convenient station for annoying our opponent.

On closing the *Essex*, at 35 minutes past five, the firing commenced, and before I gained my intended position, her cables were cut, and a serious conflict ensued, the guns of his majesty's ship becoming gradually more destructive, and when it pleased the Almighty to bless the effort of my gallant companions, and my personal very humble ones, with victory. My friend captain Tucker, an officer worthy of their lordships best attention, was most severely wounded at the commencement of the action, but remained on deck till it terminated, he also informs me his officers and crew, of whose loyalty, zeal and discipline, I entertain the highest opinion, conducted themselves to his satisfaction. I have to lament the death of four of my brave companions, and one of his, and my first lieutenant, among the number, he fell early. Our list of wounded are small. The conduct of my officers, &c. was such as became good and loyal subjects.

The defence of the *Essex*, taking into consideration our great superiority of force, the very discouraging circumstances of having lost her main-topmast, and being twice on fire, did honor to her defender, and must fully prove the courage of captain Porter.

I was much hurt on hearing that her men had been encouraged, when the result of the action was evidently decided, some to take to their boats and others to swim to the shore, many of whom were drowned in the latter attempt; 16 were saved by the exertions of our people, and others, I believe between 30 and 40, effected their landing. I informed captain Porter that I considered the latter, in point of honor, as my prisoners; he said the encouragement was given when the ship was in danger from fire, and I have not pressed the point. The *Essex* is completely stored and provisioned for six months, although much injured in her upper works, masts and rigging, is not in such a state as to give the slightest cause of alarm respecting her being able to perform a voyage to Europe with perfect safety. I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HILLYAR, captain.

THE SPIRIT OF THE NATION is roused. If the barbarian warfare of an inflated enemy, "let loose for a season," like Satan, would not have roused it, our liberties had perished for ever. "Feeling power and forgetting right," *Britain* has determined to satisfy the old grudge she owed us. Her "magnanimity" which was thoughtlessly extolled to the skies, is shewing itself in actions disgraceful even to the "untutored indian." On the sea we have met and conquered her, over and over—on the land we have erected military trophies that shall not soon pass away. *Brown*, *Scott* and *Gaines* have redeemed the character of the nation; and other heroes pant for an opportunity to gain the laurel. War is a new business to us; but we must "teach our fingers to fight"—and Wellington's *invincibles* shall be beaten by the sons of those who fought at *Saratoga* and *Yorktown*. We can more easily become a military nation than any other in the world, and we must become one, or be slaves. But before we learn the useful, but dreadful trade of war, let us be cautious to avoid the mastery of the business that belongs to field action. Our policy is to destroy his force in detail; until, like those who fought at *Chippewa*, we shall be able to meet the enemy any way he pleases. Let him be harassed from the moment that he sets foot amongst us, and wherever he goes,

**BARBARISM.** Copy of a letter from the Attorney-General of the United States to the Mayor of Philadelphia.

"Washington, Sept. 1, 1814.

"Dear Sir—A dispatch was yesterday received by the Secretary of State from admiral Cochrane, commander in chief of his Britannic majesty's ships and vessels upon the North American station, dated on board the *Tonnant*, in the Patuxent river, August 18, 1814.

"In this dispatch admiral Cochrane explicitly declares it to be his intention to issue to the naval force under his command, an order 'to destroy and lay waste such towns and districts upon the coast as may be found available?'

"I beg you will have the goodness to give publicity to this information as soon as may be, at Philadelphia.

"I have the honor to be, with great respect, your friend and servant,  
RICHARD RUSH.  
"JOHN GREY, Esq. Mayor of Philadelphia."

**EXTENSIVE SMUGGLING.**—A letter from Burlington, Vt. dated August 15, says—"It is a fact, that there are two neutral vessels on this lake which carry on a profitable trade. We passed several waggon loads of bale goods from Whitehall to Troy and Albany. It is said from ten to twelve thousand head of cattle have been driven into Canada this season from this state, and large sums in specie are continually going over both from Boston and New York.

**GENTILITY.** A Mr. Adams, a collector of the U. S. direct tax in Vermont, was lately made prisoner by a small party of the enemy, who took from about \$1000, the greater part of which had been collected of that tax. General *Brisbane*, who commands at Odetown, sent over a flag and returned the money. There is as much difference between *Brisbane* and *Cockburn*, as between *B.* and *C.*

**REINFORCEMENT.** *Norfolk, Aug. 31.*—On Monday a line of battle ship, and a frigate, came in from sea, and proceeded up the Bay. Yesterday afternoon, a frigate (having in tow a sloop, supposed her prize) a sloop of war, and a brig, transport or store ship, came in from sea, and anchored in Lynnhaven; this morning they proceeded up the bay with a fair wind.

**CALL OF THE LEGISLATURE.**—The Governor of Virginia has issued his proclamation for a convention of the legislature of that state, at Richmond, on the second Monday of October.

**FRONT CHAMPLAIN** we have yet nothing important. There is some skirmishing between the armies, but no appearance of an immediate battle, other than has been noticed. The British captain *Mayhew*, who was wounded in a late skirmish, has since died—his remains were sent to the enemy. Some of the British gun boats shewed themselves, on the 20th ult. but soon retired. Communication across the line, on the Vermont side, is said to be prohibited by the British commander. Possibly this is preparatory to a movement. It is stated they have made an arrangement with the Indians, in which they engage to pay them five dollars for the campaign, and the savages are to have all the plunder they can take.

*Isard's* army is in the best possible state for action, but we fear is too weak to beat the enemy; who, it is said, will attack us by land and water at the same time. See pages 10 and 16.

**NANTUCKET.**—From the *New-York Evening Post*.—We learn from Boston that the British brig *Nimrod* went into Nantucket last Monday with a flag of truce, with despatches from admiral Hotham to the constituted authorities of the place, stating that it having been represented to him that the inhabitants of Nantucket were much distressed for want of provisions and necessaries of life, he had in consequence sent in the present flag with the following propositions:—That if the citizens of Nantucket would lay down their arms, and stipulate that they would not fight against

his Britannic majesty's subjects during the present war, a certain limited number of vessels would be permitted to ply unmolested between the island and the ports of the United States and those of the British dominions, for the purpose of procuring provisions, fuel and other necessaries of life for the inhabitants; but that they should not be permitted to fish for cod or whale in or near his majesty's dominions. As soon as the propositions were received, a town meeting was called, and a committee of four was appointed to confer with the admiral on the subject. They went off in a flag of truce, and agreed to the propositions, which were reduced to writing and approved by the people. The intelligence is given on the authority of one of the committee.

**THE CREEKS.**—*Milledgeville, (Geo.) Aug. 17.*—A gentleman of respectability who passed through the Creek nation last week, and who conversed with general Jackson, informs us, that the boundaries for the future residence of the Creeks had been finally adjusted, apparently to the satisfaction of the chiefs, some of whom at first expressed dissatisfaction, but were silenced by the firmness of the United States' commissioner. Our informant describes the line designating the indian boundary as follows: "taking the Choctaw line and keeping a direct course to the Coosa, thence down that river to a point opposite to the mouth of Ocheechee creek on the Tallapoosa, which empties into that river on the east side, a few miles below Calbee creek, or Antossee town—up the said Ocheechee creek to its head, and thence in a direct line to the Chatahoochee. The present line of forts are reserved by the United States, and the Indians to be cut off from all communications on the sea-board."

Another gentleman, who was present when this boundary was described to our informant, by general Jackson, understood that the indian line extended from the Chatahoochee to the Ocmulgee, which is their present eastern boundary. We shall forbear to make any comments on this arrangement till our information shall be more precise.

**DEFENCE.**—The *Philadelphia* papers are filled with military business and notices. Volunteer corps are forming with astonishing activity. The ladies are working to equip their husbands and brothers, &c. The city council has appropriated 300,000 dollars, borrowed of the bank of Pennsylvania, to works of defence, and the corporations of Southwark and the Northern Liberties, 100,000 each. Camps are forming, and we trust that the forces may be organized by the time they have need of them. The general committee appointed by a public meeting of the citizens have appointed other committees, viz. of *Superintendance*—to correspond, and procure and disburse the funds, &c. of *Supplies*—to furnish arms, ammunition and provisions, &c. and fix the place of rendezvous, &c. of *Defence* on the Delaware, to procure seamen, &c. of *Organizing* the citizens into military bodies, &c. and a committee to make provision for the families of the drafted militia and volunteers who need assistance.

One hundred ladies met at the Commissioners' Hall, in Southwark, on the 30th ult. and on that and the following day made up 12,000 uniforms, for a new company.

**THE ALLIES.**—From a late *Jamaica paper*.—The Orpheus frigate of 36 guns, captain Pigott, and *Sabine's* schooner, of 12 guns, lieutenant Hope, lately anchored in the bay of Apalache from *Brunada*, and supplied the indians with about ten thousand stand of arms and a quantity of ammunition. Colonel Woodbine, formerly of this island, shortly after joined the indians with about four hundred men, who had proceeded from *George*, and the whole amounting to five thousand, marched against the Americans, and from a letter addressed to lieutenant Hope from colonel Woodbine, it was ascertained that an immediate attack was to be made upon fort Mitch II, and, from the want of ammunition, that fortress would undoubtedly become an easy conquest. Numbers of adherents daily flocking to the standard of the indians, and the Americans were in terrible consternation, and removing their property in the greatest haste.

At New-Orleans the war was very unpopular, and it was publicly ascertained that in the event of a Spanish force coming to Louisiana, there would be but few of the inhabitants who would not join them.

[That the British landed the arms spoken of may be true—but that they had collected a force of five thousand men is false. We have much later accounts of the proceedings of the Creeks than could reach us by way of *Jamaica*. We insert the article chiefly to shew the enemy's good will for a new massacre, as at fort *Alima*.]

**EASTPORT.** The British soldiers are constantly deserting from this post. It is stated as a fact that 60 or 70 of them came off in one body; they immediately reported themselves to our officer commanding at *Machias*. The enemy is making great exertions to break up all smuggling trade, with that place except in a treasonable traffic with our people for provisions, of which they are reported to be exceedingly in want; being on two thirds allowance. Pork 53¢ a barrel. As several entire guards had deserted, the officers were obliged to stand guard themselves, having lost all confidence in their men; of whom, it is said, only 300 remained on the island.

**THE TRUE SPIRIT.** From the *Albany Register*.—By the steam-boat *Paragon*, of Sunday evening, we received the following gloomy and disastrous intelligence; [alluding to the capture of Washington City] but gloomy and disastrous as it is, let it not damp the ardor of American patriotism: let it not, for a

moment, discourage or throw us into the arms of despondency. Our capital is gone, but of what advantage to the enemy is this destruction of a few public buildings the monuments of art and of national munificence? The loss of property is insignificant, compared with our resources, and the event cannot surely strike terror into the bosoms of freedom, or repress for a moment the energies of a nation roused to resentment and exertion by this daring invasion of its territory. Let us hope, that ere this our southern brethren in arms have made the enemy pay dearly for his temerity.

We observe that the annunciation of this intelligence is mingled in several prints with criminations of the administration. These may be just, but they are ill-timed. Believe us, fellow citizens, this is no moment for crimination, and recrimination, which necessarily follows. While the lightning of war flashed dimly in the horizon, and its thunder was scarcely heard within our borders, it was still proper enough to give vent to our criminations and complaints, to the just feelings of regret or indignation, excited by the bad management of our rulers. But when the clouds have gathered over our heads, and are bursting upon our altars and our fire sides; when the heart of our country is penetrated by hostile bands, and the smoking ruins of our capital admonish us that union alone is salvation, it is worse than fruitless to complain of grievances, the redress of which is necessarily remote. Hushed then be every murmur of discord, while a hostile foot pollutes the land of our fathers; let us forget all minor considerations of political or personal animosity; let one voice and one spirit animate us all—the voice of our bleeding country; and the spirit of our immortal ancestors.

THE BANKS OF *New-York*, *Philadelphia*, and *Baltimore* have stopped their payments in specie. The great quantity of the precious metals drawn off by the enemy, through his friends amongst us, by the sale of bills of exchange, &c. has rendered this procedure necessary to secure the safety of our monied institutions. It is a very proper and prudent measure; unpleasant and inconvenient, indeed, but the preventive of absolute loss, and a guarantee of their future credit and usefulness. The publications that belong to this interesting matter are laid off for our next.

FROM ONTARIO. It is stated that the British vessels blockaded in the *Niagara* have escaped. It is likely they will fall into our hands. Lt. Gregory was taken prisoner in one of his daring excursions in a gig with 10 men. He obstinately resisted; is reported to have been wounded. Many gun-boats are building at *Sackett's Harbor*—nine were already in the water. Gen. *Brown* has resumed the command at Fort Erie. A continual cannonade is kept up on both sides, with little apparent effect on either.

FROM CHAMPLAIN. The British army, reported to be about 5000 strong, have advanced under maj. gen. *Brisbane*, who has issued a general order directing the most scrupulous regard to discipline—to refrain from plunder, &c. our fleet was off *Pittsburg* on the 1st inst. (our latest date) to operate with the army in defence of that place; which is said to be prepared to receive the enemy. We have no doubt but that *Isard* will give a good account of them.

*New Haven* was in a bustle and alarm on the 6th inst. The British were reported to be landing from two ships near *Killingworth*. Every one capable of bearing arms was on the alert. It does not appear, however, that the enemy landed.

*Castine*, &c. It seems that the British with a force of about two thousand men, took possession of *Castine* and *Belfast* (adjacent) in the district of *Maine*, on the 31st ult. The U. S. ship *Adams* is in danger.

*Spain*. The *(Philad.) Democratic Press* of the 5th inst. says, "A letter from M. *Daschloff*, to his secretary in this city, dated at *New York* has endorsed on it in the Russian language, 'I have just received advices that *Spain* has declared war against the United States.'"

*Prairie du Chien*. The post at this place was surrendered to the

united British and Indians on the 20th July. The enemy force about 200 regulars, 600 Indians. Ours, a lieutenant's command. The prisoners were paroled, and escorted by the British to protect them from the Indians, and have arrived at *St. Louis*.

CONGRESS. The large building erected at *Washington* city, for a hotel, is fitting up for the accommodation of congress. It was formerly occupied as the general post office, patent office, &c.

FOREIGN NEWS. *London* dispatches to the 20th July have been received via *Hullfax*. It does not appear that the British ministers had, at that date, proceeded to *Geneva*. A letter from that place dated July 2, says, "The English ministers are lord *Gambier* and messrs. *Colburn* and *Adam*, but none of them have yet arrived at *Ghent*. The American ministers are messrs. *Bayard*, *Gallatin*, *Adams*, *Russel* and *Clay*. They have all been here for some days, except Mr. *Gallatin*, who is hourly expected to arrive."

Additional vessels and troops are leaving *England* for *America*. There seems no prospect of an immediate peace. The governor at *Hullfax* has received orders to forbid all encouragement of a breach of the blockade of our coasts. The *Montreal* papers say, that the burning of *Newark* and the atrocities committed at *Queenston*, *Dover*, *St. David's*, *Long Point* and *Chippewa*, will be retributed on the American settlements; and that orders have been given by admiral *Cochrane*, as well as sir *George Prevost*, "to destroy and lay waste such towns and districts as the troops and navy may find assailable; and to hold distinctly in view the conduct of the American army towards his majesty's unoffending subjects."

The admiral, say these papers, "has also instructed his officers to take every opportunity of explaining to the people how much he laments the necessity of following the rigorous example of the commanders of the American forces, and to state to them, that as their commanders must obviously have acted under instructions from the executive government of the United States, whose intimate and unnatural connection with the late government of France has led them to adopt the same system of plunder and devastation, it is therefore to their own government the unfortunate sufferers must look for indemnification for the loss of property."

From every thing that we see, we must bear the "yug of war," in its most barbarous form. Well-armed in a just quarrel, and devoted to our republican institutions, let all say

"Don't give up the soil!"

Better times will come—and perseverance and courage shall establish the republic, with power, in glorious security. Mighty events appear yet to be expected in *Europe*—the present calm cannot last—a little while allowed to renovate their strength, and that continent will again be in a flame. Every thing is at this moment against us—and changes for the better most happen, at home and abroad.

Extract of a letter dated *Liverpool* 11th July received by a respectable mercantile house in *Baltimore*.

"The American commissioners are assembled at *Ghent* and waiting there for the British commissioners to meet them; it is generally believed they will be met in all this month, by admiral *Gambier*, Mr. *Adam* and Mr. *Colburn*; when I hope, a peace will take place. The people here openly express their wishes for a continuance of the war; but secretly, rest assured, a peace with the United States is the sincere wish of their hearts; as every thing is uncommonly dull, both here and in *Manchester*, and British manufactures of every description have fallen nearly to what they were in 1812; owing to this country being excluded from exporting to France; and, the continent elsewhere are so very poor that they cannot buy, money being there entirely out of the question.

The late astonishing changes had made the people here almost mad, and they have hardly come to their senses yet; however, they begin to find out that their trade is not what they expected would be the result of a peace with France. I am credibly informed that there are twenty thousand packages of goods here and fifteen thousand in *Lisbon* ready to be sent to *America*, those in *Lisbon* would have been shipped in neutral vessels, had not *Cochrane* issued his blockading proclamation.

The trade of the United States is much more important to the manufacturers here than they are willing you should know; be assured they now feel sensibly the want of it and the government are more conscious of this than the people.

A great number of troops have been shipped from *Bordeaux* for *America*; general *Hill* who is to take command of them has not yet left this country, and I hope he will not."

FROM BERMUDA, July 21.—By an arrival at *Bermuda* from *Gibraltar*, it was ascertained that ten thousand British troops (part of the duke of *Wellington's* army) from the *Grande* had actually sailed for the coast of *America*, to touch at *Herouville*. The U. S. ship *Tomant* was remaining there in readiness to accompany the expedition. *Canada* must be well insured, as well by its old brave defenders, as the respectable reinforcements already

sons there. In the western extremity of the continent a very formidable force will soon be in operation, that will require a deal of energy, force and money on the part of the American government, to present any thing like opposition. The force therefore from England and the Grande, we shall not be disappointed to hear, has been ordered to the Delaware. This force should be, and no doubt will be formidable; the ten thousand troops, above alluded to, must be the first division. This will create such a diversion in the heart of America, that the defence of its extremities will be held but of a secondary moment.

A very short time now must put in motion all the schemes of our government, for bringing this divided people to their reason; and we trust that special directions have been given for separating the sheep from the goats, so that the innocent may not suffer for the guilty.

**NEW-YORK.**—Governor Tomkins has issued his proclamation, calling an extra session of the New-York legislature at Albany on the 26th of this month. The works for the defence of the city approach their completion. The labor of the people has accomplished wonders. The cannon are mounting. *Devour* takes command at Fort Grease, the greatest work. But Swift is finished and Fort Lawrence nearly done. The *Terrany* sentry, in arms her about 1500, in a body, gave one day's labor, as did the Free Masons, nearly the thousand strong. The following curious incident is mentioned in the *Columbian*—

**Female patriotism.** Yesterday afternoon a company of ladies went to Brooklyn, and forming a procession at the ferry, with the music of Tammany Society, increased as they went to Fort Grease, between 2 and 300, where they performed an hour's work on the fortifications, and the plaudits of the citizens on the ground. Several patriots of the revolution were among them; and a lady of 72 years of age wheeled a basket of earth with great activity. This scene was extremely gratifying by its novelty—but the practice would soon become reprehensible and detrimental to the public service if indiscriminately indulged. More permanent and appropriate employment for the sex will be found in the associations for needle work for the soldiery forming throughout the city.

**Public spirit.**—The corporation of New York have opened a loan for a million of dollars for the purpose of defence. The voluntary contributions of the citizens, still amount, in addition to their labor on the fortifications, to several hundred dollars per day.

**"DON'T GIVE UP THE SOIL."** It would give us pleasure to record all the instances of patriotism that press upon us for mention. We cannot do so to the account of what is doing at New York without noticing that about 1075 men from New York, N. J., proceeded to a day's labor on the works for the defence of that city. They had flags and music, and before this land on his hat

**"Don't give up the soil."**

We trust this will be the motto of every American. **GENERAL ARMS PRODIGE,** says the National Intelligencer, "has resigned the office of secretary of war."—And alas, "we greatly regret the occasion of his resignation; and can only wish that a successor may be found equally well qualified."

**CARTEL** ship *Anolatan* has arrived at Savannah from Jamaica, with 170 American prisoners—left only 61 left.

**SAVANNAH, Aug. 25.** By a gentleman of undoubted veracity who left Havana on the 17th inst. and arrived at St. Mary's on the 18th—information is received that on or about the 1st inst. two British ships from Europe (the *Charon* and *Hermes*) each mounting 34 guns, reported to have on board 400 men, some of whom were marine-artillists, 100 of whom were said to be officers, had arrived at Havana, under the command of col. who said he was born at Colerain in Ireland. They applied to the governor of the Island for permission to land at Pensacola; but it was refused—they then applied for permission to land at Havana for the refreshment of the crew, until a reinforcement should arrive; this also was refused. The governor is said to have assured the commanding officer that their landing would be repelled within any territory under his command—immediately after which a Spanish vessel was despatched for Pensacola, and it was reported that she conveyed orders for the governor of West Florida to repel the landing of British troops in that province with all the force under his control.

The colonial commanding officer at a public house; he spoke freely of the cruelties committed by the troops under general Jackson during his expedition against the Indians; and seemed exasperated against the Americans. He urged that the country belonged to the Indians—they were the first settlers, and it was his intention to restore it to them. His first stand would be at Colerain in Georgia, and from thence to Savannah. The col. reported that he expected a reinforcement of 4000 men; that he had on board the two ships 300 uniforms, epaulets, swords, &c. for officers whom he intended to commission. A gentleman who was on board the *Hermes* read out of the proclamations signed by col. Woodbine inviting all classes and descriptions of people to the British standard for protection and freedom.

The British brig *Childers* had conveyed to West Florida a quantity of arms and ammunition, and on her return had called at Havana—it was well known there are several British vessels that had been employed in that way, and that a large supply of arms and ammunition was deposited in that neighborhood on British account.

**FROM PENSACOLA.** *Millidgeville, (Pa.) Aug. 21.* We understand that gen. Jackson dispatched a courier to the governor of Pensacola demanding the surrender of *McQueen* and Francis [who it was stated, had sought shelter under Spanish authority] and the reason why they, and their adherents have received succour and assistance from the subjects of his Catholic Majesty, between whose government, and that of the United States, he conceived there were existing relations of amity and good will. His excellency, it is stated, became highly exasperated at the peremptory

manner of the demand; returned an insulting and ambiguous answer—said that he knew nothing of Francis and *McQueen*—that Jackson should hear from him shortly.

Upon the receipt of this answer, delivered verbally, and which general Jackson, no doubt, supposed to bear something of a threatening appearance, he immediately left Fort Jackson for the purpose of occupying Mobile point—at which post, it is said, he will shortly have a force of 6000 strong—which, it is supposed, will not only be sufficient for defensive, but, if necessary, offensive operations.

**THE CREEKS.** We have a variety of rumours and reports of the intrigues and operations of the British with the *Creek Indians*. It is pretty well ascertained that the enemy has landed some men and a considerable quantity of arms at Appalacheicola, 130 miles east of Pensacola. Many of the Creeks had taken refuge in the Spanish territory, and it is said they have accepted the supplies Jackson, however, seems prepared to manage the allied forces.

**State troops.**—His excellency the governor (says the *New York "Columbian"*) has determined to enlist 1 or 2000 men, for three months or (with the sanction of the legislature) twelve months or during the war, with officers to be commissioned by him, and two dollars per month extra pay to the soldiers, to be confined at present to the defence of the seaboard of the state. Also, the commander in chief will organize a battalion of Sea Fencibles under the act of congress for that purpose, for the defence of this city and harbor.

On the requisition of gen. Porter, and by order of the governor of Virginia, we are happy to find, that gen. Taylor is again called into the service of the United States.—*Norfolk Herald.*

**A handsome affair.** The *Menalus* frigate, capt. sir Peter Parker, had been for some time moving about in the upper parts of the Chesapeake, frequently landing detachments and committing barbarous depredations on the shores, burning several houses, wheat stacks, and a pig pen with the pigs in the sty! They also seized some negroes for guides, but whether they carried them off is not stated. About the 29th ult. a schooner came up the bay with orders for the *Menalus* to fall down; but sir Peter said he must have "a frolic with the Yankees before he left them," and on the 30th at night, after dancing and drinking, they proceeded to the *spot*, and made a circuitous route to surprize col. REAN, (a man of the revolution) encamped in Moore's fields, not far from Georgetown X Roads, on the Eastern Shore, of Maryland. The colonel was fully apprized of all their proceedings—his force was 170 officers and men, (militia, armed with muskets and a few rifles, and 2 pieces of field artillery.) The enemy disgorged all his force except about 20 men from the frigate, and amounted to 235 men; 150 armed with muskets, and the rest with pikes, cutlasses and a pair of pistols each. The British advanced with firmness to the charge, but were met with equal resolution and courage. The ground was obstinately contended for for nearly an hour, when the enemy retreated leaving 13 killed and 3 wounded on the field. It is ascertained that they carried off 17 others, among whom was sir Peter, who, with several others are since dead. The incendiary captain fell before the artillery, when he attempted to carry it by storm, and was buried the next day with the usual ceremonies. Happy, indeed, was it that the enemy retreated when they did, for our people had expended nearly every round of cartridge, and had no supply at hand. This circumstance prevented a pursuit, which would probably have been more fatal to the enemy than the battle—they had had but 20 rounds a man. We had three men slightly wounded, none killed. Many muskets, cutlasses and boarding pikes with a grenade, a rocket, and some poles supposed to have been brought to be used in discharging them, were picked up by the military next morning.

The next morning the lieutenant commanding the frigate sent a flag on shore to propose an exchange for the prisoners he supposed we had, for on mastering the crew *forty* were found to be missing. The

enemy has had his "frolic," and *Read* has shewn the value of materials so often disgraced by the ignorance or cowardice of officers who, *some how*, have got command.

The affair occurred in the night; but a clear moon made it sufficiently light to distinguish objects. The frigate has since gone down the bay.

*General Gaines.* We are sorry to learn, (says the National Intelligencer of the 6th inst.) from the Northern frontier, that on the 29th ult. gen. Gaines was severely (not dangerously) wounded in four or five different parts of his body, by a shell thrown by the enemy, which fell into his quarters. Other persons, among whom was the person from whom this information was derived, in his tent or room at the time, received no injury.

*Savannah, Aug. 23.* On Saturday last colonel Manning with about 500 United States troops horse and infantry, arrived in this town from Camp Jack; it is stated that they are to operate as marines on board gun boats, &c. to prevent the incursions of the enemy in our bays and inlets.

*Pittsburg, Aug. 31.* On Sunday capt. Reed's company of artillery 80 strong, took up their line of march from this place for Buffalo.

Gen. M<sup>r</sup>Arthur has made a requisition to the governor of Kentucky for 1000 militia to strengthen the garrison at Detroit. They will rendezvous at Newport on the 10th of Sept. A similar call for 500 mounted volunteers has been made on the governor of Ohio. They are to rendezvous at Urbana on the 20th of Sept.

*Defence of New-Haven.* The citizens of New-Haven have commenced, by voluntary labor and subscription, the erection of strong works on Prospect Hill, on the east side of the harbor, for the better defence of that city.

#### NAVAL.

*Another naval victory!* A London paper of the 15th July, contains an account of the capture of the British sloop of war *Reindeer*, carrying 21 guns; by the United States sloop *Wasp*; captain *Blakeley*, of 20 guns, near the *Lands-end*. The *Reindeer* was to windward, and twice attempted to board the *Wasp*; but was twice beaten off with great loss. The battle lasted but twenty-five minutes—the British captain, and twenty-one of his men was killed, and 60 wounded. The loss on board the *Wasp*, is not known. The wounded were put on board a neutral vessel and had arrived in England; and the *Reindeer*, being shattered to pieces, was blown up by captain *Blakeley* the day after the battle. The *Wasp* had been cruising off the *Lands-end* 14 days. She had made six other prizes, one worth \$0,000£. The London paper says, one of her masts was badly wounded and that several sloops of war had gone in pursuit of her. The famous privateer *Rattlesnake* has at length been taken and sent into England, July 9.

*Barney's* flotilla, blown up in the *Patuxent*, consisted only of one cutter, one gun-boat, and 13 barges—not of "25 gun-boats, and 10 or 15 barges," as stated in an Eastern paper.

The corvette, *Adams*, captain *Morris*, has arrived in the *Penobscot*, after a cruise in which she made five prizes. We have captain *Morris'* account of his cruise, as well his letter giving a report of the damages his ship suffered by running on some rocks near the port he arrived at—which must lay over for the present. She will require considerable repairs.

Captain *Porter*, and his men, the remains of the gallant crew of the *Essex*, now at *Baltimore*, collected them by the following animating summons!

"FREE TRADE AND SAILORS' RIGHTS—to the crew of the old *Essex*. SAILORS, the enemy is about attempting the destruction of your new ship at Washington,

and I am ordered there to defend her. I shall proceed immediately, and all disposed to accompany me will meet me at 5 o'clock this afternoon at the navy agent's office. D. PORTER.

*New-York, August 22d, 1814.*

*Extract of a letter from the Secretary of the Navy to Com. Rodgers, dated August 29, 1814.*

"The terms of capitulation for the town of Alexandria are so degrading and humiliating, as to excite the indignation of all classes of people—those who have hitherto been the most vehement in their denunciation of the war and of the administration, are no less ardent in their determination to defend this city and Georgetown to the last extremity, than the warm advocates of both. The arrogant foe has required the surrender of all articles of produce and merchandize, even retrospectively, to the 19th inst. including all that has been sent from the town subsequent to that date, together with all the shipping, whether afloat or sunk, to be delivered to him in perfect order, to carry off his immense booty, which he is now busily engaged in loading and preparing for departure."

On receiving the above order, the gallant veteran with his daring crew left *Baltimore* for *Washington* city.

*Extract of a letter from commodore Chauncey to the secretary of the navy, dated on board the United States ship Superior, off Kingston, August 10, 1814.*

"I have been duly honored with your letters of the 19th and 24th July.

"I do assure you, sir, that I have never been under any pledge to meet general Brown at the head of the lake; but on the contrary when we parted at Sacketts harbor, I told him distinctly, that I should not visit the head of the lake, unless the enemy's fleet did.

"I can ascribe the intimation of general Brown, that he expected the co operation of the fleet, to no other motive, than a cautious attempt to provide an apology for the public, against any contingent disaster to which his army might be exposed.

"But, sir, if any one will take the trouble to examine the topography of the peninsula, (the scene of the general's operations) he will discover that this fleet could be of no more service to general Brown, or his army, than it could to an army in Tennessee.

"General Brown has never been able to penetrate nearer to lake Ontario than Queenstown, and the enemy is in possession of all the intermediate country; so that I could not even communicate with the army, but by a circuitous route of 70 or 80 miles.

"Admitting general Brown could have invested fort George, the only service he could have derived from the fleet, would be our preventing the supplies of the enemy from entering the Niagara river; for the water is so shallow that the large vessels could not approach within two miles of their works.

"General Brown had therefore two abundantly sufficient reasons for not expecting the co-operation of this fleet; it was not promised to him—and was chimerical in itself.

"My fixed determination has always been to seek a meeting with the enemy the moment the fleet was ready and to deprive him of an apology for not meeting me, I have sent four guns on shore from the *Superior*, to reduce her armament in number to an equality with the *Prince Regent's*, yielding the advantage of their 68 pounders. The *Mohawk* mounts two guns less than the *Princess Charlotte*, and the *Montreal* and *Niagara* are equal to the *General Pike* and *Madison*. I have detached, on separate service, all the brigs; and am blockading his four ships, with our four ships, in the hope that this may induce him to come out."

↵ We have another letter from com. *Chunney*, dated August 10, accounting, to perfect satisfaction, for the delay of the sailing of the fleet, &c. Also, a copy of a letter from general *Brown* to him, dated July 13, with the reply. They are highly interesting; but came too late for the present number. The commodore disavows all idea of an expectation that he should have acted with the army, at the time of the general's crossing into Canada.

The anchor left by the Despatch brig at *Stonington* when she "cut and run," has been got up and brought to New-London. It weighs upwards of 20 cwt.

Mr. Chalmers, late master of the Terror, bomb vessel, employed in the attack on *Stonington*, has been captured in a British barge and sent to *Providence*—he says 170 bombs were discharged from that ship in the attack on *Stonington*, which were found to weigh 80lb. each; the charge of powder for the mortar was 9lb; adding to this the wadding, that vessel must have disgorged eight tons weight.

The new brig at *Vergerennes*, the keel of which was laid about thirty days since, is now, we understand, completely fitted and ready for the lake. She mounts 27 heavy guns.—*Col. Pat.*

*New-London, August 26 1814.* Yesterday a boat from the Superb, with a midshipman and five men (2 of whom were Americans) went on shore at Little Gull Island. On reaching the shore, the three Englishmen jumped out, and the two Yankees pushed off and pulled for this place. Immediately on their arrival and telling the news, the same boat returned back to the island, took the midshipman and two men, and landed them safely here at 7 o'clock this morning. One of the Americans was Daniel Holt of this place, the other belonging to the eastward.

*Charleston, August 24.* The owners of the schr. *Santee*, and her cargo, have awarded to captain *Leavins* 1500 dollars, being one third of the estimated value of vessel and cargo. We understand that 4 or 500 dollars have also been made up for captain *L.* by private subscription, and \$ 50 by the Union Insurance company; this with 100 dollars a head for each of his five prisoners, which the government ought to give him, whether he is entitled to it or not by law, will be a handsome reward for his heroic conduct in the recapture of his vessel.

#### BALTIMORE.

At the recommendation of the Committee of Vigilance and Safety, (inserted in our last number) the people commenced their labors to fortify the city, on Sunday the 27th ult. The work done demonstrates their power and zeal, to the astonishment of all who behold it. *Baltimore* has long been remarkable for the patriotism and liberal spirit of her citizens; and her high character for these qualities is fully maintained by the free offering of men and money for the purposes of defence. In the mean time, volunteers and militia from the adjacent parts of *Maryland, Pennsylvania* and *Virginia*, have flocked in to our aid. We are restrained, by the request of the Committee of Vigilance, from mentioning any particulars; but the honorable record shall yet be made. We restrain the desire to notice these things because enjoined by the committee; for we are very sure the enemy is apprised of almost every thing that is transacted here: but he has learnt nothing to our discredit. The means of defence have given confidence to the people—many families who had left the city have returned—nothing is relaxed; every thing goes on as though an attack were immediately expected, but, with the exception of performing their military duties, the people have their usual composure and quiet. To our brethren who have

flown to our assistance, we are greatly indebted, as well for the decorum of their conduct in the city, as their patriotism in coming to the camp. The sudden collection of so many people, of all classes and conditions, might have been expected to create much confusion and disorder; but no event has yet occurred, that we have heard of, which can sully the character of an individual soldier; and the city is as quiet, (the sound of the drum, or the rattling of waggons pertaining to the different corps, excepted) as ever it was. This tribute is due to the gentlemen associated to repulse the enemy. Major-general *Smith*, of the Maryland militia (of Mud Fort memory) commands the troops collected specially for the defence of *Baltimore*. Brigadier-general *Winder* has under him the forces belonging to his military district. He is now here, and the whole is acting in concert.

On a former distressing occasion we felt it a duty to caution the public against the infamous lies that were circulated respecting *Baltimore*. Such letter-writing, or letter-making has prevailed in the present case, with its usual baseness. One of these letters, published at *Boston*, says—"There is, at this moment, a contest between the civil and military powers—the former are for sending a capitulating embassy, but the military men will not consent." Extract of a letter from major *Wm. B. Barney*, to general *Smith*, dated *Annapolis* half past 7 o'clock P. M. 1st 3 1814.

Three deserters from the British have just come in: I have examined them separately and they agree in their stories—the substance of which is—that they left the fleet lying at the mouth of the Patuxent on Monday evening. They were ashore watering—the fleet was watering from casks sunk in the sand.

A bomb ship and the *Havanna* frigate joined on Saturday last; no reinforcement of troops that they heard of; heard great complaints of the loss sustained in the taking of *Washington*, said to be 1100 men. Nothing said about going to *Baltimore*; but a great deal about taking *New-London*, or *Long-Island*, and making winter quarters there.

The two admirals (Red and White) with several line of battle ships went down the bay on Monday. The admiral of the Blue remains with the fleet. Orders to get under way yesterday morning had been given. Captain *Parker* of the *Menelaus* certainly killed in the affair with colonel *Reed*.

#### FROM THE PATUXENT.

The whole naval force of the enemy, recently lying in the mouth of the Patuxent, got under way on Tuesday evening, and proceeded down the bay.

#### WASHINGTON CITY.

*Miscellaneous particulars.*—The *Washington City Gazette* gives as a list of persons who suffered by conflagration or robbery of the enemy by the late capture of the capital. The public property destroyed was—the capitol; the president's house; the war office; the treasury office; the fort and magazine at *Greenleaf's* point; the public stores, &c. at the marine barracks. [The navy yard being fired by order of the secretary of the navy.]

The private buildings burnt were—the houses of Messrs. *Sewell*, *Ball*, *Frost*, *Philips*, *Tomlins*, and *Mrs. Hamilton*'s.

They also burnt Messrs. *Ringgold's* and *Chalmers* rope walks, and *Mr. Heath's* twine walk.

And plundered the houses or stores of Messrs. *B. Sprigg*, *Boon*, *Birch*, *Long*, *Rapine*, *D. Waterson*, *M'Cormick*, *Caldwell*, *W. Elliott*, *B. Burns*, *Ricks*, *G. Burns*, *Crampton* and *Washington*—and destroyed *Gales* and *Seaton's* types, &c.

The cannon at the navy yard, with many other military appurtenances at and near *Washington*, was

but little if any injured. The national loss in buildings and stores is estimated at two millions. The walls of the capitol stand firm and that and the other public buildings may be repaired at a comparatively small expence. The former had very little wood work in it. Foxall's cannon foundry was not destroyed, as reported.

A general hospital has been established at Capitol Hill.

The following is given as the probable force of the enemy—

*“British landed at Benedict.*

21st regt.	1003
1st battalion 4th regt.	800
Do. 44th do.	630
Do. 85th do.	750
Artillerists, 80 or	90
Marines, under admiral Cockburn,	1500
Seamen,	350
	5123

**SURRENDER OF ALEXANDRIA.**

*At a meeting of the Committee of Vigilance, on Monday, the 23th of August, 1814.—Present*

Joseph Dean, John Thompson, William Herbert, Matthew Robinson, Thomas Vowell.

This meeting being called at the request of the chairman, Charles Simms, who, with Edmund J. Lee and Jonathan Swift, are gone as a flag to the British frigates off the fort, now in their possession.

*Resolved,* That two expresses be procured to wait on general Hungerford, from Virginia, or any other office commanding troops, informing them that the town has no artillery or any military force to protect it, and that they intend to surrender at a discretion, and therefore think it injurious to the interests of the town, for any troops to enter at this time, being under the direction of the civil authority. And that a copy of this minute be handed to each of the expresses.

THOMAS VOWELL, chairman, pro tem.

*In the Common Council of Alexandria.*

The following order was unanimously concurred in by the Common Council of Alexandria, 23th August, 1814.

The forts erected for the defence of the district having been blown up by our men, [United States regular troops] and abandoned without resistance, and the town of Alexandria having been left without troops or any means of defence against the hostile force now within sight, the common council of Alexandria have with reluctance been compelled from a regard to the safety of the inhabitants to authorize an arrangement with the enemy, by which it has been stipulated that during their continuance before the town they shall not be molested—no superior power having on this emergency appeared to defend or direct, the common council has considered itself authorized from extreme necessity to make the above stipulation—they consider it binding on themselves and on the nation, and require a faithful observance of it from all the inhabitants of the town.

*Resolved,* That copies of the above resolution, be transmitted to brigadier-general Winder, of the 10th military district, and to generals Young and Hungerford, with the request of the common council, that proper measures may be used to secure a strict observance of the public faith which the common council has been compelled to pledge.

THOS. HERBERT, Pres't.

J. GIRD, clerk pro tem.

*In Common Council of Alexandria.*

*Resolved,* That the common council of Alexandria, in assenting to the conditions offered by the commander of the British squadron now off the town, has acted from the impulse of irresistible necessity, and solely from a regard to the welfare of the town—that it considers the assent by it given only formal, inasmuch as the enemy already had it in their power to enforce a compliance with their demand by a seizure of the property required from us; and believing the safety of the persons of the inhabitants and their dwellings, and of such property as is not comprehended within the requisition to depend entirely on the observance of the terms of it.—The common council recommends to the inhabitants an acquiescence, at the same time it does expressly disclaim the power of doing any act in its part to enforce compliance; its authority in this particular being limited to recommendation only.

*At a meeting of the Common Council of the town of Alexandria on the 23th of August, 31.—Present*

Thomas Herbert, president; Henry Nicholas, Andrew Fleising, James Millan, Reuben Johnston, Anthony Rhodes, John Hunter, Wm. Veitch, Ezra Kenzie, Robert I Taylor, and John Gird.

The above resolution was unanimously adopted. It was also resolved, that in the opinion of the council the loss to be sustained by the deprivations of the enemy on the inhabitants, ought to be equalized; but the council does not consider itself as possessing the powers necessary to pass any law to that effect, nor does it consider the present as a proper time to act on this subject.

*Resolved,* That if any plan can be devised by which this loss to be sustained by the inhabitants can be equalized, it will meet with the approbation of the council.

THOS. HERBERT, Pres't.

W. VEITCH, Clerk, pro tem.

The vessels carried by the enemy from Alexandria were 14—laden with from 15 to 18,000 lbs flour, 800 lbs tobacco, 150 bales cotton, some small quantities of sugar and coffee, and a medley of other articles.

While the enemy were employed in loading a vessel, captains Porter and Creighton of the U. S. navy made a dash into Alexandria on horseback, rode up to the midshipman who was superintending the loading of the boat, and captain C. seized him by the cravat and endeavored to take him off; but his cravat gave way and he escaped. The soldiers immediately galloped off leaving the inhabitants in great consternation.

The signal of alarm was immediately given on shore to all those employed on the wharves who promptly embarked, and all hands were ordered to prepare for action. The inhabitants apprehended an immediate destruction of the town; but a proclamation being sent from the corporation to state that the act was unauthorized by them, nor done by any inhabitant of the place, and promising that they would place guards at the intersection of each street leading to the water to prevent a similar occurrence, the commanding officer said he would overlook it, and the town was again quieted.

A series of desperately daring exertions were made by Rodgers, Porter, and Perry, with the men of the two former, and some of the Virginia militia, to prevent the escape of the frigates from Alexandria with their great booty. All that men could do, with the means they had, by fire ships, barges, and hastily erected batteries, was done—but the enemy got off with some loss, taking all the vessels with him. About twelve men were killed, and several wounded at Porter's battery—at Perry's only one was wounded. Rodgers suffered no loss, that we have heard of. The details of these exploits have not yet reached us; but the facts shall be recorded to the honor of the concerned.

The *Washington City Gazette* pointedly intimates; that the flour and tobacco carried off by the British from Alexandria, was actually sold to them by the merchants.

Commodore Porter hoisted a large flag over his battery, on which was inscribed in sufficiently legible characters "FREE TRADE AND SAILORS' RIGHTS." Who does not echo the sentiment? The gallant captain Creighton was his second.

The misfortune was, that the artillery that could be collected for the sudden occasion, were too light, Rodgers' and Porter's crews are now at Baltimore.

**CHRONICLE.**

The duke of Wellington has arrived in England, and was received with great shouts by the people. The garrison at *Strasbourg* refused to mount the white [Bourbon] cockade; a tumult ensued, and several lives were lost. At Lyons, affairs are reported to be unsettled, and many hints are held out as though another revolution was brewing in France. It is stated that the French army was collecting; that they considered *Austria* as the cause of their degradation, and were clamorous for a war with that power. They speak with enthusiasm of their former successes, and it was thought would force Louis into a contest. The French parliament is in session. The king of Prussia had arrived at Paris, incog. In Spain 4000 arrests had taken place since the return of ungrateful Ferdinand. A London paper of July 7, says—There appears to have been a serious disturbance at Madrid. The king suddenly left the Capitol in the middle of the night on the 19th ult. and the stone upon which the constitutional inscription had been engraved, was torn from its place, and two other inscriptions substituted.—The next day the statue of Ferdinand was placed upon the same spot, and we infer that it gave rise to insurrection on the part of those favorable to the constitution. However, they are said to be put down, and the most mucinous arrested. The king seems to have been very ill advised since his return.

A part of Wellington's army is to be stationed in the Netherlands. The Swedes have been repulsed in an attempt to invade Norway, which, however, it is intimated, will be given up to them. The British have lately taken several Norwegian vessels and



sent them to Sweden. The princess of Borghese, one of Bonaparte's sisters, has arrived at Eiba.—*Ireland* continues in a disturbed state; a new bill is before Parliament; the object of this bill was to re-enact some of the provisions of the Insurrection act of 1796. The Princess of Wales is to have a separate establishment of 35,000 pounds per annum. The allied sovereigns had left *England*. A congress of kings, it is said, is to be held at Vienna.

It does not appear that the Spaniards are on the best terms with the British, as to their expeditions to Florida—See page 11.

The *Charleston Courier* of Aug. 29, says—There had been a late arrival at Havana from Old Spain; but the news she brought was not allowed to transpire. It was whispered that there had been commotions in Spain, and that the people were greatly dissatisfied with the recent conduct of Ferdinand.

The *Philadelphia Democratic Press* has the following—Captain Pitner, of the schr. *Jame*, arrived this day from Matanzas; he heard at Cuba, a few days before he sailed, that the news had come down from St. Thomas's, that *Spain had declared War against England*. Captain Pitner has been only 8 days on his passage; he further adds, that the news was generally believed. We hope it is true!

The count De La Chatre is the French ambassador in *England*.

The king of France has presented to the Chamber of Deputies a law on the Liberty of the Press.

Louis XVIII appears not to be in good health, and is using baths at the Thuilleries.

Gen. Rapp, and the other French generals who were of the garrison of Bantzie, have sent from Russia their adherence to Louis XVIII.

From the *London Morning Herald* of July 15.—The infraction of the matrimonial engagement between the Princess Charlotte and the Prince of Orange has been promulgated with too much assiduity by opposition to require any longer concealment of the fact. The party have too well succeeded in impressing her royal highness with the atrocious idea, that her banishment from *England* was the secret object of this union. She was advised, therefore, to demand security "by a clause in the marriage contract, that she was not to leave *England*, without her own consent, for any time whatever." To this the royal lover could but pledge his honor, that after introducing her to his nation, he would immediately reconvey her back; but this she was told would give no security at all, and therefore she was directed to write a letter to the Prince Regent and Queen, renouncing the intended union (of which the party had the first copy, if not the original) and also another, containing similar sentiments, to her discarded lover, who in consequence immediately embarked for Holland, in that state of mind which violated affection, and wounded honor, must naturally have excited!"

*Montreal, Aug. 6.*—The restoration to France of the right of fishing on the banks of Newfoundland, appears impolitic, unless, however, some stipulation has been entered into by the contracting parties, which will in future exclude any pretensions of the Americans to trouble those waters on any pretext. There is great consolation, happen what will, in knowing that Talleyrand is in principle an avowed enemy to the American republic, and all the members of the administration. There is reason to think that, by being liberal to France, she in her turn, will be generous in aiding to crush the Eighteen Headed Hydra, standing between the Atlantic and Mississippi.

*French manufactures.*—A London paper of June 4, mentioned samples of manufactures brought into *England* from France and Switzerland, and says—"unless

the price of labor is considerably reduced in this country (*England*) we shall be utterly unable to enter into a competition with the continent.

## American Prizes.

MONTHLY LIST—CONTINUED FROM VOL. VI.  
The winds and seas are Britain's wide domain,  
And not a sail, but by permission spreads!"  
*British Naval Register.*

1098. Brig —, from Madeira for Liverpool, N. S.; captured by the *Rambler* of Boston, on her way to Canton, divested of 80 or 90 casks of wine, and given up.

1099, 1100. A brig and a schooner captured by the late U. S. brig *Rattlesnake* and sunk.

1101. Brig *Fortitude*, from Rio Janeiro, with a great cargo of hides, coffee, dye-wood, &c. sent into Union river, Maine, by the *Surpriza* of Baltimore.

1102. Schooner *George Ganning*, from Spain for *England*, laden with Merino wool and fruit, captured by the Gen. *Armstrong* of New York, and sent into Thomastown.

1103. Ship *Pizarro*, from Liverpool for *Amelia Island*, with dry goods, crates, copper and salt, sent into Savannah by the *Midas* of Baltimore.

1104. Brig *Espiranza*, from *Amelia* for *Havanna*, with cotton, rice and flour, sent into ditto by ditto.

1105. Brig *Elsinore*, from *Turks Island* for *Amelia*, with salt, sent into ditto by ditto.

1106, 1107, 1108, 1109. Ship *Julia*, brig *Mary Ann*, schooners *John Duncan* and *Louisa*, captured by the *Harrison* of Baltimore, divested of goods to the value of £18,000 sterling, and given up or destroyed.

1110. Schooner —, with a large amount of specie on board, captured by ditto, and manned for the United States.

The *Harrison* has arrived at Savannah with her rich spoils.

1111. Brig *Betsey*, with a cargo of fish, from Newfoundland for Barbadoes sent into Boston, by the *York* of Baltimore.

1112. Ship *Alfred*, ballast, sent into a southern port by the *Harpey* of Baltimore.

1113. Ship *Antonia* under Russian colors, from Lisbon for St. Michaels, laden with dry goods, brandy, and some hard ware and crockery, sent into ditto by ditto.

1114, 1115. Two brigs in ballast, captured by ditto and burnt.

1116. Schooner *Henry*, with a cargo of fish, from Halifax, captured by the *Saratoga*, of New-York, (then 4 days out) and sent into New-Bedford.

1117. Packet — captured by the *Harpey* of Baltimore, and divested of 10,000\$. The *Harpey* has arrived at an eastern port. This vessel was the *Princess Elizabeth*, 8 guns (two long brass 9's &c. 2, 12 lb. gunnades) and 38 men, taken after a warm defence, in which she had some killed and wounded, and was much cut up. She had on board a Turkish ambassador for *England*; an aid to a British general; and the 2d officer of a 74. She was ransomed for \$2,000 after taking from her the specie, and her two brass, and two other guns (the rest being thrown overboard) five pipes of wine, &c. The privateer had one man killed.

1118. Ship *Hero* from Newfoundland, with 4,333 quintals of cod-fish, sent into Hyannis, by the *Ida* of Boston.

1119. East India company's ship *Countess of Harcourt*, 320 tons 6 heavy guns and 90 men; outward bound, laden with dry-goods, brandy, rum, gin, &c. &c. separated from the fleet in a gale, and captured in the British channel by the *Sabine* of Baltimore, and

sent into a southern port. This is the first British Indianian that has visited us for many years. We should like to have a few dozen more of them!

1120. "His majesty's" packet, the cutter Land-raile, — guns, 53 men, captured after a hard battle in the British channel, by the Syren of Baltimore, divested, &c. and the prisoners brought to New-York.

1121, 1122, Two brigs captured by the same; one burnt the other released, being divested, &c.

1123, 1124, 1125, 1126, 1127, 1128, 1129, 1130, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134, 1135, 1136; fourteen enemy vessels, captured in the British channel by the Governor Tompkins of New-York (chiefly owned in Baltimore,) divested of their valuable articles, and burnt. The privateer had also taken six other prizes. We hope to hear further of them.

1137. Brig Betsey and Mary, from Spain for London, with wool, &c. captured by the Kemp of Baltimore, divested of 105 bales merino wool, and burnt.

1138. Ship Calypso, under Swedish colors, with Dutch papers, captured by the same, divested of some part of her cargo and permitted to proceed.

1139. Brig Caledonia, from Bordeaux for Lisbon, also under Swedish colors, but with British papers captured by the same, divested of 30 bales of dry-goods and 3000\$ in specie belonging to the paymaster of the 41st regiment (who was paroled) and suffered to proceed.

1143. Brig New-Frederick from Smyrna for Hull, captured by the same, and out of humanity to an Italian lady, permitted to proceed, after divesting her of some articles.

The Kemp has arrived at North Carolina from Nantz, where she completed her cargo, which is exceedingly valuable. She sailed as a letter of marque.

1141. Schooner Contract, laden with salt, sent into North Carolina by the Roger of Norfolk.

1142. "His majesty's" transport brig Doris, No. 650, captured by the Grampus of Baltimore, sent into Marblehead. The Doris was from Senegal bound to Portsmouth; and had on board 30 or 40 soldiers; also two elegant horses, one hyena, two jackalls, &c. presents for the prince Regent.

1143, 1144. Ship Hoppet, and brig Eliza, from Amelia bound to England with cotton, sent into Savannah by the Saucy Jack of Charleston.

1145, 1146. Two merchantmen captured by the United States brig Syren, and burnt. Particulars not yet known.

1148. "His majesty's" brig Melville, 14 guns, laden with valuable stores, chased ashore on lake Ontario and destroyed.

### POSTSCRIPT.

Our latest accounts from below assure us of the fact that the enemy's force has gone down the bay. Perhaps, to return with a strong southerly wind, the more unexpectedly.

The National Intelligencer of yesterday contains another letter from colonel Croghan. He landed at the Nautauwasaga (which empties into lake Huron, and is the line of communication with York, &c.) where he found the enemy's schooner, the Nancy, under the protection of a block-house. He opened a fire with some howitzers, and in a little while he blew up the block-house—the flames communicated to the schooner and she was also destroyed. She was laden with stores for Michillimackinac. The colonel has returned to Detroit.

FROM THE REPUBLICAN.

Plattsburgh, September 1—10 o'clock P. M.—The enemy's forces have advanced into our country—they last night encamped near Champlain. Their force is represented at 5,000.—eighteen or twenty

pieces of artillery. Of this force, 400 are said to be Indians, and 1 or 200 dragoons. It is believed they design to attack this place. Major Appling, with his corps, are in Chazy. An express who came in this morning, has furnished us with the following copy of a

### BRIGADE GENERAL ORDER.

Camp, near Odelltown, Aug. 30.

Major-general Brisbane having received instructions to advance with the troops under his command into the territory of the United States, avails himself of the opportunity of requesting that commanding officers will use every exertion to maintain the strictest discipline in the troops under their command; and he holds them responsible that in every instance where a complaint is made to him of any injury sustained by the inhabitants, that he will see them redressed, and whatever damage is done, is instantly to be paid for, and charged against those concerned; and where this cannot be ascertained, to the corps in general, so that unoffending people may not be sufferers.

On taking the necessary precaution against individuals who may so far forget what is due to themselves and their country as to commit plunder or violence, the major-general is at the same time fully convinced, that almost the whole of the troops are determined that their conduct shall not bring disgrace on the British name; he therefore calls upon them to discover those who may be guilty of any act of plunder or oppression, that they may be brought to the punishment they merit, and the soldiers must soon find that such a line of conduct will add much to their comforts, for the inhabitants of the country finding they are properly treated and protected, will bring every article requisite into the camp; for those who remain quiet in their houses are not in the smallest degree to be molested nor their property taken from them, without their full consent, and its being paid for, as it is not against such persons that Great Britain makes war; but against the government, whose folly and ambition has brought the miseries of war into their country, and the army and individuals in arms in support of such a government.

The major-general commanding has requested the magistrates of the country to explain to the people his object and determination on entering the American territory, and he trusts that the conduct of the soldiers will be such as to reflect no shade of dishonor on their country.

By command of major-general Brisbane.

JAMES CAMPBELL, major of brigade.

The president of the United States has conferred brevet rank on the following officers for their distinguished gallantry in the battle of July 25th:

Col. J. Miller, of the 21st infantry, brigadier-general.

Major W. M'Ree, engineers, lieutenant-colonel.

Major E. D. Wood, engineers, lieutenant-colonel

We have missed to publish one number; it shall be made up with all diligence. If the enemy does not disturb us, we shall publish regularly hereafter, and also issue the index for the 6th volume, probably next week.

Though this paper is crowded with matter of great interest, a very unusual body of important things lies over; and some are noted very briefly that shall be given in detail hereafter. Pressed as we have been, we are happy to do as well we have.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 2 of VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 158.]

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.*—V. R. G. L.

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann

*Baltimore, September 24, 1814.*

Being disturbed by the enemy, and having every person in the office, a small boy excepted, under arms, last Saturday passed without a publication of the WEEKLY REGISTER. We shall bring up the new ~~two~~ wanting numbers as fast as we can, without regard to particular days of publication, until we get into regularity of time, with our work. The pressure of important matter is a particular inducement to this mode of proceeding at this time; and the index for the 6th volume will be a little delayed for the purpose of speedily laying many documents and facts before our readers.

As the "events of the war" thicken, the utility of such a record as this becomes the more manifest. By copious details and methodical arrangement we shall exert ourselves to meet the expectation of our patrons and friends.

The present number contains an account of FOUR glorious events—the defeat of the British at fort Erie, at Plattsburg, and Baltimore, and the capture of their whole fleet on Champlain. "*Te Deum laudamus!*"

## Official Articles.

*Copy of a letter from vice-admiral Cochrane to Mr. Monroe.*

His Britannic majesty's ship, the Tonnant,  
in the Patuxent river, 18th August, 1814.

SIR—Having been called upon by the governor general of the Canadas to aid him in carrying into effect measures of retaliation against the inhabitants of the United States, for the wanton destruction committed by their army in Upper Canada, it has become imperiously my duty, conformably with the nature of the governor general's application, to issue to the naval force under my command, an order to destroy and lay waste such towns and districts upon the coast, as may be found assailable.

I had hoped that this contest would have terminated, without my being obliged to resort to severities which are contrary to the usage of civilized warfare, and as it has been with extreme reluctance and concern that I have found myself compelled to adopt this system of devastation, I shall be equally gratified if the conduct of the executive of the United States will authorise my staying such proceedings, by making reparation to the suffering inhabitants of Upper Canada: thereby manifesting that if the destructive measures pursued by their army were never sanctioned, they will no longer be permitted by the government.

I have the honor to be, sir, with much consideration, your most obedient humble servant.

(Signed) ALEX. COCHRANE,

*Vice-admiral and commander in chief of his Britannic majesty's ships and vessels upon the N. American station.*

The honorable James Monroe, secretary of state, &c.  
&c. &c. Washington.

*Copy of a letter from Mr. Monroe to sir Alexander Cochrane, vice admiral, &c. &c.*

Department of state, September 6, 1814.

SIR—I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 18th of August, stating, that having been

called on by the governor general of the Canadas, to aid him in carrying into effect measures of retaliation against the inhabitants of the United States, for the wanton desolation committed by their army in Upper Canada, it has become your duty, conformably with the nature of the governor general's application, to issue to the naval force under your command, an order to destroy and lay waste such towns and districts upon the coast as may be found assailable.

It is seen with the greatest surprise, that this system of devastation which has been practised by the British forces, so manifestly contrary to the usage of civilized warfare, is placed by you on the ground of retaliation. No sooner were the United States compelled to resort to war against Great Britain, than they resolved to wage it in a manner most consonant to the principles of humanity, and to those friendly relations which it was desirable to preserve between the two nations, after the restoration of peace. They perceived however with the deepest regret that a spirit alike just and humane was neither cherished nor acted on by your government. Such an assertion would not be hazarded, if it was not supported by facts, the proof of which has perhaps already carried the same conviction to other nations that it has to the people of these states. Without dwelling on the deplorable cruelties committed by the savages in the British ranks, and in British pay, on American prisoners at the river Raisin, which to this day have never been disavowed or atoned, I refer, as more immediately connected with the subject of your letter, to the wanton desolation that was committed, at Havre-de-grace, and at Georgetown, early in the Spring 1813. These villages were burnt and ravaged by the naval forces of Great Britain, to the ruin of their unarmed inhabitants, who saw with astonishment that they derived no protection to their property from the laws of war. During the same season, scenes of invasion and pillage, carried on under the same authority, were witnessed all along the waters of the Chesapeake, to an extent inflicting the most serious private distress, and under circumstances that justified the suspicion, that revenge and cupidity, rather than the manly motives that should dictate the hostility of the high minded foe, led to their perpetration. The late destruction of the houses of the government in this city is another act which comes necessarily in view. In the wars of modern Europe, no examples of the kind, even among nations the most hostile to each other, can be traced. In the course of ten years past, the capitals of the principal powers of the continent of Europe have been conquered, and occupied alternately by the victorious armies of each other, and no instance of such wanton and unjustifiable destruction has been seen. We must go back to distant and barbarous ages, to find a parallel for the acts of which I complain.

Although these acts of desolation invited, if they did not impose on the government the necessity of retaliation, yet in no instance has it been authorised. The burning of the village of Newark in Upper Canada, posterior to the early outrages above enumerated, was not executed on that principle. The village of Newark adjoined fort George, and its destruction was justified by the officer who ordered it on the ground that it became necessary in the mili-

tary operations there. The act however was disapproved by the government. The burning which took place at Long Point was unauthorised by the government, and the conduct of the officer subjected to the investigation of a military tribunal. For the burning at St. David's, committed by stragglers, the officer who commanded in that quarter was dismissed without a trial, for not preventing it.

I am commanded by the president distinctly to state, that it as little comports with any orders which have been issued to the military and naval commanders of the United States, as it does with the established and known humanity of the American nation, to pursue a system which it appears you have adopted. This government owes it to itself, to the principles which it has ever held sacred, to disavow, as justly changeable to it, any such wanton, cruel and unjustifiable warfare.

Whatever unauthorised irregularity may have been committed by any of its troops, it would have been ready, acting on these principles of sacred and eternal obligation, to disavow, and as far as might be practicable, to repair. But in the plan of desolating warfare which your letter so explicitly makes known, and which is attempted to be excused on a plea so utterly groundless, the president perceives a spirit of deep rooted hostility, which, without the evidence of such facts, he could not have believed existed, or would have been carried to such an extremity.

For the reparation of injuries, of whatever nature they may be, not sanctioned by the law of nations, which the military or naval force of either power may have committed, against the other, this government will always be ready to enter into reciprocal arrangements. It is presumed that your government will neither expect nor propose any which are not reciprocal.

Should your government adhere to a system of desolation, so contrary to the views and practice of the United States, so revolting to humanity, and repugnant to the sentiment and usages of the civilized world, whilst it will be seen with the deepest regret, it must and will be met with a determination and constancy becoming a free people, contending in a just cause for their essential rights, and their dearest interests.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration, sir, your most obedient humble servant.

(Signed) JAMES MONROE.

Vice admiral sir Alexander Cochrane, commander in chief of H. B. M. ships and vessels, &c.

*From the National Intelligencer.*

We observe it mentioned in some prints, that the late letter of admiral Cochrane to the secretary of state was received before the enemy entered Washington. This is not so. We state the fact, on the most unquestionable authority, that it did not arrive in Washington until late in the night of the 30th of August, and that it was not received by the secretary of state until the morning of the 31st.

The letter was dated on the 18th, probably the very day the *Tonnant* arrived in the Patuxent. It affects to give previous notice of an intention to destroy and lay waste our towns, and yet is not even sent off (although antedated) until after this purpose has been accomplished at Washington. This is a very pretty little *trick* played off by the vice-admiral in his first essay at diplomatic correspondence, and we doubt not has been matter of pleasant chattering between himself and friend, that accomplished and high bred gentleman admiral George Cockburn. It is worthy of remark, that a near blood relation of the vice-admiral's has lately been convicted in England and sentenced to the pillory for a deception

practised upon the public there. The vice appears to run through the family.

*Copy of a letter from lieut. col Croghan to brig. gen. M. Arthur, commanding 8th military district, dated Detroit, August 23, 1814.*

DEAR SIR—I communicated in my report of the 11th inst. my intention of continuing on Lake Huron with three companies, for the purpose of breaking up any depots which the enemy might have on the east side of the lake.

We were fortunate in learning that the *only* line of communication from York to Mackinaw, &c. was by the way of Lake Simcoe and Nautauwasaga river, which empties into lake Huron about 100 miles S. E. of Cabot's Head. To that river, therefore, our course was directed, in hope of finding the enemy's scho. Nancy which was thought to be in that quarter. On the 13th inst. the fleet anchored off the mouth of that river, and my troops were quickly disembarked on the peninsula formed between the river and lake for the purpose of fixing a camp.

On reconnoitering the position thus taken, it was discovered that the schooner Nancy was drawn up in the river a few hundred yards above us, under cover of a block-house, erected on a commanding situation on the opposite shore.

Having landed with nothing larger than 4 pounders, and it being now too late in the evening to establish a battery of heavy guns, I determined on remaining silent until I could be enabled to open with effect.

On the following morning a fire for a few minutes was kept up by the shipping upon the block-house, but with little effect, as the direction towards it only could be given, a thin wood intervening to obscure the view. About 12 o'clock two howitzers (an 8 1-2 and 5 1-2 inch) being placed within a few hundred yards of the block-house, commenced a fire which lasted but a few minutes, when the house blew up; at the same time communicated the fire to the Nancy which was quickly so enveloped in flames, as to render any attempts which might have been made to save her unavailing. My first impression on seeing the explosion was, that the enemy, after having spiked his guns, had set fire to the magazine himself; but upon examination it was found to have been occasioned by the bursting of one of our shells; which, firing some combustible matter near the magazine, gave the enemy but barely time to escape before the explosion took place. The commodore secured and brought off the guns which were mounted within the block-house (two 24 pound carronades and one long 6 pounder,) together with some round shot, grape and cannister. The enemy will feel sensibly the loss of the Nancy, her cargo consisting (at the time of her being on fire) of several hundred barrels of provisions, intended as a six months supply for the garrison at Mackinac.

Having executed (so far as my force could effect) the orders of the 2d of June, given me by the secretary of war, I left Nautauwasaga on the 15th, and arrived on the 21st at the mouth of the river St. Clair with my whole force except a few soldiers of the 17th infantry, who were left as marines on board two small vessels, which still continue to cruise on that lake.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

GEORGE CROGHAN,  
Lieut. col. 2d rifle regt.

*Brig. gen. D. M. Arthur,  
commanding 8th military district.*

## BATTLE OF FORT ERIE.

*Excerpt of letters from brigadier general Gaines to the secretary of war, dated*

*Head-quarters, Fort Erie, U. C. August 23, 1814.*

sin—Loss of sleep and constant exposure to the weather in its various changes, gave me some days ago a violent cold, which has put it out of my own power to do any thing more than the state of the service here rendered absolutely indispensable. Hence my apology for delaying until this day my report of the battle of the 15th inst.

General Drummond is quietly engaged in collecting his reinforcements. His camp appears to be fortified. I attempted to look at it a few days past, and it cost me a fine young officer, lieutenant Yates of the 4th rifle regiment, killed, and lieutenant Kearsley of that excellent corps, and lieutenant Childs of the 9th, wounded, with the loss of some two or three privates killed and five or six wounded. The loss of the enemy I was unable to ascertain. He would not leave his defences, and I did not think fit to leave mine at all exposed. Several deserters say that the 6th and 82nd regiments arrived last night. If this be true their strength is about the same as it was before the battle of the 15th. Their colonel Scott is dead; about twenty deserters from the De Watteville regiment and some few from other corps concur in the report that their loss in killed, wounded and missing on the 15th was upwards of a thousand.

Your obedient servant,

E. P. GAINES, *brig. gen. commanding.*

General Armstrong, *secretary of war.*

*Head-quarters, left wing, 2d division, Fort Erie, U. C. August , 1814.*

sin—I have the honor to communicate for the information of the department of war, the particulars of the battle fought at this place on the 15th inst. between the left wing of the 2d division of the northern army, under my command, and the British forces in the peninsula of Upper Canada, commanded by lieutenant general Drummond, which terminated in a signal victory in favor of the United American arms.

Our position on the margin of the lake at the entrance of the Niagara river, being nearly a horizontal plain twelve to fifteen feet above the surface of the water, possessing few natural advantages, had been strengthened in front by temporary parapet breast-works, entrenchments and abattis, with two batteries and six field pieces. The small unfinished fort, Erie, with a 24, 18, and 12 pounders, forms the north-east, and the Douglass battery, with an 18 and 6 pounder near the edge of the lake, the south-east angle of our right. The left is defended by a redoubt battery with six field pieces just thrown up on a small ridge. Our rear was left open to the lake, bordered by a rocky shore of easy ascent. The battery on the left was defended by captain Towson; fort Erie by captain Williams, with major Trimble's command of the 19th infantry; the batteries on the front of captains Bidelle and Fanning; the whole of the artillery commanded by major Hindman. Parts of the 11th, 9th, and 23d, infantry (of the late veteran brigade of major general Scott) were posted on the right under the command of lieutenant colonel Aspinwall. General Ripley's brigade, consisting of the 21st and 23d, defended the left. General Porter's brigade of New-York and Pennsylvania volunteers, with our distinguished riflemen, occupied the centre.

I have heretofore omitted stating to you, that during the 13th and 14th the enemy had kept up a brisk cannonade; which was sharply returned from our batteries, without any considerable loss on our part. At 6 P. M. one of their shells lodged in a small magazine in fort Erie which was fortunately

almost empty. It blew up with an explosion more awful in appearance than injurious in its effects, as it did not disable a man or derange a gun. It occasioned but a momentary cessation of the thunders of the artillery on both sides; it was followed by a loud and joyous shout by the British army, which was instantly returned on our part, and captain Williams amidst the smoke of the explosion renewed the contest by an animated roar of his heavy cannon.

From the supposed loss of our ammunition, and the consequent depression such an event was likely to produce upon the minds of our men, I felt persuaded that this explosion would lead the enemy to assault, and made my arrangements accordingly. This annexed paper No. 1. is a copy of lieutenant general Drummond's order and plan of attack.

The night was dark and the early part of it raining, but the faithful sentinel slept not; one third of the troops were up at their posts. At half past 2 o'clock the right column of the enemy approached and though enveloped in darkness\* black as his designs and principles, was distinctly heard on our left and promptly marked by our musquetry under major Wood and cannon under captain Towson. Being mounted at the moment, I repaired to the point of attack, where the sheet of fire rolling from Towson's battery and the musquetry of the left wing of the 21st infantry under major Wood, enabled me to see the enemy's column of about 1500 men approaching on that point; his advance was not checked until it had approached within ten feet of our infantry. A line of loose brush representing an abattis only intervened; a column of the enemy attempted to pass round the abattis through the water where it was nearly breast deep. Apprehending that this point would be carried, I ordered a detachment of riflemen and infantry to its support, but having met with the gallant commander major Wood, was assured by him that he could defend his position without reinforcements. At this moment the enemy were repulsed, but instantly renewed the charge and were again repulsed. My attention was now called to the right, where our batteries and lines were soon lighted by a most brilliant fire of cannon and musquetry; it announced the approach of the centre and left columns of the enemy, under colonels Drummond and Scott; the latter was received by the veteran 9th under the command of captain Foster, and captains Broughton and Harding's companies of New-York and Pennsylvania volunteers, aided by a six pounder judiciously posted by major McKee, chief engineer, who was most active and useful at this point; they were repulsed. That of the centre led by colonel Drummond was not long kept in check; it approached at once every assailable point of the fort, and with scaling ladders ascended the parapet, but was repulsed with dreadful carnage. The assault was twice repeated, and as often checked, but the enemy having moved round the ditch covered by darkness added to the heavy cloud of smoke which had rolled from our cannon and musquetry, enveloping surrounding objects, repeated the charge, re-ascended the ladders; their pikes, bayonets and spears fell upon our gallant artillerists. The gallant spirits of our favorite captain Williams and lieutenants M'Donough and Watmough, with their brave men, were overcome. The two former and several of their men received deadly wounds. Our bastion was lost, lieutenant M'Donough, being severely wounded, demanded quarter. It was refused by colonel Drummond. The lieutenant then seizing a handspike, and nobly defend-

\* I several times heard, and many of our officers heard, orders given "to give the dampest under no case no quarters."

ed himself until he was shot down with a pistol by the monster who had refused him quarter, who often reiterated the order—"give the damned yankees no quarter." This officer, whose bravery, if it had been seasoned with virtue, would have entitled him to the admiration of every soldier—this hardened murderer soon met his fate. He was shot through the breast by \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ regiment while repeating the order "to give no quarter."

The battle now raged with increased fury on the right, but on the left the enemy was repulsed and put to flight. Thence and from the centre I ordered reinforcements. They were promptly sent by brigadier general Ripley and brigadier general Porter. Captain Fanning, of the corps of artillery, kept up a spirited and destructive fire with his field pieces on the enemy attempting to approach the fort. Major Hindman's gallant efforts aided by major Trimble, having failed to drive the enemy from the bastion with the remaining artilleryists and infantry in the fort, captain Birdsall of 4th rifle regiment, with a detachment of riflemen, gallantly rushed in through the gateway to their assistance, and with some infantry charged the enemy; but was repulsed, and the captain severely wounded. A detachment from the 11th, 19th, and 22d, infantry, under captain Foster of the 11th, were introduced over the interior bastion, for the purpose of charging the enemy. Major Hall, assistant inspector general, very handsomely tendered his services to lead the charge. The charge was gallantly made by captain Foster and major Hall, but owing to the narrowness of the passage up to the bastion admitting only two or three men abreast, it failed. It was often repeated, and as often checked. The enemy's force in the bastion was, however, much cut to pieces and diminished by our artillery and small arms. At this moment every operation was arrested by the explosion of some cartridges deposited in the end of the stone building adjoining the contested bastion. The explosion was tremendous—it was decisive: the bastion was restored. At this moment captain Biddle was ordered to raise a field piece to be posted so as to enfilade the exterior plain and salient glacis. The captain though not recovered from a severe contusion in the shoulder, received from one of the enemy's shells, promptly took his position, and served his field piece with vivacity and effect. Captain Fanning's battery likewise played upon them at this time with great effect. The enemy were in a few moments entirely defeated, taken or put to flight, leaving on the field 221 killed, 174 wounded, and 185 prisoners, including 15 officers killed and 7 wounded and prisoners. A large portion are so severely wounded, that they cannot survive; the slightly wounded, it is presumed, were carried off.

To brigadier general Ripley much credit is due for the judicious disposition of the left wing previous to the action, and for the steady disciplined courage manifested by him and his immediate command, and for the promptness with which he complied with my orders for reinforcement during the action. Brigadier general Porter, commanding the New-York and Pennsylvania volunteers, manifested a degree of vigilance and judgment in his preparatory arrangements, as well as military skill and courage in action, which proves him to be worthy the confidence of his country and the brave volunteers who fought under him. Of the volunteers, captains Boughton and Harding, with their detachments, posted on the right and attached to the line, commanded by captain E. Foster, of the veteran 9th infantry, handsomely contributed to the repulse of the left column of the enemy under colonel Scott.

The judicious preparations and steady conduct of lieutenant colonel Aspinwall, commanding the first brigade, merit approbation.

To major M'Kee, chief engineer, the greatest credit is due for the excellent arrangement and skilful execution of his plans for fortifying and defending the right, and for his correct and seasonable suggestions to regain the bastion. Major Wood of the engineers, also greatly contributed to the previous measures of defence. He had accepted the command of a regiment of infantry (the 21st,) for which he has often proved himself well qualified, but never so conspicuously as on this occasion.

Towson's battery emitted a constant sheet of fire: Wood's small arms lighted up the space, and repulsed five terrible charges made between the battery and the lake. Brigadier general Ripley speaks in high terms of the officers and men engaged, particularly captains Marston and Lopes; lieutenants Biddle (of the 15th doing duty with the 21st) and Hall; ensigns Benn, Jones, Cummings and Thomas of the 21st, and Kealy and Green of the 19th.

Major Hindman, and the whole of the artillery under the command of that excellent officer, displayed a degree of gallantry and good conduct not to be surpassed. The particular situation of captain Towson, and the much lamented captain Williams and lieutenant M'Donough, and that of lieutenant Watmough, as already described, with their respective commands, rendered them most conspicuous. The courage and good conduct of lieutenant Zantinger and lieutenant Childs, is spoken of in high terms by major Hindman and captain Towson, as also that of sergeant-major Benson. Captains Biddle and Fanning, on the centre and right of their entrenchments, threw their shot to the right, left and front, and annoyed the Indians and light troops of the enemy approaching from the woods. Lieutenant Fontaine in his zeal to meet the enemy, was unfortunately wounded and made prisoner. Lieutenant Bird was active and useful, and in fact every individual of the corps did their duty.

The detachment of Scott's gallant brigade, consisted of parts of the 9th 11th and 22d infantry, did its duty in a manner worthy the high reputation the brigade had acquired at Chippewa and at the falls of Niagara. The 9th under the command of captain Edmund Foster, was actively engaged against the left of the enemy, and with the aid of lieutenant Douglass' corps of bombardiers, commanding the water battery, and of that of the volunteers, under captains Boughton and Harding, effected their repulse. The good conduct of lieutenants Childs, Gushman and Post, and ensign Blake, deserves commendation.

The officers killed are captain Williams and lieutenant M'Donough of the artillery; wounded lieutenant Watmough of the artillery; ensign Cisna 19th; lieutenant Bushnell 21st; lieutenants Brown and Belknap 23d; and captain Birdsall, 4th rifle regiment all severely.

Lieutenant Fontaine of the artillery, who was taken prisoner, writes from the British camp, that he fortunately fell into the hands of the Indians, who after taking his money, treated him kindly. It would seem, then, that these savages had not joined in the resolution to give no quarter.

To major Jones, assistant adjutant general, and major Hall, assistant inspector general; captain Harris of the dragons, vol. aid-de-camp; lieutenant Pelton, aid-de-camp, much credit is due for their constant vigilance and strict attention to every duty previous to the action, and the steady courage, zeal and activity which they manifested during the action.

The surgeons, doctors Fuller 23d, Troubridge, 21st, with their mates; doctors Gale of the 23d, and Everett and Allen of the 21st, deserve the warmest approbation for their indefatigable exertions and humane attention to the wounded of our army, as well as to the prisoners who fell into their hands.

I have the honor to be, sir, your very obedient servant,  
E. P. GAINES, brig. gen. commanding.

Honorable John Armstrong,  
secretary of war, Washington.

*Report of the killed, wounded and prisoners taken at the battle of Erie, U. C. August 15, 1814.*

Killed, left on the field, 222—wounded left on the field, 174—prisoners, 186. Grand total 582.

Two hundred supposed to be killed on the left flank near Snake Hill (in the water) and permitted to float down the Niagara. The number on the right flank near the woods could not be ascertained.

Given at the Inspector-General's Office, Fort Erie, U. C.

NATHL. N. HALL,  
Assist. Ins. General.

Brig. Gen. E. P. Gaines, &c.

Lieut. Gen. Drummond's arrangement and order for attack.

{Secret.]

*Head quarters,—Camp before Fort Erie, 2  
14th August, 1814.*

ARRANGEMENT.

Right column—lt. col. Fischer, King's regiment. (Volunteers) De Watteville's.

Light companies, 89th and 100th regts.

Detachments Royal Artillery—1 officer, 12 men, and a rocketeer, with a couple of 12 pound rockets.

Captain Eustace's picket of cavalry—capt. Powell, deputy assistant quarter master general, will conduct this column, which is to attack the left of the enemy's position. Major Court.

Centre column—lt. col. Drummond.

Flank Companies, 41st regiment.  
Do. do. 104th do.

Royal Marines 50.  
Seamen 90.

Detachments of Royal Artillery, 1 sub. and 12 men—capt. Barney, 89th regt. will guide this column, which is to attack the fort.

Left column—col. Scott, 103d regt.

Capt. Elliott, deputy quarter master general, will conduct this column, which will attack the right of the enemy's position towards the lake, and endeavor to penetrate by the openings betwixt the forts and entrenchments, using the short ladders at the same time, to pass the entrenchment, which is reported to be defended only by the enemy's 9th regt. 250 strong.

The infantry pickets on Buck's Road will be pushed on with the Indians, and attack the enemy's picket on that road. Lt. col. Nicholl, Q. M. gen. of mil. will conduct this column. The rest of the troops, viz.

1st Battalion Royals.

Remainder of De Watteville's regiment, Glengary light infantry and incorporated militia will remain in reserve, under Lt. col. Tucker, are to be posted on the ground at present occupied by our pickets and covering parties.

Squadron of the 19th light dragoons, in the ravine, in the rear of the battery, nearest to the advance, ready to receive charge of prisoners and conduct them to the rear.

The Lieut. Gen. will station himself at or near the battery, where reports are to be made to him.—Lt. col. Fischer, commanding the right column, will follow the instruction which he has received; copies

of which are communicated to col. Scott and Lieut. col. Drummond, for their guidance.

The Lieut. Gen. most strongly recommends a free use of the bayonet.

The enemy's force does not exceed 1500 fit for duty, and those are represented as much dispirited.

The ground on which the columns of attack are to formed, will be pointed out; and orders for their advance will be given by the lieut. gen. commanding.

J. HARVEY, D. A. G.

Parole—"Steel." Countersign—"Twenty."

*Report of the killed, wounded and missing of the left division of the United States' army, commanded by brigadier gen. Gaines, in the action of the 15th August, 1814, at Fort Erie, U. C.*

Adj't. Generals Office, Fort Erie, Aug. 17, 1814.  
Corps of Bombardiers.

Killed, 1 private.

Artillery.

Killed, 1 captain, 1 subaltern, 2 privates—wounded severely, 1 lieut. 3 privates; slightly 6 privates—missing, 1 lieut. 3 privates.

1st Brigade.

9th regt.—slightly wounded, 1 private.

11th regt.—killed, 3 privates; wounded dangerously, 1 sergeant, 1 private; severely 4 privates, slightly 4 privates; missing 1 private.

19th regt.—killed, 5 privates, wounded dangerously, 1 subaltern; severely, 1 sergeant, 4 privates; slightly, 1 corporal, 8 privates.\*

22d regt.—killed 2 privates; wounded severely, 5 privates.

2d Brigade.

21st regt.—killed, 2 privates; wounded severely, 1 subaltern, 3 privates, slightly, 3 privates; missing, 3 privates.

23d regt.—wounded severely, 2 subalterns, 1 private, slightly, 3 privates; missing 2 privates.

1st and 4th rifle corps.

Wounded severely, 1 captain, 1 private; missing, 1 private.

Grand total.—1 captain, 1 subaltern, 15 privates killed.

1 subaltern, 1 sergeant 1 private, dangerously wounded.

1 capt. 4 subalterns, 1 sergeant, 21 privates, severely wounded.

1 corporal, 25 privates, slightly wounded.

1 lieut. 10 privates, missing.

NAMES OF OFFICERS.

Artillery—Capt. Williams and lieut. McDonough, killed, defending the bastion.

Lieut. Watmough, wounded do. severely.

Lieut. Fountaine missing, thrown from the bastion.

Infantry—19th regt. Ensign Cisna, dangerously, in defence of the fort.

19th regt.—lieut. Bushnell, severely, do.

23d regt.—lieut. Brown, do. do.

Do lieut. Belknap, do. in defending the picquet guard which he commanded.

4th rifle regt.—capt. Birdsall, accidentally wounded, whilst defending the fort, by one of his own soldiers.

*Report of the killed and wounded of the left division of the U. S. army commanded by brig. gen. Gaines, during the cannonade and bombardment, commencing at sun-rise on the morning of the 13th inst and continuing without intermission till 8 o'clock, P. M. recommenced on the 14th at day light, with increased warmth, and ending one hour before the commencement of the action at Erie on the morning of the 15th.*

\*This regiment was stationed in the fort.

Adj. General's Office, Fort Erie, Aug. 15, 1814.

*Corps of Artillery.*

- Wounded severely, 2 privates, slightly, 1 captain,
- 2 subalterns, 1 sergeant, 1 corporal, 3 privates.
- 11th regt.—Wounded severely, 2 sergeants, 2 privates, slightly, 3 privates.
- 19th regt.—wounded severely, 1 subaltern.
- 21st. regt.—killed, 4 privates, wounded severely, 3 privates, slightly, 2 privates.
- 23d regt.—killed, 1 sergeant, wounded severely, 2 corporals, 2 privates, slightly 3 privates.
- 23d regt.—killed, 1 private, wounded severely, 1 private.

*Rifle regiments, 1st and 4th.*

- Killed, 1 corporal, 2 privates, wounded severely 3 privates, slightly, 1 private.

*Grand total.*—1 sergeant, 1 corporal, 7 privates, killed.

1 subaltern, 2 sergeants, 2 corporals, 14 privates, severely wounded.

1 captain, 2 subalterns, 1 sergeant, 1 corporal, 12 privates, slightly wounded.

*OFFICERS WOUNDED.*

*Artillery*—Captain Biddle, lieutenant Zantzing, adj. lieutenant Watmough.

*Infantry*—Lieutenant Patterson, 19th regt.

Killed, George Carryl, 25th infantry, orderly to gen. Gaines.

ROGER JONES,

*Assistant Adj. General.*

*Copy of a letter from brig. gen. Gaines to the secretary of war, dated*

H. Q. Fort Erie, v. c. Aug. 26, 1814.

Sir—In my report of the battle of the 15th inst. I inadvertently omitted the names of captain Clum of the 19th, lieutenants Bowman and Larned of the 21st, and lieutenant Jewitt of the 11th infantry, as also my brigade major, lieutenant Gleason; each of whom bore a conspicuous part in the action, and whom I beg leave to recommend to your notice. Lieutenants Bowman and Larned commanded companies in the 21st, which so gallantly beat the enemy's right column. Captain Chuan with his company was doing duty with the same regiment. I also omitted mentioning that a part of this regiment pursued the enemy's right upwards of a mile and took nearly one hundred prisoners: his left was likewise pursued and more than an hundred prisoners were taken beyond our works. These facts prove that the affair was not merely a defence of our position or a mere repulse of the enemy, as I find it called by some. As regards myself, I am satisfied with the result, and am not disposed to make any difficulty about the name by which the affair may be called; but it is due to the brave men I have the honor to command, that I should say, that the affair was to the enemy a *severe beating* and a *defeat*, and it was to us a *handsome victory*.

Our position is grown stronger every day by the exertions of majors McRea and Wood, and the officers and men generally. We keep up a smart cannonade. One of the enemy's pickets yesterday approached nearer to ours than usual. Major Brooks, officer of the day, added one hundred men to our picket, attacked and drove them in with considerable loss; the major brought in about 30 muskets.—In this affair, however, we have to lament the loss of another gallant officer, captain Wattles, of the 23d, our loss was otherwise inconsiderable.

I have the honor to be, sir, your very obedient servant.

E. P. GAINES,

Brig. gen. commanding.

Mon. John Armstrong, Secretary of war.

*British official account of the battle at Erie.*

A friend at Sackett's Harbor has forwarded us the

British official account of this battle, which we have published this day. This account was taken out of a mail which was captured in Canada by a scouting party of our troops. It will be seen by this account that the British acknowledge the loss of 905 men in killed, wounded and missing, and this number is perhaps less than the real loss. [Ev. Post.]

Head Quarters, Montreal, 29th August, 1814.

*General Order.*—In promulgating to the troops an extract from a district general order issued by lieutenant-general Drummond to the right division of this army, in consequence of the capture of two of the enemy's schooners co-operating in the defence of the enemy's position at fort Erie, the commander of the forces avails himself of the opportunity it presents to acknowledge the high sense he entertains of the valuable services rendered to the right division by captain Dobbs, of the royal navy, and the officers and seamen of the vessels placed under command for that purpose, by commodore sir James Yeo.

This event, so ably planned and so gallantly executed, was followed by a general attack of the enemy's forts and entrenchments.

Lieutenant-general Drummond reports that the spirit with which it was undertaken enabled our troops to surmount every obstacle. Fort Erie and the entrenchments were entered; the guns taken on the barrack block-house (the enemy's last refuge) when unfortunately a most violent explosion occurred on the battery: in its effect destroying and disabling many a valuable officer and soldier, and caused so considerable a consternation as to induce the remaining troops to abandon the works, and all those advantages which they had gained by their determined conduct, and precipitately to retire to our first approaches.

From other causes almost inseparable from night operations carried on in a close and difficult country, the right column failed in the object it had to accomplish.

With deep regret the commander of the forces records the loss his majesty's service has sustained on this occasion.

Head-quarters, camp before fort Erie, 12th Aug. 1814.

*Extract from Morning District General Order.*

Lieutenant-general Drummond congratulates the army on the brilliant achievements executed last night by captain Dobbs of the royal navy, and a party of seamen and marines, who in the most gallant style boarded, and after a short struggle carried two of the enemy's armed schooners anchored close to fort Erie. Accident alone prevented the capture of the third schooner. Those captured are the Somers and Porcupine; the former mounts two long 12 pounders; the latter one 12. They were commanded by lieutenants, and had on board 35 men each. The lieutenant-general laments to find that lieutenant Radcliffe, commander of his majesty's sch'r Netly, has fallen on this occasion; he was killed in the act of boarding. He will be buried at 12 o'clock, with such marks of respect as circumstances will permit; besides Mr. Radcliffe, our loss has been only one seaman killed and four wounded. The enemy's loss is one seaman killed—3 officers and four seamen wounded. The whole enterprise reflects the highest credit on the ability and spirit of captain Dobbs and the gallant party under his command.

J. HARVEY,

Lieut. Col. D. p. Adj. Gen.

*Return of killed, wounded and missing of the right division, in the assault of fort Erie on the 15th August, 1814.*

Killed—1 colonel, 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 captain, 1 lieutenant,

1 sergeant, 1 drummer, 51 rank and file.

Wounded—1 major, 9 captains, 11 lieutenants, 2 ensigns, 1

master, 20 sergeants, 3 drummers, 262 rank and file.

Missing—2 captains, 3 lieutenants, 2 ensigns, 1 adjutant, 1 mid-

shipman, 41 sergeants, 3 drummers, 466 rank and file.

Total—1 colonel, 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 major, 12 captains, 15



lieutenants, 4 ensigns, 1 adjutant, 1 master, 1 midshipman, 62 ser-  
geants, 7 drummers, 799 privates and file.

*Officers killed*.—1st or Royal Scots, captain Torrens; 8th or  
King's regiment, lieutenant Soeb; 103d regiment, colonel Scott;  
10th regiment, lieutenant-colonel Drummond.

*Officers wounded*.—Royal navy, captain Dubbs and lieutenant  
Stevenson, slightly; Mr. Harris, master, severely.

1st or Royal Scots, captain Rowan, severely; lieutenant Vaughan  
slightly.

8th or King's, lieutenant Young, slightly.

41st regiment, flank companies, captains Glew and Bullock  
severely; lieutenant Hanks, slightly; ensign Townsend, severely.

6th regiment, captain Barney, acting assistant engineer, se-  
verely.

19th regiment, lieutenant Murray, wounded and prisoner; volun-  
teer or Fraser, severely.

1-3d regiment, major Smith and captain Gardner, severely;  
captain Coleough and lieutenant Charlton severely and prisoner;  
lieutenant Fallon severely; lieutenant Capping, jun. dangerously;  
lieutenant Magher slightly; lieutenants Burrows, Hazen, and  
ensign Stubb, severely.

16th flank companies, captain Leonard and lieutenant McLaughlan,  
severely.

*Officers missing*.—General staff—captain Elliott, deputy-assis-  
tant-quarter-master-general.

Royal navy, Mr. Hyde, midshipman.

41st, flank company, lieutenant Gardner and ensign Hall.

103d regiment, captain Irving; lieutenant Kaye; ensign Hooy;  
lieutenant and adjutant Pettit.

EDWARD BAYNES, *Adj. Gen. N. A.*

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

*Adjutant General's Office, Fort Erie, Sept. 2, 1814.*

Major-general Brown resumes the command of the troops on  
the Niagara frontier.

The major-general rears with proud satisfaction to the conduct  
of his division, since the opening of the campaign. It was opened  
in defence of the munitions of war destined for the navy, which  
were embarked at Oswego when the enemy was in force on the  
lake, landed at Sandy creek, and transported to Sackett's Harbor.  
Oswego displays the discipline and prowess of a single battalion of  
artillery, led by colonel Mitchell—and Sandy creek gives name to  
the gallant achievement of the first riflemen under lieutenant-colonel  
Appling.

The bravery alone of American soldiers has often shewn them  
superior to their British adversaries; but on the plains of Chippawa  
bravery and discipline both rise pre-eminent, and triumph over the  
enemy's best troops, led on in the ablest manner. There the brigade  
of major-general Scott fought British veterans, battalion  
against battalion, and the smallest in numbers conquered. Victory  
crowned the American arms.

At the falls of Niagara our brave soldiers met a severer trial;  
they rose superior to the test, and proved their intrepidity equal  
to any exigencies. They engaged the whole force of the enemy,  
and again conquered a larger than their own. The victory was ours—the trophies of victory only were not accomplished. The  
enemy had relinquished the contest and the field to our superiority.

The glorious defeat of an important expedition of the enemy, on  
our own shore, is again accomplished by the first rifle regiment on  
its arrival at this frontier, under the late distinguished major  
Ninian.

Another trial was left for the brave spirits who compose the  
American force in Canada. An endurance of fatigue was shewn  
with unexampled cheerfulness, on the works around their camp at  
Fort Erie, and a new test of military prowess was called for to  
complete the glorious character of the division. They were called  
to receive the attack of heavy columns of the enemy, on their lines  
of entrenchment—and the signal manner in which they acquitted  
themselves, as well as the vigilance of their brave and finished  
commander, brigadier-general Gaines, established by the brilliant  
victory acquired on the 15th of August. The discontinuance of the  
operations under lieutenant-general Drummond, was attended with a  
disparity of loss unexampled in the record of battles.

By order of major-general Brown,

C. K. GARDNER, *Adjutant-general.*

#### ATTACK UPON BALTIMORE.

To detail, with reasonable accuracy, the minutiae  
of the events that have happened at Baltimore since  
Sunday morning, the 11th inst. when the enemy  
made his appearance, to the time of his departure  
on the 15th, is not easily done: but the readers of  
the REGISTER will expect it, and we shall endeavor  
to give a succinct narration of the proceedings, with  
a steady eye to the truth of each matter referred to;  
avoiding, nevertheless, every thing that may tend  
to increase the information of the incendiary foe, as  
to our means or resources. Hence an account of our  
troops or works will not be expected. Sufficient is  
it to say, that the same force would make much less  
impression now than it did, or could have done, at  
the time of the attack.

After the affair at Bladensburg and capture of  
Washington, an attack upon this city was confident-

ly expected. Indeed, general Ross had fixed upon  
it for his winter quarters; and boasted, that with the  
force he had, he would go where he pleased through  
Maryland. Thus forewarned, considerable addi-  
tions were made to the defences of the place—some  
of the troops of gen. Winder's command were col-  
lected.—Rogers and Perry were here; and a good  
many noble volunteers flocked in from the adjacent  
parts of our own state and from Virginia and Pennsyl-  
vania. The Baltimore brigade was taken en masse  
into the service of the United States; and the whole  
submitted to the direction of major-general Smith,  
of the Maryland militia.

On Saturday, the 10th inst. we had information  
that the enemy was ascending the bay, and on Sun-  
day morning his ships were seen at the mouth of  
our river, the Patuxco, in number from 40 to 50.—  
Some of his vessels entered the river, while others  
proceeded to North Point (at the mouth of the Pa-  
tuxco) distant 12 miles from the city, and com-  
menced the debarkation of their troops in the night,  
which was finished early next morning. In the  
mean time the frigates, bomb ketches, and small  
vessels approached and ranged themselves in a for-  
midable line to cannonade the fort, and the town.—  
The frigates were lightened before they entered the  
river—and the ships of line lay off North Point, to  
overawe us and protect the whole force.

The force that landed consisted of about 9000  
men—viz. 5,000 soldiers, 2,000 marines, and 2,000  
sailors. The first under major-general Ross—the  
latter commanded by the famous admiral Cockburn.  
The troops were a part of Wellington's "Invincibles."  
Some works were erecting not far from North Point  
to arrest their progress; but their incipient state  
forbade a stand being made at them; and the enemy  
marched four miles towards us uninterrupted,  
except by a few flying shots from the cavalry. Here  
they were met by general Swicker with his entire  
Baltimore brigade, (except that he had only one  
company of the regiment of artillery) consisting of  
Col. Biays' cavalry, the rifle corps, and the 5th, 6th,  
27th, 39th and 51st regiments of infantry, command-  
ed respectively by lieutenant-cols. Sterrett, McDonald,  
Long, Fowler and Aney. In the 5th was incorpora-  
ted an elegant uniformed company of volunteers  
from York, Penn. under capt. Spangler; and in the  
39th, captain Metzger's fine company of volunteers  
from Hanover, Penn. and capt. Quantrell's from Ha-  
gerstown, Maryland; and in the 6th, capt. Dixon's  
volunteers from Marietta, Penn.—all the rest were  
city troops; and the whole, including capt. Montgo-  
mery's company of artillery (with 6 four pounders)  
amounted to about 3200 men. The rest of our forces  
were judiciously stationed in or near the various  
defences, &c. About 1 o'clock a party of 150 or 200  
men, consisting of captain Levering's and capt. Beau-  
gard's companies of the 5th reg. and capt. Aisquith's  
rifle corps, were detached from the line to feel the  
enemy, and bring on the battle; they were accom-  
panied by a few artillerists with one of their pieces.  
Before they expected it, they were attacked by the  
British, in very superior numbers, and driven in  
with some loss after a few fires, to the main body. As  
the enemy advanced, the artillery opened a destruc-  
tive fire upon them, which was returned from 2 nine  
pounders, and the action became general along the  
line of the 5th and 27th, which were in front. The  
39th and 51st were in rear of these, and the 6th ad-  
vantageously posted still nearer the city, to protect  
and cover the whole. The fire from the two first  
named regiments, as well as from the artillery, was  
very active and uncommonly certain for about an

\* The artillery fired about 130 rounds.

hour. Of the 5th, much was expected, but the 27th behaved, at least, as gallantly. The men took deliberate aim, and the carnage was great—the “*invincibles*” dodging to the ground, and crawling in a hending posture, to avoid the militia—the “*yeomen*” they were taught so much to despise. When the 5th and 27th (between which was placed the artillery) were outflanked by the much greater force of the enemy, they retired in better order than could have been expected under a galling fire; and they retired reluctantly at the repeated command of their officers. The artillery had been drawn off a little while before. The right of the 39th was gallantly engaged, but the 51st took no part in the action; and it was not at that time and place expected that the 6th would share in it, else (under its veteran colonel, a soldier of the revolution, and one who met the same foe under *Pulaski*) it would, no doubt, have distinguished itself. The cavalry, though they performed very severe and important duties, had but little to do in the battle. The whole number of our men actually engaged, did not exceed 1700.

Nearly as much, perhaps, being done at this point as was expected, our force retreated towards the city. The enemy followed slowly, and on Tuesday night approached within about two miles of our entrenchments. Measures were taken to cut them off and punish their temerity; but before general *Winder* with the Virginia militia, and a squadron of the United States’ cavalry, could bring his plans fully to bear, the British suspecting the design or not liking the appearance of our works, decamped suddenly in the night and embarked with such precipitation that, though closely pursued, a few prisoners only were taken. But the pursuing force merited and have received the thanks of their general; and the whole body collected is entitled to the gratitude of *Baltimore* and of their country, for the sufferings they so patiently and patriotically endured, being compelled to sleep, if sleep was allowed, in the open air, with the heavens for their canopy, for four nights, during the chief part of which it rained pretty constantly and sometimes heavily. They also received their refreshments irregularly; the whole being packed up in prudent preparation of events that *might* have happened.

But the attack on fort *M’Henry* was terribly grand and magnificent. The enemy vessels formed a great half circle in front of the works on the 12th, but out of the reach of our guns, and also those of the battery at the *Lazaretto*, on the opposite side of the great cove or basin around the head of which the city of *Baltimore* is built. Fort *M’Henry* is about 2 miles from the city, a “light little” place, with some finely planned batteries, mounted with heavy cannon, as the *British* very well know. At 6 o’clock on Tuesday morning, six bomb and some rocket vessels commenced the attack, keeping such a respectful distance as to make the fort rather a *target* than an opponent; though major *Armistead*, the gallant commander, and his brave garrison fired occasionally to let the enemy know the place was not given up!! Four or five bombs were frequently in the air at a time, and, making a double explosion, with the noise of the *foolish* rockets and the firings of the fort, *Lazaretto* and our barges, created a horrible clatter. [Many of these bombs have since been found entire—they weigh, when full of their combustibles, about 210 or 220 lbs. and they threw them much further than our long 42 pounders would reach.] Thus it lasted until about 3 o’clock in the afternoon, when the enemy, growing more courageous, dropped nearer the fort, and gave the garrison and batteries a little of the chance they wanted. The balls now flew like hail stones, and the Britons slipped their

cables, hoisted their sails and were off in a moment, but not without damage. When they got out of harm’s way they renewed the “*magnanimous*” attack, throwing their bombs with an activity excited by their mortification. So they went on until about 1 o’clock in the morning, our batteries now and then firing a single gun. At this time, aided by the darkness of the night and screened by a flame they had kindled, one or two rocket or bomb vessels and many barges, manned with 1200 chosen men, passed fort *M’Henry* and proceeded up the *Patuxent*, to assail the town and fort in the rear, and, perhaps, effect a landing. The weak sighted mortals now thought the great deed was done—they gave three cheers, and began to throw their missive weapons. But, alas! their cheering was quickly turned to groaning, and the cries and screams of their wounded and drowning people soon reached the shore; for forts *M’Henry* and *Covington* with the *City Battery* and the *Lazaretto* and barges, vomited an iron flame upon them, in heated balls, and a storm of heavy bullets flew upon them from the great semi-circle of large guns and gallant hearts. The houses in the city were shaken to their foundations; for never, perhaps from the time of the invention of cannon to the present day, were the same number of pieces fired with so rapid succession; particularly from fort *Covington* where a party of *Rodgers’* really *invincible* crew was posted. *Barney’s* flotilla-men, at the *City Battery*, maintained the high reputation they had before earned. The other vessels also began to fire—and the heavens were lighted with flame, and all was a *continued* explosion for about half an hour. Having got this taste of what was prepared for them (and it was a mere taste) the enemy precipitately retired with his remaining force, battered and crippled, to his *respectful* distance; the darkness of the night and his ceasing to fire (which was the only guide our people had) preventing his annihilation. All was for sometime still—the silence was awful—but being beyond danger some of his vessels resumed the bombardment, which continued until morning—in all about 24 hours, during which there were thrown not less than 1500 of these great bombs, besides many rockets and some round shot. They must have suffered excessively in this affair—two of their large barges have been found sunk; and in them were yet some dead men. But what the loss really was it is probable we never shall know. They also were at other times injured by fort *M’Henry*, the *Lazaretto* and the barges. I myself believe I saw several shot take effect during Tuesday afternoon.

The preservation of our people in the fort is calculated to excite in a wonderful manner our gratitude to that GREAT BEING without whose knowledge “a sparrow does not fall to the ground.” Only four were killed and about 20 wounded, and 2 or 300\$ will repair all the damages the fortresses sustained!

Lieut. *Clagget*, of capt. *Nicholson’s* company of artillery, was the only officer killed in the fort. His friend, sergeant *Clemm*, of the same corps, received his death at the same time. They were respectable merchants.

The admiral had fully calculated on taking the fort in *two hours*. Its surrender was spoken of as a matter of course. He said that when it was taken and the shipping destroyed, “he would think about terms for the city.” All about and in the fort is such ample evidence of his zeal to perform his promise, that it seems impossible to believe that greater damage was not done than was really sustained. The gallant and accomplished *Armistead*, through watching and excessive fatigue (for he had other great duties to do besides defending his post) flagged a

soon as the fight was done, and now lies very ill; but not dangerously, we trust, though severely afflicted. Many of his gallant companions were also exhausted, but have generally recruited their strength.

To return to the field engagement. The force of the enemy in the battle, may have amounted to 4000 men. They were fine looking fellows, but seemed very unwilling to meet the "yankee" bullets—their dodging from the cannon and stooping before the musquetry has already been noticed. The prisoners and deserters say that for the time the affair lasted and the men engaged, they never received so destructive a fire; and this may well be, for our men fired not by word of command only, but also at an object. Of the 21st British regiment about 500 were landed—on the morning of the 13th they found 171 killed, wounded and missing. Their whole loss may be safely estimated at from 5 to 700 men. Major general ROSS, who did "not care if it rained militia," the incendiary of the *capitol*, paid the forfeit of that act by his death. He was killed in the early part of the action; and there is reason to believe that two or three other officers high in command met the same fate. *Ross* was a brave man and an able commander—and if he had been engaged in another system of warfare would have claimed our respectful remembrance. We may admire but we cannot esteem his memory. The character of *Moor* in *Schiller's* play of the "Robbers," notwithstanding its grandeur disgests by the *business* to which his great talents and accomplishments were devoted. So it was with *Ross*. His orders, perhaps, may afford some sort of an excuse for his violation of the rules of civilized war. His death was probably the immediate cause why an attack upon our works was not made. General Brooks, on whom the command devolved, would not risk the enterprize.

Our whole loss in the affair was about 20 killed, 9) wounded and 47 prisoners and missing. The officers killed were James Lowry Donaldson, esq. adjutant of the brave 27th regiment, and one of the representatives of this city in the house of delegates of Maryland—he fell while encouraging his brethren in arms; and lieut. *Aubre*, of the "Gray Yagers" a valuable young man. Maj. *Moore* of the 27th was severely, but not dangerously wounded. Major *Heath* of the 5th had two horses shot under him, and major *Barry*, of the same regiment, was also killed. The cavalry lost several horses, and some of them on the look out were taken prisoners. Many particulars must be postponed for want of room. Some interesting incidents will be inserted in our next. For the present we shall only add, that brigadier-general *Stricker*, whose urbanity has long endeared him to the citizens under his command and the people at large, behaved as became the high charge entrusted to him as a soldier. He has the entire confidence of his brigade. *Robert G. Harper*, esquire, who volunteered his services as an aid-de-camp, also greatly exerted himself in the hottest part of the fire to encourage and give steadiness to our troops.

The enemy's bomb-vessels, we are told, are much wrecked by their own fire. This may well be supposed when the fact is stated that at every discharge they were forced two feet into the water by the force of it, thus straining every part from stem to stern.

Never was the mortification of an invader more complete than that of our enemy. Beaten by militia

\* Twenty-two of the wounded were paroled on the field—47 are on board the fleet (many of them gentlemen of the first respectability) and it is believed will be sent to Halifax, though all possible means to effect their release were used. By a flag they were all liberally supplied.

and defeated by the fort, he went away in the worst possible humor, and a total loss that may amount to not less than 800 men.

The following is from a *London* paper of June 17—"It is understood, that the grand expedition preparing at Bordeaux for America, under the gallant lord Hill, is destined for the Chesapeake direct. Our little army in Canada, will at the same instant, be directed to make a movement in the direction of the *Susquehanna*; and both armies will therefore, in all probability meet at Washington, Philadelphia or Baltimore. The seat of the American government, BUT MORE PARTICULARLY BALTIMORE is to be the immediate object of attack. In the diplomatic circles it is also rumored that our naval and military commanders on the American station have no power to conclude any armistice or suspension of arms. They carry with them certain terms, which will be offered to the American government at the point of the bayonet. The terms of course, are not made public; but there is reason to believe that America will be left in a much worse situation, as a naval and commercial power, than she was at the commencement of the war."

Copies of letters from major gen. Smith of the Maryland militia, to the secretary of war.

H. G. Hampstead-hill, Baltimore, 14th Sept. 1814—10 A. M. SIR—I have the honor of informing you, that the enemy, after an unsuccessful attempt both by land and water, on this place, appear to be retiring.

We have a force hanging on their rear—I shall give you further particulars in the course of the day.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,  
(Signed) S. SMITH, major general commanding.

P. S. The enemy's vessels in the Patapsco are all under way going down the river. I have good reason to believe that general Ross is mortally wounded.

Honorable James Monroe, acting secretary of war.

Head-quarters, Baltimore, 15th September, 1814.

SIR—I have been so incessantly occupied, that it has been impossible for me to convey to you the information respecting the enemy, which it would have been proper for you to have received from me. A detailed statement will be forwarded as soon as it can be made out; in the mean time, I have the pleasure to inform you that the enemy embarked their rear guard about 1 o'clock, and that their ships, a few excepted, are out of the river; their destination unknown.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,  
SAMUEL SMITH, major general commanding.  
Colonel James Monroe, acting secretary of war.

Head-quarters, Baltimore, September 15th, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to enclose to you, for your disposal, two letters from British officers, received by Dr. McCulloh (garrison surgeon,) whom I had sent to the battle ground to attend our wounded.

I have also the honor to send you enclosed a list of our wounded who were made prisoners, and of the agreement made by doctor McCulloh respecting them.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant.  
SAMUEL SMITH, maj. gen. com'g.

Colonel James Monroe, acting secretary of war.

In consequence of the humanity shewn the following American prisoners of war, I do promise upon honor that they shall not directly or indirectly serve against the British until regularly exchanged.

James H. McCulloh, Henry Brice, George Reper, Jacob Noyle, John Robinsen, James N. Mariott, Charles Goddard, Walter Musket, Bryan Allen, George Reintzell, Jacob Hubbard, Benjamin Fleetwood, Thomas Bregman, John Pidgeon, Luther A. Norris, David Davis, William Collings, John Lamb, James Davidson, William Keane, jun. James Gibson,

Richard K. Cook, Robert Smith, John Jephson, George Bennett, Conrad Euler.

And I do further engage to get the above twenty-six Americans exchanged as soon as possible for a like number of British left at Bladensburg.

JAMES H. McCULLOUGH, jun.  
garrison surgeon, U. S. army.

*Copy of a letter from major-general Smith to the secretary of war, dated*

Head-Quarters, Baltimore, September 19, 1814.

Sir—In compliance with the promise contained in my letter of the 15th instant, I have now the honor of stating, that the enemy landed between seven and eight thousand men on Monday, the 12th instant, at North Point, fourteen miles distant from this town. Anticipating this debarkation, general Stricker had been detached on Sunday evening with a portion of his brigade on the North Point road. Major Randal, of the Baltimore county militia, having under his command a light corps of riflemen and musquetry taken from general Stansbury's brigade and the Pennsylvania volunteers, was detached to the mouth of Bear creek, with orders to co-operate with general Stricker, and to check any landing which the enemy might attempt in that quarter. On Monday, brigadier-general Stricker took a position at the junction of the two roads leading from this place to North Point, having his right flanked by Bear creek, and his left by a marsh. He here awaited the approach of the enemy, having sent on an advanced corps under the command of major Heath of the 5th regiment. This advance was met by that of the enemy, and after some skirmishing it returned to the line, the main body of the enemy being at a short distance in rear of their advance. Between two and three o'clock, the enemy's whole force came up and commenced the battle by some discharges of rockets, which were succeeded by the cannon from both sides, and soon after the action became general along the line. General Stricker gallantly maintained his ground against a great superiority of numbers during the space of an hour and twenty minutes, when the regiment on his left (the 51st) giving way, he was under the necessity of retiring to the ground in his rear, where he had stationed one regiment as a reserve. He here formed his brigade; but the enemy not thinking it advisable to pursue, he, in compliance with previous arrangements, fell back and took post on the left of my entrenchments, and half a mile in advance of them. In this affair the citizen soldiers of Baltimore, with the exception of the 51st regiment, have maintained the reputation they so deservedly acquired at Bladensburg, and their brave and skilful leader has confirmed the confidence which we had all so justly placed in him. I take the liberty of referring you to his letter for the more particular mention of the individuals who, new to warfare, have shown the coolness and valor of veterans; and who, by their conduct on this occasion, have given their country and their city an assurance of what may be expected from them when their services are again required. I cannot dismiss the subject without expressing the heart-felt satisfaction I experience in this bearing testimony to the courage and good conduct of my fellow townsmen. About the time general Stricker had taken the ground just mentioned, he was joined by brigadier-general Winder, who had been stationed on the west side of the city, but was now ordered to march with general Douglas's brigade of Virginia militia and the United States' dragoons under captain Bird, and take post on the left of general Stricker. During these movements, the brigades of generals Stansbury and Foreman, the seamen and marines under commodore Rodgers, the Pennsylvania volunteers under colonels

Cobean and Findley, the Baltimore artillery under colonel Harris, and the Marine artillery under capt. Stiles, manned the trenches and the batteries—all prepared to receive the enemy. We remained in this situation during the night.

On Tuesday the enemy appeared in front of my entrenchments at the distance of two miles, on the Philadelphia road, from whence he had a full view of our position. He manœuvred during the morning towards our left, as if with the intention of making a circuitous march and coming down on the Harford or York roads. Generals Winder and Stricker were ordered to adapt their movements to those of the enemy so as to baffle this supposed intention. They executed this order with great skill and judgment by taking an advantageous position, stretching from my left across the country, when the enemy was likely to approach the quarter he seemed to threaten. This movement induced the enemy to concentrate his forces (between one and two o'clock) in my front, pushing his advance to within a mile of us, driving in our vedettes and shewing an intention of attacking us that evening. I immediately drew generals Winder and Stricker nearer to the left of my entrenchments and to the right of the enemy, with the intention of their falling on his right or rear should he attack me; or, if he declined it, of attacking him in the morning. To this movement and to the strength of my defences, which the enemy had the fairest opportunity of observing, I am induced to attribute his retreat, which was commenced at half past one o'clock on Wednesday morning. In this he was so favored by the extreme darkness and a continued rain, that we did not discover it until day-light. I consented to general Winder's pursuing with the Virginia brigade and the United States' dragoons; at the same time major Randal was dispatched with his light corps in pursuit on the enemy's right, whilst the whole of the militia cavalry was put in motion for the same object. All the troops were, however, so worn out with continued watching, and with being under arms during three days and nights, exposed the greater part of the time to very inclement weather, that it was found impracticable to do any thing more than pick up a few stragglers. The enemy commenced his embarkation that evening, and completed it the next day at one o'clock. It would have been impossible, even had our troops been in a condition to act offensively, to have cut off any part of the enemy's rear guard during the embarkation, as the point where it was effected was defended from our approach by a line of defences extending from Back river to Humphrey's creek on the Patuxco, thrown up by ourselves previous to their arrival.

I have now the pleasure of calling your attention to the brave commander of Fort M'Henry, Major Armistead, and to the operations confined to that quarter. The enemy made his approach by water at the same time that his army was advancing on the land, and commenced a discharge of bombs and rockets at the fort as soon as he got within range of it. The situation of major Armistead was peculiarly trying—the enemy having taken his position at such a distance as to render offensive operations on the part of the fort entirely fruitless, whilst their bombs and rockets were every moment falling in and about it—the officers and men being at the same time entirely exposed. The vessels, however, had the tenacity to approach somewhat nearer—they were as soon compelled to withdraw. During the night, whilst the enemy on land was retreating, and whilst the bombardment was most severe, two or three rocket vessels and barges succeeded in getting up the Ferry Branch; but they were soon com-

pelled to retire, by the forts in that quarter, commanded by lieutenant Newcomb, of the navy and lieutenant Webster of the flotilla. These forts also destroyed one of the barges, with all on board.—The barges and battery at the lazaretto, under the command of lieutenant Butler, of the flotilla, kept up a brisk, and it is believed, a successful fire during the hottest period of the bombardment. Major Armstrong being seriously ill in consequence of his continued exposure to the weather, has rendered it impossible for him to send in his report. It is not, therefore in my power to do justice to those gallant individuals, who partook with him the danger of a tremendous bombardment, without the ability of retorting, and without that security, which in more regular fortifications is provided for such occasions. The only loss sustained in the fort, is, I understand, about 27 killed and wounded—amongst the former I have to lament the fall of lieutenants Claggett and Clemm, who were both estimable citizens and useful officers.

From general Stricker's brigade, the return of the killed and wounded has not yet come in. It is supposed, however, to amount to about 150—amongst the former, this city has to regret the loss of its representative in the state legislature, James Lowry Donaldson, esq. adjutant of the 27th regiment. This gentleman will ever be remembered by his constituents for his zeal and talents, and by his corps for his bravery and military knowledge.

I cannot conclude this report without informing you of the great aid I have derived from commodore Rodgers. He was ever present and ever ready to afford his useful council, and to render his important services. His presence, with that of his gallant officers and seamen, gave confidence to every one.

The enemy's loss in his attempt on Baltimore, amounts, as near as we can ascertain it, to between six or seven hundred killed, wounded and missing—General Boss was certainly killed.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir,  
your obedient servant,

S. SMITH,

*Maj. gen. commanding.*

Colonel JAMES MONROE,

*Acting secretary of war.*

*Copy of a letter from brigadier general Stricker, dated Headquarters 31 Brigade—Baltimore, Sept. 15, 1811.*

MAJ. GEN. S. SMITH,

SIR—I have the honor to report to you, that in obedience to your orders, I marched from Baltimore on Sunday the 11th inst. with part of my brigade, as the advance corps of the army under your command. My force consisted of 550 of the 5th regiment under lieutenant col. Sterett; 620 of the 6th, under lieutenant col. McDonald; 500 of the 27th, under lieutenant col. Long; 450 of the 39th, under lieutenant col. Fowler; 700 of the 51st under lieutenant col. Amey; 150 riflemen under captain Dyer; 140 cavalry under lieutenant col. Biays; and the Union Artillery of 75 men, with six four-pounders, under captain Montgomery, making an aggregate of 3185 effective men. I moved towards North Point by the main road, and at 8 o'clock P. M. reached the meeting-house near the head of Bear creek, seven miles from this city. Here the brigade halted, with the exception of the cavalry, who were pushed forward to Gorsuch's farm three miles in advance, and the riflemen who took post near the blacksmith's shop two miles in advance of our encampment. At seven o'clock on the morning of the 12th, I received information from the advanced videttes that the enemy were debarking troops from and under cover of their gun vessels which lay off the bluff of North Point within the mouth of Patapsco river. I immediately ordered back my baggage under a strong guard, moved forward the 5th and

27th regiments, and my artillery to the head of Long-lane (so called) resting the 5th with its right on the head of a branch of Bear creek, and its left on the main North Point road, while the 27th was posted on the other side of the road in line with the 5th, its left extending towards a branch of Back river. The artillery I posted directly at the head of the lane in the interval between the 5th and 27th. The 39th occupied a ground 300 yards in the rear of the 27th, and the 51st the same distance in rear of the 5th, extending each parallel to the front line. The 6th regiment was thrown back to a position a short distance this side of Cook's tavern, and half a mile in the rear of the second line. My orders were, that the 5th and 27th should receive the enemy, and, if necessary, fall back through the 51st and the 39th, and form on the right of the 6th or reserve regiment. The riflemen were ordered to the skirts of a thick low pine wood beyond the blacksmith's shop, with a large sedgefield in front, that as the cavalry were still in advance who would inform of the enemy's approach, they might take advantage of the covering of the wood and annoy his advance. I soon learned that the enemy's advance party was moving rapidly up the main road, and as the cavalry continually announced their progress, I flattered myself with the hope that the riflemen would soon proclaim by a galling fire their still nearer approach. Imagine my chagrin when I perceived the whole rifle corps falling back upon my main position, having too credulously listened to groundless information that the enemy were landing on Back river to cut them off. My hopes of early annoyance to the enemy being thus frustrated, I threw the riflemen on the right flank of my front line, thereby, with the addition of a few cavalry, very well securing that flank. My videttes soon brought information that the enemy in small force was enjoying himself at Gorsuch's farm. Insulted at the idea of a small marauding party thus daringly provoking chastisement, several of my officers volunteered their corps to dislodge it. Captains Levering's and Howard's companies from the 5th, about 150 in number, under major Heath of that regiment; captain Aisquith's and a few other riflemen, in all about 70; one 4 pounder with 10 men under lieutenant Stiles, and the cavalry, were immediately pushed forward to punish the insolence of the enemy's advance; or, if his main body appeared, to give evidence of my wish for a general engagement. The latter purpose was soon answered; this small volunteer corps had proceeded scarcely half a mile before the main body of the enemy shewed itself, which was immediately attacked. The infantry and riflemen maintained a fire of some minutes, and retired with some loss in killed and wounded; the cavalry and artillery owing to the disadvantageous grounds not being able to support them.—In this skirmish, major Heath's horse was killed under him. At half-past 2 o'clock, the enemy commenced throwing rockets across my left flank, which seemed harmless, and had no other effect than to prepare my line for the sound of the artillery, which soon commenced by us on the enemy's right column then pushing across towards my left, and returned by their six-pounders and a howitzer upon my left and centre. The cannonading was brisk for some minutes, when I ordered my fire to cease until the enemy should get within close range of cannon.—Seeing that my left flank was the main object of the enemy, I brought up the 39th into line on the left of the 27th, and detached two pieces of artillery to the left of the 39th: still more securely to protect my left flank, colonel Amey of the 51st was ordered to form his regiment at right angles with my line, resting his right near the left of the 39th regiment.

This order being badly executed created for a moment some confusion in that quarter, but was soon rectified by the efforts of my aid-de-camp and brigade majors, who corrected the error of colonel Amey and posted the 51st in its ordered position. The enemy's right column displayed and advanced upon the 39th and 27th. The 51st, unmindful of my object to use its fire in protection of my left flank in case an attempt should be made to turn it, totally forgetful of the honor of the brigade, and regardless of its own reputation, delivered one random fire and retreated precipitately, and in such confusion, as to render every effort of mine to rally them ineffective. Some disorder was occasioned in the second battalion of the 39th, by the flight of the 51st, and a few gave way. The fire now became general from left to right; my artillery in the centre poured forth an incessant volley of cannon upon the enemy's left column, who were endeavoring to gain the cover of a small log-house, about 50 yards in front of the 5th; which, however, precaution had been taken to fire, so soon as captain Sadtler's Yagers from the 5th (who were originally posted therein) should be compelled to leave it. The enemy's line advanced about 10 minutes before 3 o'clock, with a severe fire which was well returned by the artillery, the whole 27th, the 5th except the three companies of captains Levering, Howard and Sadtler, which were too much exhausted by the advanced skirmish of the two former—and the ordered retreat of the latter to resume their positions in line;—and from the first battalion of the 39th, who maintained its ground in despite of the disgraceful example set by the intended support on the left. The fire was incessant till about 15 minutes before 4 o'clock, when, finding that my line now 1400 strong, was insufficient to withstand the superior numbers of the enemy, and my left flank being exposed by the desertion of the 51st, I was constrained to order a movement back to the reserve regiment, under colonel McDonahl, which was well posted to receive the retired line which mostly rallied well. On forming with the 6th, the fatigued state of the regiments and corps which had retired, and the probability that my right flank might be turned by a quick movement of the enemy in that direction, induced me, after proper deliberation, to fall back to Worthington's mill; which I was the more persuaded to, by my desire to have the 6th regiment (whose officers and men were eager to share the dangers of their brother soldiers) perfect and in good order to receive the enemy on his nearer approach to the city. All retired as I could wish, and were ready to act as circumstances might require. In this situation you found the brigade on the morning of the 13th, somewhat fatigued, but with increased confidence in ourselves, and renewing our preparation for the annoyance of the enemy alone, if deemed proper, or in conjunction with any other force.

I have thought it due to the merits of my brigade, to detail thus fully their whole movement, and I feel a pride in the belief that the stand made on Monday in no small degree, tended to check the temerity of a foe, daring to invade a country like ours, and designing the destruction of our city, in whose defence some of the best blood of the country has already been spilt, and for whose safety and protection the citizen-soldiers of the 3d brigade are ready to suffer every privation, and meet every danger. Should report be true, (and I doubt not the fact) that the enemy's commanding officer, *major general Ross* was killed in this action, and that the enemy suffered in proportion to his superior numbers, I shall feel still more the valuable consequences of our fight.

The conduct of many company officers and privates, was such as I calculated on; that of most of

my field officers also merits my particular notice.—Major Richard K. Heath of the 5th, who led on the advance party to bring on the action, behaved as became an officer, the facts of his first horse being killed under him in the first skirmish, his second being badly wounded, and himself receiving a contusion on the head, by a musket ball, in the general action, are ample proofs of his bravery and exposure in discharge of his duty. Lient. col. Sterett, and major Barry of the 5th, gained my highest approbation, and they unite with all in praise of captain Spangler and his company of volunteers, from York, Pa. then attached to their command; also of adjutant Cheston, who is slightly wounded. Lient. col. Long of the 27th, and his field and company officers, did well; this whole regiment were unsurpassed in bravery, resolution and enthusiasm. My brigade has to bewail the loss of adjutant *James Lowry Donaldson*, who fell in the hottest of the fight, bravely discharging the duties of his commission. Lient. col. Fowler, and major Steiger of the 39th did their duty in every respect; they speak highly of the volunteer companies of capt. Quantril, from Hagers-town, and capt. Metzgar from Hanover, Pa. Capt. Quantril is wounded. Captain John Montgomery, commanding my artillery, gained for himself and his company lasting honor. Captain Aisquith, and his company of riflemen, merit my thanks. Ensign Wilmot, commanding the company of United Volunteers of the 5th, and many of his men, distinguished themselves. To brigade majors Calhoun and Frailey, I am under great obligations for the prompt, and zealous performance of their duty.—To my aid-de-camp, major George P. Stevenson, too much praise cannot be given, his industry in every arrangement before the fight, and in animating the whole line, was conspicuous; his zeal and courage are of the most ardent kind, the sprightliness of his manners in the most trying scenes had the happiest effect upon all to whom he had to communicate my orders; and the precision with which he delivered my commands, could be exceeded only by the coolness with which he always saw them executed. He was animated, brave, and useful. Major William B. Barney, and adjutant Lemuel Taylor, of the cavalry, who, having no opportunity of distinction in their regiment owing to the grounds, did me great service, the former in aiding capt. Montgomery, the latter in conveying my orders through the whole. Mr. Robert Goodloe Harper deserves my thanks. He visited me just before the action; accompanied the advanced party, and aided me much throughout. The brave soldiers under my command have suffered many privations, and I recognise among our killed and wounded many valuable men; of which I will make a report in a few days.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JOHN STRICKER,

*Brig. Gen. Com. 3d brigade, M. A.*  
GENERAL ORDERS.

*M. G. Baltimore, September 19, 1814.*

The enemy having been compelled to retire from before this city, the major general commanding takes pleasure in congratulating the troops under his command, upon a relaxation of those severe duties to which they were for some days necessarily exposed. The readiness with which they submitted to privations of every kind, was as gratifying to him as the alacrity with which they flew to arms for the protection of the city. He feels a particular pleasure in imparting to every officer and soldier his warm acknowledgements for the zeal they displayed in marching to meet the enemy, whose object by his own declaration is known to be devastation and ruin to every assailable point on the seaboard. It is with peculiar satisfaction the

commanding general seizes this opportunity of acknowledging the very great assistance he has received from the counsel and active exertions of commodore Rodgers. His exertions and those of his brave officers and seamen, have contributed in a very eminent degree to the safety of the city, and should be remembered with lively emotions of gratitude by every citizen.

The successful defence of Fort M'Henry by major Armistead of the United States army having under his command (besides his own corps) three companies of colonel Harris's regiment of artillery commanded by captains Berry and Nicholson and lieutenant Pennington and a part of the 36th and 38th regiments of United States infantry commanded by lieutenant colonel Stewart, is beyond all praise. Their gallantry and intrepidity enabled them to defend the fort against every effort of the enemy, and there is no doubt, that this intrepid officer will be rewarded by the government. The voluntary services of major Lane of the 14th regiment of United States infantry were highly useful and duly appreciated by major Armistead. Lieutenant Newcomb of the navy, who commanded Fort Covington and lieutenant Webster of the flotilla, the city battery, performed their respective duties to the entire satisfaction of the commanding general.

To brigadier general Winder he tenders his thanks for his aid, co-operation and prompt pursuit of the enemy. To brigadier general Douglass with his brigade, and to colonel Taylor with his regiment of Virginia militia called into service for the defence of Washington, the commanding general also makes a tender of his acknowledgments. They have sustained privations with patience, and submitted to a soldier's life with a temper that does them credit. To the officers much praise is due for the discipline they have introduced, for their attention to their men, and prompt obedience to orders.

To brigadier general Striker and the 3d brigade of Maryland militia, every praise is due; the city being threatened, it became the duty of the citizens to be foremost in its defence. He claimed the honor, and the brave officers and men under his command boiled with delight the opportunity of meeting the enemy's first attack: he met the enemy and engaged him, and when compelled by superior numbers to retreat, he effected it in order, and rallied on his reserve, and from thence retired to the ground which had been assigned him near the lines. The particulars of the action and the just praise due to each officer, are given by the brigadier general in his report. He reports the 27th regiment under colonel Long, as having in a particular manner distinguished itself—he gives due praise to the 5th, under colonel Sterrett, and 39th under colonel Pawler. He reports that his reserve under colonel McDonald merited his approbation, and that the artillery under captain Montgomery highly distinguished itself. He applauds in terms which are flattering, the conduct of major Pinckney's battalion of riflemen, the command of which on this occasion having devolved on captain Dyer. He mentions in honorable terms the bravery and good conduct of major Heath of the 5th, who had two horses shot under him, and of captains Spangler and Metzgar commanding companies from Pennsylvania, and of captain Quantrell with a company from Hagerstown.

The Pennsylvania volunteers without commissions, repaired to the post of danger, chose officers and organized themselves into regiments, performed all the duties of soldiers and have recommended themselves in a particular manner to the attention of the commanding general. Much praise is also due to generals Mansbury and Forgan. Their men came out

principally en masse, and when assembled were to be organized, armed, equipped and disciplined. All this has been effected through their indefatigable exertions. To these gentlemen the commanding general tenders his sincere thanks. The enthusiasm shown by their men on the approach of the enemy, gave a full assurance that reliance might be placed on them.

The light corps under major Randall performed in a manner highly honorable the services assigned it, and the major's conduct evinced a firmness, bravery and talent for a military life.

The excellent discipline and order of the artillery under colonel Harris, and marine artillery under captain Stiles, affords a certainty of their good conduct. The regularity which prevails in those corps does them honor and affords an excellent example to others. Fatiguing as were the duties imposed on the United States cavalry under captain Bird, and the militia cavalry under lieutenant colonels Moore, Biays, Street and Tilghman, and captain Lee, they were performed with an alacrity and promptness highly honorable to the officers and men. To captain Thompson of the flying artillery and his company, the commanding general tenders his thanks for their unremitting personal attention as his guard, their readiness in carrying orders and the various separate duties assigned them, and to major Barney and captain Thompson with their corps of observation for the correct information received from them.

The guns at the Lazaretto were well served by lieutenant Rutter of the Flotilla, whose conduct in the discharge of that, as well as the highly important duty of advanced night guards to the fort, has met the entire approbation of the commanding general. To the committee of vigilance and safety he feels himself under particular obligations to acknowledge the many advantages he derived from their exertions in providing the means necessary for defence.

Such was the determined zeal evinced on the part of every brigade and corps under his command, that the commanding general is impressed with a full conviction, that had the enemy made his attack it would have terminated in his discomfiture and defeat.

By order of major general S. Smith,  
WM. BATES, *assist. adj. gen.* D. M. M.  
DIVISION ORDERS.

*Division Headquarters, New-church street.*

September 15th, 1814.

Brigadier general Winder congratulates the troops of his command upon the suspension of the severe duty to which they have been exposed for the last four days.

The garrison of fort M'Henry under the command of major Armistead, are entitled to, and receive, the warmest acknowledgments and praise from the brigadier general for their steady firm and intrepid deportment during an almost incessant bombardment for twenty-four hours, during which time they were exposed to an incessant shower of shells.

The militia artillery of the 3d brigade under captains Nicholson and Berry, and lieutenant Pennington vied with the regulars in a firmness and composure which would have honored veterans, and prove that they were worthy to co-operate with the regular artillery, infantry and sea fencibles in defence of that important post. Major Armistead receives also the warmest acknowledgments of the brigadier general commanding, for his able, vigilant and exact arrangements before and during this period of arduous duty, as well as for the uniform zeal, vigor and ability he has discovered in his preparations for the defence of the post immediately committed to his charge, as for the prompt and efficacious manner in which he

has complied under great and perplexing difficulties with demands from all quarters for ammunition.

Lieutenant colonel Stewart and major Lane, neither of whom were required to expose themselves in this dangerous post, will please accept the brigadier general's warmest acknowledgments for the handsome and gallant manner in which they volunteered to take command of the regular infantry; who with their officers and men, have evinced the most resolute and steady intrepidity in the midst of imminent and long continued danger.

The squadron of United States Light Dragoons under captain Bird, have proved by the indefatigable and bold manner in which they have constantly kept upon the very lines of the enemy under the fire of his guards and the regular and exact intelligence which they have constantly given of his situation, that they want nothing but an opportunity to signalize themselves. The bold and intrepid charge which sergeant Keller, of captain Bird's company, made upon the rear guard of the retreating enemy with but three dragoons in which he dispersed a guard of 18 fusiliers, taking 6 of them prisoners in despite of their fire and that of a four pounder within half cannoner distance which made three discharges at him deserves the highest approbation, and the skill and dexterity with which he accomplished this bold achievement proves he will be competent to a more considerable command to which the justice of his government will no doubt advance him.

Brigadier general Douglass with his entire brigade of Virginia militia have evinced during four days of the most active and arduous duties, under the severest privations of rest and refreshment, in constant exposure to the unusual inclemency of the weather for the season, a patience, obedience, and alacrity for the most dangerous duties which cannot be surpassed; and the prompt and eager pursuit in which they yesterday engaged, after the retreating enemy, in the midst of heavy and constant rain after such a series of suffering and fatigue, is the best evidence which can be given that the patriotism which so promptly led them to the field in defence of their country, was bottomed upon a courage which dangers and difficulty cannot subdue.

Lieutenant colonel Griffin Taylor with his regiment also of Virginia militia who was left in charge of the defences in part on the Ferry-branch, has proved by his judicious arrangements and the zealous manner in which he was supported by his men and officers, that he only wanted an occasion to prove himself and them the worthy coadjutors of their countrymen.

The enemy has retired from our city and it is to be hoped under such circumstances as will deter him from again attempting it. Those gallant Virginians will have the consolation of believing they have essentially contributed to its safety.

The enemy however has at present only taken refuge in his ships—he still remains in our vicinity and may and probably will return if he knows there is the least relaxation of vigilance or readiness. The commanding officers of corps and detachments will therefore exert themselves with unremitting diligence to repair the damages of the late fatigue and exposure—to refresh their troops and hold them in readiness for moving at a moment's warning.

By order.

ROBT. G. HITE,  
assistant adjutant general.

### The President's Message.

The following message was on Tuesday last transmitted from the president of the United States, by Mr. Edward Coles his secretary, to both houses of congress:

*Fellow-citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives.*

Notwithstanding the early day which had been fixed for your session of the present year, I was induced to call you together still sooner, as well that any inadequacy in the existing provisions for the wants of the treasury might be supplied, as that no delay might happen in providing for the result of the negotiations on foot with Great Britain, whether it should require arrangements adapted to a return of peace, or further and more effective provisions for prosecuting the war.

That result is not yet known. If, on one hand, the repeal of the orders in council, and the general pacification in Europe, which withdrew the occasion on which impressments from American vessels were practised, suggest expectations that peace and amity may be re-established; we are compelled, on the other hand, by the refusal of the British government to accept the offered mediation of the emperor of Russia; by the delays in giving effect to its own proposal of a direct negotiation; and above all, by the principles and manner in which the war is now avowedly carried on, to infer that a spirit of hostility is indulged more violent than ever, against the rights and prosperity of this country.

This increased violence is best explained by the two important circumstances, that the great contest in Europe, for an equilibrium guaranteeing all its states against the ambition of any, has been closed without any check on the overbearing power of Great Britain on the ocean; and that it has left in her hands disposable armaments, with which, forgetting the difficulties of a remote war against a free people; and yielding to the intoxication of success, with the example of a great victim to it before her eyes, she cherishes hopes of still further aggrandizing a power already formidable in its abuses to the tranquility of the civilized and commercial world.

But, whatever may have inspired the enemy with these more violent purposes, the public councils of a nation, more able to maintain than it was to acquire its independence, and with a devotion to it, rendered more ardent by the experience of its blessings, can never deliberate but on the means most effectual for defeating the extravagant views or unwarrantable passions, with which alone the war can now be pursued against us.

In the events of the present campaign, the enemy, with all his augmented means, and wanton use of them, has little ground for exultation, unless he can feel it in the success of his recent enterprises against this Metropolis, and the neighboring town of Alexandria; from both of which his retreat were as precipitate, as his attempts were bold and fortunate. In his other incursions on our Atlantic frontier, his progress, often checked and chastised by the martial spirit of the neighboring citizens, has had more effect in distressing individuals, and in dishonoring his arms, than in promoting any object of legitimate warfare. And in the two instances mentioned, however deeply to be regretted on our part, he will find in his transient success, which interrupted for a moment only the ordinary public business at the seat of government, no compensation for the loss of character with the world, by his violations of private property, and by his destruction of public edifices, protected, as monuments of the arts, by the laws of civilized warfare.

On our side we can appeal to a series of achievements, which have given new lustre to the American arms. Besides the brilliant incidents in the minor operations of the campaign, the splendid victories gained on the Canadian side of the Niagara, by the American forces under major-general Brown, and



brigadiers Scott and Gaines, have gained for these heroes and their emulating companions, the most un fading laurels; and having triumphantly tested the progressive discipline of the American soldiery, have taught the enemy that the longer he protracts his hostile efforts, the more certain and decisive will be his final discomfiture.

On our southern border victory has continued also to follow the American standard. The bold and skilful operations of major-general Jackson, conducting troops drawn from the militia of the states least distant, particularly of Tennessee, have subdued the principal tribes of hostile savages, and, by establishing a peace with them, preceded by recent and exemplary chastisement, has best guarded against the mischief of their co-operation with the British enterprises which may be planned against that quarter of our country. Important tribes of Indians on our north-western frontier, have also acceded to stipulations which bind them to the interests of the United States, and to consider our enemy as their sole.

In the recent attempt of the enemy on the city of Baltimore, defended by militia and volunteers, aided by a small body of regulars and seamen, he was received with a spirit which produced a rapid retreat to his ships; whilst a concurrent attack by a large fleet was successfully resisted by the steady and well directed fire of the fort and batteries opposed to it.

In another recent attack by a powerful force on our troops at Plattsburg, of which regulars made a part only; the enemy, after a perseverance for many hours, was finally compelled to seek safety in a hasty retreat, with our gallant bands pressing upon him.

On the Lakes, so much contested throughout the war, the great exertions for the command made on our part have been well repaid. On lake Ontario, our squadron is now, and has been for some time, in a condition to confine that of the enemy to his own port, and favor the operations of our land forces on that frontier.

A part of the squadron on lake Erie has been extended into lake Huron, and has produced the advantage of displaying our command of that lake also. One object of the expedition was the reduction of Mackinaw, which failed with the loss of a few brave men, among whom was an officer justly distinguished for his gallant exploits. The expedition, ably conducted both by the land and the naval commanders, was otherwise highly valuable in its effects.

On lake Champlain, where superiority had for some time been undisputed, the British squadron lately came into action, with the American, commanded by capt. Macdonough. It issued in the capture of the whole of the enemy's ships. The best praise for this officer and his intrepid comrades, is in the likeness of his triumph to the illustrious victory, which immortalized another officer, and established, at a critical moment, our command of another lake.

On the ocean, the pride of our naval arms has been amply supported. A second frigate has indeed fallen into the hands of the enemy, but the loss is hidden in the blaze of heroism with which she was defended. Captain Porter, who commanded her, and whose previous career had been distinguished by daring enterprise and fertility of genius, maintained a sanguinary contest against two ships, one of them superior to his own, and under other severe disadvantages, till humanity tore down the colors which valor had nailed to the mast. This officer and his brave comrades have added much to

the rising glory of the American flag, and have merited all the effusions of gratitude which their country is ever ready to bestow on the champions of its rights and of its safety.

Two smaller vessels of war have also become prizes to the enemy, but by a superiority of force, which sufficiently vindicates the reputation of their commanders; whilst two others, one commanded by captain Warrington, the other by captain Blakeley, have captured British ships of the same class, with a gallantry and good conduct, which entitle them, and their companions, to a just share in the praise of their country.

In spite of the naval force of the enemy accumulated on our coasts, our private cruisers also have not ceased to annoy his commerce, and to bring their rich prizes into our ports; contributing thus, with other proofs, to demonstrate the incompetency and illegality of a blockade, the proclamation of which is made the pretext for vexing and discouraging the commerce of neutral powers with the United States.

To meet the extended and diversified warfare adopted by the enemy, great bodies of militia have been taken into service for the public defence, and great expenses incurred. That the defence everywhere may be both more convenient and more economical, Congress will see the necessity of immediate measures for filling the ranks of the regular army, and of enlarging the provision for special corps, mounted and unmounted, to be engaged for longer periods of service than are due from the militia. I earnestly renew, at the same time, a recommendation of such changes in the system of the militia, as by classing, and disciplining for the most prompt and active service the portions most capable of it, will give to that great resource for the public safety, all the requisite energy and efficiency.

The monies received into the Treasury during the nine months ending on the 30th day of June last, amounted to 53 millions of dollars; of which near 11 millions were the proceeds of the public revenue, and the remainder derived from loans. The disbursements for public expenditures during the same period exceeded 54 millions of dollars, and left in the Treasury on the 1st day of July, near 5 millions of dollars. The demands during the remainder of the present year, already authorized by Congress, and the expenses incident to an extension of the operations of the war, will render it necessary that large sums should be provided to meet them.

From this view of the national affairs, congress will be urged to take up, without delay, as well the subject of pecuniary supplies as that of military force, and on a scale commensurate with the extent and the character which the war has assumed. It is not to be disguised, that the situation of our country calls for its greatest efforts. Our enemy is powerful in men and money; on the land and on the water.—Availing himself of fortuitous advantages, he is aiming, with his undivided force, a deadly blow at our growing prosperity, perhaps at our national existence. He has avowed his purpose of trampling on the usages of civilized warfare, and given earnestness of it, in the plunder and wanton destruction of private property. In his pride of maritime dominion and in his thirst of commercial monopoly, he strikes with peculiar animosity at the progress of our navigation and of our manufactures. His barbarous policy has not even spared those monuments of the arts and models of taste, with which our country had enriched and embellished its infant metropolis. From such an adversary, hostility in its greatest force and in its worst forms, may be looked for. The American people will face it with the undaunted spirit,

which in our revolutionary struggle defeated his unrighteous projects. His threats and his barbarities, instead of dismay, will kindle in every bosom an indignation not to be extinguished but in the disaster and expulsion of such cruel invaders. In providing the means necessary, the national legislature will not distrust the heroic and enlightened patriotism of its constituents. They will cheerfully and proudly bear every burden of every kind, which the safety and honor of the nation demand. We have seen them every where paying their taxes, direct and indirect, with the greatest promptness and alacrity. We see them rushing with enthusiasm to the scenes where danger and duty call. In offering their blood, they give the surest pledge that no other tribute will be withheld.

Having forborne to declare war until to other aggressions had been added the capture of nearly a thousand American vessels, and the impressment of thousands of American sea-faring citizens, and until a final declaration had been made by the government of Great Britain, that her hostile orders against our commerce would not be revoked, but on conditions as impossible as unjust; whilst it was known that these orders would not otherwise cease, but with a war which had lasted nearly twenty years, and which, according to appearances at that time, might last as many more; having manifested on every occasion, and in every proper mode, a sincere desire to arrest the effusion of blood, and meet our enemy on the ground of justice and reconciliation, our beloved country, in still opposing to his persevering hostility all its energies, with an undiminished disposition towards peace and friendship on honorable terms, must carry with it the good wishes of the impartial world, and the best hopes of support from an Omnipotent and kind Providence.

JAMES MADISON.

Washington, Sept. 20th, 1814.

Copy of a letter from Com. McDonough to the Secretary of the Navy, dated

U. States' ship *Saratoga*, off Plattsburg, Sept. 11.

SIR—The Almighty has been pleased to grant us a signal victory on Lake Champlain, in the capture of one frigate, one brig, and two sloops of war of the enemy.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

T. MACDONOUGH, Com.

Hon. W. JONES, secretary of the Navy.

Copy of a letter from Gen. Macomb (just received) to the Secretary of War, dated

Fort Mifflin, September 12, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to inform you that the British army, consisting of four brigades, a corps of artillery, a squadron of horse and a strong light corps, amounting in all to about fourteen thousand men, after investing this place on the north of the Saranac river since the 5th inst. broke up their camp and raised the siege this morning at 2 o'clock.

They are now retreating precipitately, leaving their sick and wounded behind.

The enemy opened his batteries yesterday morning, and continued the cannonading, bombarding and rocket firing until sunset; by this time, our batteries had completely silenced those of our opponents.

The light troops and militia are now in full pursuit of the enemy, making prisoners in all directions. Deserters are continually coming in, so that the loss of the British army in this enterprise will be considerable.

A more detailed report will be made of the siege, and circumstances attending it, as early as possible.

The officers and men have all done their duty.—The artillery and the engineers have performed their functions with a zeal and precision highly creditable to themselves and honorable to their country.

Our loss is trifling indeed, having only one officer and fifteen men killed; and one officer and thirty men wounded.

The militia of New York and the volunteers of Vermont, have been exceedingly serviceable, and have evinced a degree of patriotism and bravery worthy of themselves and the states to which they respectively belong.

The strength of the garrison is only fifteen hundred effective men rank and file.

I have the honor to be, with perfect respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

ALEXR MACOMB.

The hon. the Secretary of War.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

A great mass of important matter with a notice of many interesting incidents, are excluded by the glorious details presented. In respect to *Baltimore* we have given a very copious account, and also what of the first importance of the affairs on *Champlain* and at *Plattsburg* which have reached us. If we have good luck another number of the REGISTER will be published by the middle of next week.

Never since I printed a paper, did I so heartily wish for a little more room, as at present!—But all human things are limited. Therefore, though unwilling, some details of *Macdonough's* & *Macomb's* victories, both in type, must lay over. Also an account of the enemy's expedition to the *Penobscot*, where they did great damage, and by paper claim, have conquered the whole country east of that river!!!

In the battle on *Champlain* the enemy had 93 guns—we 86—they 1950 men—we 870—they killed and wounded 194—we 116. We took one frigate, one brig, and two sloops. Some of the gun boats were sunk, and some made their escape.

PEACE RUMOR. A *Burlington* (Vt.) paper of the 15th has the following: On the evening of the night in which the British commenced their retreat [from *Plattsburg*] a British major sent for a son of general Moore's, who remained to protect his father's house near the British camp, and informed him that sir George Prevost had received intelligence by mail, on that day at noon, by way of Halifax, that preliminaries of peace between Great Britain and America, were signed in Europe. Whether this account was forged for the purpose of excusing their retreat, or to damp the war spirit of our militia, or whether confidence is to be placed in it, the public must judge.

NEGOTIATION.—A prize vessel has arrived at New Bedford from *Halifax*, which brings a report that a vessel had arrived at that place with sealed despatches from the prince regent to the American government, and that she sailed the next day for the Chesapeake.

Large bodies of the New-York militia, have joined general Brown at fort Erie. Others were pushing on. Izard has arrived at *Sacketts Harbor*, and an expedition seems about to take place. Great events may be expected. Drummmond, we trust, is the object. Brown is in fine health and spirits.

CONGRESS met on Monday. The usual incipient proceedings have been had, and shall be noticed hereafter.

COMMORE BAUNEY has been exchanged. He is so far recovered that he resumed his command on Tuesday last, and was received with repeated acclamations by his brave fellows of the flotilla.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 3 of VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 159.]

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

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## Official Articles.

*Copy of a letter from Captain Porter to the Secretary of the Navy, dated*

Washington, September 7, 1814.

Sir—Agreeable to your orders of the 31st ult. I proceeded with the detachment of sailors and marines under my command to the White House, on the west bank of the Potomac, there to erect batteries and attempt the destruction of the enemy's ships on their passage down the river. Captain Creighton, lieutenant Clack, and several other navy officers, as well as Mr. Augustus Monroe, Mr. Ferdinand Fairfax, and several other citizens and officers of the militia and volunteer companies, hearing of my destination, volunteered their services on the occasion, and ably supported me through the arduous and fatiguing enterprise. By preceding my men, I arrived, in company with the honorable Secretary of State, and Generals Hungerford and Young, on the evening of the 1st inst. at the spot fixed on, where I found a few militia belonging to General Hungerford's army, clearing away the trees to make room for mounting our cannon, which had not yet arrived, but which had been seen on their way down, consisting of three long 18's and two 12's. Generals Hungerford and Young had received orders to co-operate with me, to detach men on my requisition, and make such disposition of their forces as would effectually protect me in the rear, in the event of the enemy's landing; the positions they were to occupy were also allotted to them by mutual agreement, when the enemy should attempt to pass, as it was believed that, concealed by the thick woods on the high bank, they would be enabled to clear the enemy's decks with their musquetry, and in a great measure divert his fire from our battery. At the moment of my arrival one of the enemy's vessels of war, a brig of 18 guns, was seen coming up. General Hungerford and his men took their position in the woods; and two small four pounders that instant arriving, I caused them to be planted on the edge of the bank, and on the enemy arriving abreast of us we opened a brisk fire on him; having a fine breeze he was enabled to pass us, but could fire only one broadside as he crossed the fire of our field pieces and musquetry; the militia continued following him up along the bank and greatly annoyed him by their well directed fire. In this affair we had only one man wounded, and we believed our elevated position rendered breast

works useless, as it was remarked that none but the enemy's grape passed over us, his round shot went into the bank below. No men could have shown more zeal on the occasion than those composing the army, and if they committed any errors which gave rise to confusion, they proceeded from an over desire to injure the enemy. Of the conduct of the sailors and marines, I deem it unnecessary to say any thing;—their conduct on all such occasions has ever been uniform. The evening of our arrival two 18-pounders reached our position, and next morning one of the enemy's bombships and two barges, one carrying a long two and thirty, the other a mortar, commenced their operations upon us, the first throwing shells in front, beyond the reach of our shot; the other flanking us on our right; several shells fell near and burst over our battery, and although the firing lasted all day, without intermission, it had no other effect than to accustom the militia to the danger. In the afternoon I took an 18-pounder to a more advanced point, about a mile distant, and commenced a fire on the bomb ship, which did so much execution as to draw on me the fire of all their vessels, including a schooner and an eighteen gun brig which had dropped down that day. On the 3d the enemy was reinforced from above by another bomb ship and a sloop of war fitted up as a rocket ship. The latter anchoring within reach of our battery, we were enabled to play on her with great effect, and compelled her to change her position. All this day and the succeeding night the enemy kept up a brisk fire on us of shot, shells and rockets. In the course of the day their prizes from Alexandria anchored above them, and out of the reach of our cannon. The work of our battery went on; five light field pieces, from four to six pounders, arrived and were planted, and we had every hope of soon receiving some long thirty-two pounders from Washington; we built a furnace for hot shot, and time only appeared necessary to make ourselves formidable. The whole of the 4th and 5th, an incessant fire was kept up by the enemy night and day. He had once attempted landing at night, it is supposed with an intention of spiking the guns of our battery, but was repulsed by the picket guard. My former plan of annoying him by advancing guns was adapted to better effect than before. The rocket ship lying close in shore, was much cut up by a twelve pounder and two sixes carried to a point; scarcely a shot missed his

hull, and for one hour we drew to this point the fire of all the enemy's force. The cool indifference of my sailors to the danger to which they were exposed was very remarkable, and the intrepidity of captain Griffith, of the Alexandria artillery, his officers and men, merit the highest eulogiums. They fought their six pounders until their ammunition was expended, and coolly retired with their guns, when ordered to do so, under a shower of the enemy's shot.

We now, as if by mutual consent, ceased all hostilities. Some thirty-two pounders arrived. Carpenters were employed to make carriages. Two mortars, a large quantity of ammunition and an abundance of shot and shells reached us; two barges were equipped, and every thing promised that we should speedily be put in a proper state for annoying the enemy. In the evening two frigates anchored alone above us, making his whole force

Two frigates, carrying	guns
Three bomb ships	96
One sloop of war fitted as a rocket ship	30
One brig	26
One schooner	18
Two barges	1
	2
Total	173

The guns mounted in the battery were three 18 pounders, two 12 pounders, six 9 pounders and two fours. My two mortars were without carriages, as were all my thirty-two's; for notwithstanding every effort was made by the government at Washington to have them made there, and by myself on the spot, they could not be completed in time.

On the morning of the 6th the enemy shewed a disposition to move. I advised general Hungerford of the same, and prepared to meet them with hot shot. About twelve o'clock the two frigates got under way, with a fair wind and tide, and stood down for us. The rocket sloop, bomb vessels, brig, schooner and prizes following in succession, the gun boats endeavouring to flank us on our right. I immediately despatched an officer to general Hungerford, to request him to take the position agreed upon in the woods on the heights; but from the distance of his camp and the quick approach of the enemy, he was unable to march before the firing commenced, and, after that period, it was almost impossible, as I have understood, from the vast quantities of shot shells and rockets which were showered over the hills and fell among his troops.

As the enemy approached, a well directed fire was kept up from the battery with hot and cold shot, and my brave officers and men stood the broadsides of the ships with unparalleled firmness. I anxiously expected the militia would open their fire of musquetry, but was disappointed; the cause was not explained until after the firing ceased. Finding that the

whole of the enemy's fire was directed at my force, and that in a few minutes all his force would be brought to bear on me, and (entering no hopes of preventing his passing) as some of my men had already been killed and wounded, I determined not to make an useless sacrifice; and when the enemy was on the point of anchoring abreast the battery, after sustaining his fire one hour and a quarter, I directed the officers and men to retire behind a hill on our left, and be in readiness to charge the enemy, if he should land to spike our guns. The two frigates anchored abreast, the bombs, sloops and smaller vessels passed outside them, all pouring into the battery and neighboring woods a tremendous fire of every description of missile. In the woods on the left, a company of riflemen from Jefferson county, Virginia, under captain George W. Humphreys, greatly distinguished themselves by a well directed fire on the enemy's decks, as did a company of militia under the command of captain Gena, who was posted by me on the right. The first lost one man killed, and one sergeant and four privates wounded; the latter two privates killed. The company of artillery which so much distinguished itself on a former occasion, behaved with no less gallantry to-day; and it affords me much pleasure to observe, that the militia who came under my immediate notice, and were attached to my command, voluntarily or otherwise, conducted themselves in a manner which reflects on them and their country the highest honor. Many before the battle requested to be posted near me; and there was no instance where one offered to retire until I gave the order to retire—and it was not necessary to repeat the order to rally. Captain Grayson of the marines is a brave and zealous officer—he had volunteered to come with his detachment under me at Baltimore. Those veterans who so much distinguished themselves under their gallant though unfortunate commander at Bladensburg, were all willing to try another battle—they have been again unsuccessful, but no less courageous: two of them have fallen.

Captain Spencer of the United States' artillery, late second in command at fort Washington, and now in command of the officers and men stationed there, were attached to my command by the war department—they have given the most unquestionable proof that it was not want of courage on their part which caused the destruction of that fort. Captain Spencer, his officers and men merit the attention of their country, and have incurred my esteem—three of them were killed. The remnant of the crew of the Essex behaved as usual. Lieutenant Barnwall received on this day his third wound. Doctor Hoffman was also wounded in the head. To particularise the good conduct of each individual placed

Under my orders would swell too much the bulk of this letter. Several lieutenants and midshipmen of the navy, as well as many young gentlemen of the neighborhood, volunteered to serve under my order and near my person—they all conducted themselves with great courage, and made themselves of great utility before and during the battle, and I shall take an opportunity of making you more particularly acquainted with their names and merits. After the bombs, gun vessels and prizes had all passed, the frigate proceeded down and anchored abreast Indian Head, where a constant firing was kept up until after sunset; but I am fearful with little success on our part.

The number we have had killed and wounded on this occasion I cannot ascertain exactly. I am induced to believe, however it does not exceed thirty, and when we consider the constant fire which has been kept up by the enemy for the four days preceding their passage by the fort, we should esteem ourselves very fortunate. His damage can never be known by us. Some of his ships were much crippled, and I should suppose his loss considerable.

I have understood, that in order to bring their guns to bear on our battery, they cut away the upper part of their ports and took the inner trucks from their gun carriages. When they had passed down, I sent a torpedo after them—it was heard to explode about nine at night, but I have not learnt the effect it produced.

I have the honor to be, with much respect, your obedient and humble servant,

**D. PORTER.**

*Honorable William Jones, secretary of the navy.*

*Copy of a letter from captain Perry to the secretary of the navy, dated*

*Georgetown, September 9, 1814.*

SIR—The battery under my direction at the Indian Head was of too small a calibre to make much impression on the enemy, as they descended the Potomac on the 5th instant. A single eighteen pounder, which arrived only thirty minutes before the firing began, ill supplied with ammunition, was the only gun that could be of much service.

The field pieces (six pounders) under the direction of that excellent officer major Peter, of the Georgetown, and captain Birch of the Washington volunteers, and captain Lewis, of general Stewart's brigade, kept up a very spirited fire. These officers, together with captains Stull and Davidson, and their brave men, behaved in the handsomest manner, and rendered all the assistance their limited means afforded.

The ammunition of the eighteen pounder, and of several of the sixes, being expended, and the fire of the enemy from two frigates, two sloops of war, two bombs, one rocket ship, and several smaller vessels, being very heavy, it was thought advisable by general

Stewart, major Peter and myself to retire a short distance in the rear. This was done in good order, after sustaining their fire for more than an hour. General Stewart and colonel Beall were much exposed during the whole time of the cannonading. It would be presumption in me to speak in commendation of these veterans—I cannot, however, avoid expressing my admiration of their conduct. The few seamen (of the *Guerriere*, under the immediate command of lieutenant Read, of the *Java*, exhibited their usual bravery. Indeed, in the whole of this affair, every officer and man did his duty. Major Stewart of the 36th regiment of infantry was constantly with and rendered all the assistance in his power.

The advantageous situations we occupied prevented the enemy from doing us much injury. Only one man was wounded.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

**O. H. PERRY.**

*Honorable William Jones, secretary of the navy.*

*Copy of a letter from Commodore Porter to the Secretary of the Navy, dated*

*WASHINGTON, SEPT. 9.*

The enclosed note was sent to me by col. Parker, and I beg that you will publish it along with my report.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

**D. PORTER.**

*Hon. Wm. Jones, Secretary of the Navy.*

THE NOTE ENCLOSED.

The very moment information was received by col. Green and myself of the enemy's intention to come down, the regiments were paraded, mine being in front, and commenced their march. Fearing that unless the ground was previously marked out, there would be some difficulty in forming them in the midst of so heavy a fire, I rode forward myself; went to the ground on the right of the battery which was to have been my station, found it occupied by some riflemen, &c.; then went to the left, ordered capt. Janway's company to take their position, and waited myself for the regiment to come up. After some time the fire becoming excessively heavy, I found that the sailors and marines were retreating from the fort, and seeing commodore Porter among the last, I ran to him and asked if he had ordered it. He replied that he found it impossible to maintain the fort longer against so disproportioned a force.

I could myself proceed very little farther, and found it not only more dangerous to retreat than remain, but quite impossible to rejoin the troops, who had, as I understand, continued to advance to within 300 yards of the battery, until gen. Hungerford ordered a retreat.

The 11th regiment was a second time ordered to advance obliquely to the right to cover the battery, and did so advance until

they came within view of the shipping and were again retreated.

The brigade of gen. Young were in col. Green's and my rear.

R. E. PARKER,  
Lieut. Col. Com'g. 11th Regt.

*Copy of a letter from Commodore Rodgers to the Secretary of the Navy, dated,*

BALTIMORE, SEPT. 9, 1814.

SIR—In pursuance of your instructions, I have to inform you, that on the 3d inst. I proceeded down the Potomac with three small fire vessels under the protection of four barges or cutters, manned with about sixty seamen, armed with muskets, destined against two of the enemy's frigates and a bomb-ship, which lay about 2-1/2 miles below Alexandria.

At 9 A. M. in advance of the fire-vessels in my gig, finding no colors displayed at Alexandria, but a Swedish ensign on board a schooner—being near the wharves, I hailed and ordered the American flag to be hoisted; after seeing the flag hoisted, I directed the fire vessels (which were conducted by lieut. Newcomb, lieut. Forrest, and sailing master Ramage) to proceed on to the objects of attack, and I have no doubt, would have succeeded in destroying two at least of the enemy's ships, had not the wind failed them some time before, and particularly after they had reached the uppermost ship, within the range of musket shot. At this time perceiving the whole of the enemy's barges in motion, I directed lieut. Newcomb, who commanded the van vessel, after giving her a proper direction, to set fire to her—and after Mr. Ramage came up, gave him the same orders; the vessel under charge of lieut. Forrest was fired by the pilot, without orders, some distance above the others.

Of the enemy's boats, some were employed in towing off the fire-vessels, and the rest in pursuit of our four cutters, my own gig, and a small boat with three oars without a rudder; they did not, however, venture to come within musket shot, although their force and numbers were more than treble ours, but continued at a distance, firing their great guns for 30 or 35 minutes, and then retired to their ships again.

On the 4th inst. I had another fire vessel prepared, but it being calm, I ordered lieut. Newcomb and the four cutters, to proceed with one of the remaining lighters of the yard, having an 18 pounder in her, to attack the bomb-ship, which in the anxiety of the enemy to get below the temporary forts erecting by my gallant associates captains Porter and Perry, had been left exposed to attack. At sun set, just as I was about to give orders to attack the bomb, I discovered one of the enemy's frigates behind the point forming the entrance of Washington's reach, which neces-

sarily obliged me to relinquish this determination, and give orders to proceed across to the Virginia shore, to haul up the boats and place the lighter in a situation to be defended against the enemy's barges.

Having reconnoitered the enemy, on returning to the lighter at 9 P. M. I seized a man under suspicious circumstances, on the Beach near to a small boat, about a mile above the enemy's uppermost ship, that again induced me to change my position to the opposite side of the river, where, after getting the cutters hauled up, placing the lighter in an advantageous position, and my musket men upon the top of a cliff overlooking the river, I was at 11 P. M. attacked by all the enemy's barges, but which, by the cool intrepidity of lieut. Newcomb, having charge of the lighter, assisted by lieut. Forrest, S. Master Ramage, M. Mate Stockton and Midshipman Whitlock and 15 seamen with muskets, the enemy was not only repulsed, but in less than 20 minutes thrown into the utmost confusion and driven back to his ships, and I have sufficient reason to believe with great loss, although the only injury sustained on our part was one man wounded on board the lighter.

The enemy thus repulsed, and no prospect of doing him further injury in this way, as his rearmost ship was not more than a mile distant, I had the lighter shifted further up, and at 7 A. M. a fire vessel brought down for the purpose of assailing him in conjunction with the battery at the White House, under the command of captain Porter—but in this I was again disappointed, as that excellent officer, after using every possible exertion, was not able in so short a time as had been afforded him, to erect a work sufficiently strong, to check the enemy any length of time; otherwise, I conceived I should have found no difficulty in effecting his destruction.

At the time the enemy silenced the battery, the fire-ship, under full sail was about a mile above his uppermost vessel, when I found myself under the necessity of ordering her to be set on fire, and at the same time, our boats to retire to prevent their being taken possession of by his numerous barges.

Although I did not succeed in the destruction of any of the enemy's vessels, I am nevertheless convinced, that the expedition was in many points of view attended with good effect, consequently I feel it a duty to recommend to your notice the officers and seamen engaged in the same; as, in two of the fire-vessels, Lieut. Newcomb and S. Master Ramage manifested so much zeal, as to continue on board, steering them, until they were enveloped in the flames, and obliged to jump overboard to avoid sharing the fate of the vessels themselves. I am also indebted to the exertions of lieut. Forrest, who volunteered his services, and although very much indis-

posed at the time, afforded all the assistance in his power.

Permit me at the same time to recommend to your attention Mr. Stockton, masters mate, who not only rendered me essential service as acting aid-de camp, but in every other situation manifested a zeal and intrepidity not to be shaken: also, midshipman Whitlock, whose conduct in every part of the service I highly approve. Mr. Thomas Herbert, a young gentleman of Alexandria, and Mr. Porry, pilot, who volunteered their services, also deserve well of their country.

The conduct of the seamen for energy and patriotism, was not even excelled by that of their officers.

At the time I took possession of Alexandria, there were 1500 pounds of fresh beef lying on the wharfs ready to be delivered to the boats of the enemy's ships, which were then only 2 1/2 or 3 miles below the town, and I mention this to shew the state that place was in at the time.

In justice to maj. Kemper, commanding a detachment of the militia of gen. Hungerford's brigade, it is but proper I mention, that on taking possession of Alexandria he immediately marched his detachment to my assistance and which at once secured the town against any force the enemy could send back.

The quantity of flour the enemy was enabled to take from Alexandria, I found on enquiry to be not more than between 14 and 16,000 barrels.

As respects the manner of my reception by the citizens of Alexandria, when I landed and took possession of that place, I shall inform you hereafter in a separate communication.

With great respect, I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant.

JOHN RODGERS.

*The Hon. W. Jones, Secretary of the Navy.*

*Copy of a letter from Commodore Chauncey to the Secretary of the Navy, dated*

U. S. S. Superior, off Kingston, Aug. 10, 1814.

SIR—Great anxiety of mind and severe bodily exertions, have at length broken down the best constitution and subjected me to a violent fever that confined me for eighteen days. This misfortune was no more to be foreseen than prevented, but was particularly severe at the moment it happened, as it induced a delay of five or six days in the sailing of the fleet.

In the early part of July, I expected the fleet would be made ready for sailing by the 10th or 15th; but many of the mechanics were taken sick, and amongst them the block-makers and blacksmiths, so that the Mohawk could not be furnished with blocks and iron work for her gun and spar decks before the 24th or 25th ult. when she was reported ready by captain Jones. A considerable anxiety

had been manifested by the public to have the fleet on the lake. I should have asked captain Jones to take charge of it and go out, but I was then recovering my health, and was confident I should be able in three or four days to go on board myself. There was an additional reason for submitting to this delay in the difficulty I found in making the changes of commanders, neither of them being willing to be separated from his officers and men; and a change of crews through the fleet being inadmissible.

In the afternoon of the 31st July, I was taken on board, but it was calm, and I did not sail before the next morning. To satisfy at once whatever expectations the public had been led to entertain of the sufficiency of this squadron to take and maintain the ascendancy on this lake, and at the same time to expose the futility of promises, the fulfilment of which had been rested on our appearance at the head of the lake, I got under way at 4 o'clock in the morning of the 1st inst. and steered for the mouth of the Niagara. Owing to light winds, I did not arrive off there before the 5th. There we intercepted one of the enemy's brigs running over from York to Niagara with troops, and ran her on shore about six miles to the westward of Fort George. I ordered the Sylph in, to anchor as near to the enemy as she could with safety, and to destroy her. Captain Elliot ran in in a very gallant manner to within from 300 to 500 yards of her and was about anchoring, when the enemy set fire to her and she soon after blew up.—This vessel was a schooner the last year and called the Beresford—since they altered her to a brig they changed her name, and I have not been able to ascertain it. She mounted 14 guns, twelve 24 pound carronades and two long 9 pounders.

Finding the enemy had two other brigs and a schooner in the Niagara river, I determined to leave a force to watch them, and selected the Jefferson, Sylph and Oneida for that purpose, and placed the whole under the orders of capt. Ridgely. Having looked into York without discovering any vessel of the enemy, I left Niagara with the remainder of the squadron on the evening of the 7th, and arrived here the 9th. We found one of the enemy's ships in the offing, and chased her into Kingston.

My anxiety to return to this end of the lake was increased by the knowledge I had of the weakness of Sackett's Harbor, and the apprehension that the enemy might receive large reinforcements at Kingston, and embarking some of the troops on board his fleet, make a dash at the Harbor and burn it with all my stores during our absence.—When I left the Harbor there were but about 700 regular troops fit for duty. It is true a few militia had been called in, but little could

be expected of them should an attack be made. My apprehension, it seems, was groundless, the enemy having contented himself with annoying in some trifling degree the coasters between Oswego and the Harbor, in his boats.

I cannot forbear expressing the regret I feel that so much sensation has been excited in the public mind, because this squadron did not sail so soon as the wise heads that conduct our newspapers have presumed to think I ought. I need not suggest to one of your experience, that a man of war may appear to the eye of a landsman perfectly ready for sea, when she is deficient in many of the most essential points of her armament, nor how unworthily I should have proved myself of the high trust reposed in me, had I ventured to set in the face of an enemy of equal force, without being ready to meet him in one hour after my anchor was weighed.

It ought in justice to be recollected, that the building and equipment of vessels on the Atlantic are unattended by any of the great difficulties which we have to encounter on this lake: there every department abounds with facilities. A commander makes a requisition, and articles of every description are furnished in twelve hours; but this fleet has been built and fitted in the wilderness, where there are no agents and chandlers shops and foundries, &c. &c. to supply our wants, but every thing is to be created; and yet I shall not decline a comparison of what has been done here, with any thing done on the Atlantic, in the building or equipment of vessels—The *Guerriere*, for instance, has been building and fitting upwards of twelve months in the city of Philadelphia, and is not yet ready. The President frigate went into the Navy Yard at New York for some partial repairs, a few days after the keel of the *Superior* was laid; since then two frigates of a large class, and two sloops of war of the largest class, have been built and fitted here, and have sailed before the President is ready for sea, although every article of their armament and rigging has been transported from New-York in despite of obstacles almost insurmountable. I will go farther, sir, for it is due to the unremitted and unsurpassed exertions of those who have served the public under my command, and will challenge the world to produce a parallel instance, in which the same number of vessels of such dimensions have been built and fitted in the same time by the same number of workmen.

I confess that I am mortified in not having succeeded in satisfying the expectations of the public, but it would be infinitely more painful, could I find any want of zeal or exertion in my endeavors to serve them, to which I could in any degree impute their disappointment.

I have the honor to be, sir, with the utmost respect, your most obedient and very humble servant.

ISAAC CHAUNCEY.

Hon. WM. JONES, Secretary of the Navy.

*Copy of a letter from major-general Brown to commodore Chauncey.*

Head-quarters, Queenstown, July 13th, 1814.

MY DEAR SIR,—I arrived at this place on the 10th, as I assured you, that with the blessing of God I would. All accounts agree that the force of the enemy in Kingston is very light—meet me on the lake shore, north of Fort George with your fleet, and we will be able, I have no doubt, to settle a plan of operation that will break the power of the enemy in Upper Canada, and that in the course of a short time. At all events, let me hear from you; I have looked for your fleet with the greatest anxiety since the 10th. I do not doubt my ability to meet the enemy in the field, and to march in any direction over his country; your fleet carrying for me the necessary supplies. We can threaten forts George and Niagara, and carry Burlington Heights and York, and proceed direct to Kingston and carry that place. For God's sake let me see you; sir James will not fight, two of his vessels are now in Niagara river.

If you conclude to meet me at the head of the lake, and that immediately, have the goodness to bring the guns and troops that I have ordered from the Harbor; at all events have the politeness to let me know what aid I am to expect from the fleet of lake Ontario.

There is not a doubt resting in my mind but we have between us the command of sufficient means to conquer Upper Canada within two months, if there is a prompt and zealous co-operation and a vigorous application of those means; now is our time before the enemy can be greatly reinforced. Yours truly,

(Signed) JACOB BROWN.

Commodore CHAUNCEY.

*Copy of a letter from com. Chauncey to major-general Brown, dated*

U. S. ship *Superior*, off Kingston, 7  
August 10, 1814. 5

SIR,—Your letter of the 13th ult. was received by me on a sick bed, hardly able to hear it read, and entirely unfitted to reply to it. I, however, requested gen. Gaines to acquaint you with my situation, the probable time of the fleet's sailing, and my views of the extent of its co-operation with the army.

From the tenor of your letter, it would appear that you had calculated much upon the co-operation of the fleet. You cannot surely have forgotten the conversation we held on this subject at Sackett's Harbor, previous to your departure for Niagara. I then professed to feel it my duty as well as inclination, to afford every assistance in my power to the army, and to co-operate with it whenever it could be done without losing sight of this



great object, for the attainment of which this fleet had been created, to wit: the capture or destruction of the enemy's fleet; but I then distinctly stated to you, that this was a primary object, and would be first attempted; and that you must not expect the fleet at the head of the lake, unless that of the enemy should induce us to follow him there.

I will not suffer myself to believe that this conversation was misunderstood or has since been forgotten. How then shall I account for the intimation thrown out to the publick in your despatch to the secretary of war, that you expected the fleet to co-operate with you? Was it friendly, or just or honorable, not only to furnish an opening for the public, but thus to assist them, to infer that I had pledged myself to meet you on a particular day, at the head of the lake, for the purpose of co-operation? and in case of disaster to your army, thus to turn their resentment from you, who are alone responsible, upon me, who could not by any possibility have prevented or retarded even your discomfiture. You well know, sir, that the fleet could not have rendered you the least service during your late incursion upon Upper Canada. You have not been able to approach lake Ontario on any point nearer than Queenstown, and the enemy were then in possession of all the country between that place and the shore of Ontario; and that I could not even communicate with you, without making a circuit of 70 or 80 miles. I would ask, of what possible use the fleet would have been to you, either in threatening or investing Fort George, when the shallowness of the water alone would prevent an approach with these ships within two miles of that fort or Niagara? To pretend that the fleet could render the least assistance in your projected capture of Burlington Heights on your route to Kingston, is still more romantic, for it is well known the fleet could not approach within 9 miles of those Heights.

That you might find the fleet somewhat of a convenience in the transportation of provisions and stores for the use of the army, and an agreeable appendage to attend its marches and counter-marches, I am ready to believe; but, sir, the Secretary of the Navy has honored us with a higher destiny—we are intended to seek and to fight the enemy's fleet. This is the great purpose of the government in creating this fleet; and I shall not be diverted in my efforts to effectuate it by any sinister attempt to render us subordinate to, or an appendage of, the army.

We have one common object in the annoyance, defeat and destruction of the enemy; and I shall always cheerfully unite with any military commander in the promotion of that object.

I am, sir, with great consideration and respect, your most obedient servant,

I. CHAUNCEY.

Major-general JACOB BROWN.

*Extract of a letter from James Underwick, Surgeon of the late U. States brig Argus, to the Secretary of the Navy, dated Boston, September 5, 1814.*

"Having been appointed by commodore Deatur as acting surgeon on board the late U. States' brig Argus, a short time previous to her departure from New-York and having served in that capacity until the unfortunate termination of her cruise; I was, with her surviving officers, detained as a prisoner of war, on parole, in England. I have now, sir, however, the honor of reporting to you my arrival on the 3d inst. at this port, in the cartel ship Saratoga, having at length obtained my release and passport as a non-combatant.

As lieutenant Watson, our surviving commanding officer, has been unable, under parole restrictions, to transmit any official documents relative to the action and capture of the Argus, I have the honor to enclose, for your information, a report of the casualties attending that event. I regret that I have not yet been able to furnish the wounded with the *regular certificates*; it was impossible, without personal communication with them, to obtain the information necessary to the filling up of the blanks, with the precision enjoined in the orders of your honorable department."

*Return of killed and wounded on board the late U. S. brig Argus, Wm. H. ALLEN, esq. late commander, in action, with H. B. M. sloop Pelican, on the 4th August, 1813.*

KILLED.—Mr. William Edwards, midshipman; Mr. Richard Delphy, do.; Joshua Jones, seaman; George Gardner, do. John Findley, do. William Moulton, do.

WOUNDED.—William H. Allen, esq. commander, severely—died August 18th, 1813; Wm. A. Watson, 1st lieutenant, do.—cured; Collin McLeod, boatswain, do. discharged Nov. 22d, 1813, from Mill Prison Hospital, and sent to Dartmore Depot; James White, carpenter, do.—died Aug. 17, at Mill Prison; Joseph Jordan, boatswain's mate, do.—died Aug. 16, at sea; John Young, gr. master, do.—remaining in hospital March 1st, 1814; Francis Eggerm, seaman, do.—died Aug. 30th, at Mill Prison; John Nugent, seaman, do.—remaining in hospital on the 1st of March, 1814; Charles Baxter, seaman, do.—died Sept. 2d, at Mill Prison; James Kellam, or seaman, slightly—discharged Oct. 24th, at Dartmore Depot; Wm. Irvington, seaman, severely—discharged from hospital to Dartmore Depot, Sept. 11th; James H. H., seaman, slightly—discharged to Depot, Aug. 28th.

*The following who were on board the Pelican immediately after the action, have been ascertained to be among the number wounded.*

George Starbuck, seaman; John Sniffin, carpenter's mate; John Scott, the 1st seaman; John Madden; Joseph Allen.

Several others whose names have not been ascertained, were taken on board the enemy's vessel. I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JAMES UNDERWICK,

Acting Surgeon of late U. S. brig Argus,  
Hon. Wm. Jones, secretary of the navy.

*Copy of a letter from lieut. colonel Armistead, to the secretary of war, dated*

Fort M'Henry, September 24th, 1814.

A severe indisposition, the effect of great fatigue and exposure, has prevented me heretofore from presenting you with an account of the attack on this post. On the night of Saturday the 10th inst. the British fleet, consisting of ships of the line, heavy frigates, and bomb vessels, amounting in the whole to 30 sail, appeared at the mouth of the river Patapsco, with every indication of an attempt on the city of Baltimore. My own force consisted of one company of United States artillery, under capt. Evans, and two companies of sea fencibles, under captains Bumbury and Addison. Of these three companies, 35 men were unfortunately on the sick list, and unfit for duty. I had been furnished with two companies of volunteer artillery from the city of Baltimore, under capt. Berry and lieut. commandant Pennington. To these I must add another very fine company of volunteer artillery, under judge Nicholson, who had proffered their services to aid in the defence of this post whenever an attack might be apprehended; and also a detachment from commodore Barney's flotilla, under lieut. Rodman. Brigadier general Winder had also furnished me with about six hundred infantry, under the command of lieut. col. Stewart and major Lane, consisting of detachments from the 12th, 14th, 36th and 38th regts. of United States troops—the total amounting to about 1000 effective men.

On Monday morning very early, it was perceived that the enemy was landing troops on the east side of the Patapsco, distant about ten miles. During that day and the ensuing night, he had brought sixteen ships (including five bomb ships) within about two miles and an half of this Fort. I had arranged my force as follows: The regular artilleryists under capt. Evans, and the volunteers under capt. Nicholson, manned the bastions in the Star Fort. Captains Bumbury's, Addison's, Rodman's, Berry's, and lieut. commandant Pennington's commands were stationed on the lower works, and the infantry under lieut. col. Stewart and major Lane were in the outer ditch, to meet the enemy at his landing, should he attempt one.

On Tuesday morning about sunrise, the enemy commenced the attack from his five bomb vessels, at the distance of about two miles, when, finding that his shells reached us, he anchored, and kept up an incessant and well-directed bombardment.—We immediately opened our batteries, and kept a brisk fire from our guns and mortars, but unfortunately our shot and shells all fell considerably short of him. This was to me a most distressing circumstance; as it left us exposed to a constant and tremendous shower of shells, without the most remote possibility of our doing him the slightest injury. It affords me the highest gratification to state, that although we were left thus exposed, and thus inactive, not a man shrunk from the conflict.

About 2 o'clock, P. M. one of the 24 pounders on the south west bastion, under the immediate command of captain Nicholson, was dismounted by a shell, the explosion from which killed his second lieut. and wounded several of his men; the bustle necessarily produced in removing the wounded and remounting the gun probably induced the enemy to suspect that we were in a state of confusion, as he brought in three of his bomb ships to what I believed to be good striking distance. I immediately ordered a fire to be opened, which was obeyed with alacrity through the whole garrison, and in half an hour those intruders again sheltered themselves by withdrawing beyond our reach. We gave three

cheers, and again ceased firing. The enemy continued throwing shells, with one or two slight intermissions, till 1 o'clock in the morning of Wednesday, when it was discovered that he had availed himself of the darkness of the night, and had thrown a considerable force above to our right; they had approached very near to fort Covington, when they began to throw rockets; intended, I presume, to give them an opportunity of examining the shores; as I have since understood, they had detached 1250 picked men with scaling ladders, for the purpose of storming this fort. We once more had an opportunity of opening our batteries, and kept up a continued blaze for nearly two hours, which had the effect again to drive them off.

In justice to lieut. Newcomb, of the U. States navy, who commanded at fort Covington with a detachment of sailors, and lieut. Webster, of the flotilla, who commanded the six gun battery near that fort, I ought to state, that during this time they kept up an animated, and I believe a very destructive fire, to which I am persuaded we are much indebted in repulsing the enemy. One of his sunken barges has since been found with two dead men in it—others have been seen floating in the river. The only means we had of directing our guns, was by the blaze of their rockets, and the flashes of their guns. Had they ventured to the same situation in the day time, not a man would have escaped.

The bombardment continued on the part of the enemy until 7 o'clock on Wednesday morning, when it ceased: and about nine, their ships got under weigh, and stood down the river. During the bombardment, which lasted 25 hours (with two slight intermissions) from the best calculation I can make, from fifteen to eighteen hundred shells were thrown by the enemy. A few of these fell short. A large proportion burst over us, throwing their fragments among us, and threatening destruction. Many passed over, and about four hundred fell within the works. Two of the public buildings are materially injured—the others but slightly. I am happy to inform you (wonderful as it may appear) that our loss amounts only to four men killed, and 24 wounded. The latter will all recover. Among the killed, I have to lament the loss of lieut. Gaggret, and sergeant Clemm, both of captain Nicholson's volunteers; two men whose fate is to be deplored, not only for their personal bravery, but for their high standing, amiable demeanor, and spotless integrity in private life. Lieut. Russel, of the company under lieutenant Pennington, received, early in the attack, a severe contusion in the heel; notwithstanding which he remained at his post during the whole bombardment.

Were I to name any individual who signalised themselves, it would be doing injustice to others. Suffice it to say, that every officer and soldier under my command did their duty to my entire satisfaction.

I have the honor to remain, respectfully, your obedient servant.

G. ARMISTEAD,

lt. col. U. S. Artillery.

*Hon. James Monroe, secretary of war.*

*Copy of a letter from capt. Campbell to the secretary of the navy, dated*

St. Mary's, 12th September, 1814.

SIR—I beg leave to report the British privateer schooner Fortune of War, captured on the 9th inst. off Sappelo Bar, by gun vessels No. 160, and 151 in company commanded by Thomas M. Pendleton; mounts 2 six pounders with a crew consisting of 35 in number, three weeks from Bermuda, without having made any captures.

She surrendered after receiving two shot from the

gun vessel, and having one man killed. Previous to the capture of the privateer, the gun vessels had taken one of her boats and 13 men that had landed on Sappola.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your obedient servant,  
H. G. CAMPBELL,  
*The Hon. Wm. Jones, secretary of the navy.*

*Copy of a letter from a staff officer to the editors of the National Intelligence.*

Washington, Sept. 14th, 1814.

Gentlemen—In commodore Porter's statement of the defence of the battery at the White House, he has, by mistake, inferred that lieutenant Spencer of the corps of artillery was second in command at Fort Warburton when that place was abandoned. I deem it my duty to inform you that lieutenant Spencer was not attached to the command at fort Warburton, but was at the time of his abandonment in Baltimore; having reached this on the 23d, and volunteering his services, he was, on the arrest of captain Dyson, put in command of his company, which was then on Mason's island, and with it proceeded down the river and acted under commodore Porter to his entire satisfaction.

*Copy of a letter from commodore Barney to captain Sevier, of the marine corps, dated*

Farm, Elk Ridge, Sept. 10, 1814.

Sir—It was not until three days after my report was made to the secretary of navy, that major Stuart called at my house and informed that in the retreat after the battle of the 24th ult. he overtook you, wounded in the neck, and that he lent you his horse. My situation prevented me from obtaining a knowledge of the situation of many of my brave companions. I only mentioned those I saw, except in the case of aelie sailing master Martin—he was reported to me as dead. I since learn he is only badly wounded. Your not being mentioned in my report will not diminish the glory yourself and the other officers of the marine corps acquired. You fought, I may say, under the eyes of all America, and fame will do you justice. Receive, sir, my wishes for your speedy recovery, and present my respects to lieutenants Richardson, Nicoll, Lord and Brooke, who so ably assisted on that memorable day. I am, sir, with respect, your obedient servant,  
JOSHUA BARNEY.

*Captain A. Sevier, Marine Corps, Washington.*

### MACDONOUGH'S VICTORY.

*Copies of letters from commodore Macdonough to the secretary of the navy, dated*

U. S. ship Saratoga, at anchor off Plattsburgh, Sept. 13, 1814.

Sir—By lieutenant commandant Cassin I have the honor to convey to you the flags of his Britannic majesty's late squadron, captured on the 11th inst. by the United States' squadron, under my command. Also my despatches relating to that occurrence, which should have been in your possession at an earlier period, but for the difficulty in arranging the different statements.

The squadron under my command now lies at Plattsburgh—it will bear of considerable diminution, and leave a force sufficient to repel any attempt of the enemy in this quarter. I shall wait your order what to do with the whole or any part thereof.

I have the honor to be &c.

T. MACDONOUGH.

*Honorable William Jones secretary of the navy.*

*Copy of a letter from lieutenant Cassin, to commodore Macdonough.*

U. S. schooner Ticonderoga, Plattsburgh bay, Sept. 12th 1814.

Sir—It is a pleasure I state, that every officer and man, under my command did their duty yesterday.

Yours respectfully,  
STEPHEN CASSIN,  
lieutenant commanding.

*Commodore Thomas Macdonough.*

*Copy of a letter from lieutenant Henley, to commodore Macdonough.*

U. S. Brig Eagle, Plattsburgh Sept. 12th, 1814

Sir—I am happy to inform you that all my officers and men acted bravely, and did their duty in the battle of yesterday with the enemy.

I shall have the pleasure of making a more particular representation of the respective merits of my gallant officers to the honorable the secretary of the navy.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,  
RO. HENLEY.

P. S. We had thirty-nine round shot in our hull (mostly 24 pounders)—four in our lower masts—and we were well peppered with grape. I enclose my boatswain's report.

R. H.

*Copy of a letter from George Beale, junr. to commodore*

*Macdonough, dated*

U. S. ship Saratoga, September 13, 1814.

Sir—I have the honor to enclose you a list of the killed and wounded on board the different vessels of the squadron under your command in the action of the 11th inst.

It is impossible to ascertain correctly the loss of the enemy. From the best information received from the British officers, from my own observations, and from various lists found on board the Confidence, I calculate the number of men on board that ship at the commencement of the action at 270 of whom at least 180 were killed and wounded, and on board the other captured vessels at least 80 more, making in the whole, killed and wounded, 260. This is doubtless short of the real number, as many were thrown overboard from the Confidence during the engagement.

The muster books must have been thrown overboard, or otherwise disposed of, as they are not to be found.

I am sir, very respectfully your obedient servant,  
GEO. BEALE, jun. purser.

*Thomas Macdonough, esq. commanding U.S. squadron, on lake Champlain.*

*Copy of a letter from commodore Macdonough to the secretary of the navy, dated*

U. S. ship Saratoga, Plattsburgh bay, September 13, 1814.

Sir—I have the honor to give you the particulars of the action which took place on the 11th inst. on this lake.

For several days the enemy were on their way to Plattsburgh by land and water, and it being well understood that an attack would be made at the same time by their land and naval forces, I determined to await at anchor the approach of the latter.

At 8 A. M. the look-out boat announced the approach of the enemy. At 9, he anchored in a line ahead, at about 300 yards distance from my line; his ship opposed to the Saratoga, his brig to the Eagle, captain Robert Henley, his gallees, thirteen in number, to the schooner, sloop, and a division of our gallees; one of his sloops assisting their ship and brig, the other assisting their gallees. Our remaining gallees with the Saratoga and Eagle.

In this situation the whole force on both sides became engaged, the Saratoga suffering much from the heavy fire of the Confidence. I could perceive at the same time, however, that our fire was very destructive to her. The Ticonderoga, lieutenant commanding Cassin, gallantly sustained her full share of the action. At half past 10 o'clock the Eagle, not being able to bring her guns to bear, cut her cable and anchored in a more eligible position, between my ship and the Ticonderoga, where she very much annoyed the enemy, but unfortunately leaving me exposed to a galling fire from the enemy's brig. Our guns on the starboard side being nearly all dismantled, or not manageable, a stern anchor was let go, the bower cable cut, and the ship winded with a fresh broadside on the enemy's ship, which soon after surrendered. Our broadside was then sprung to bear on the brig, which surrendered in about 15 minutes after.

The sloop that was opposed to the Eagle, had struck some time before and drifted down the line; the sloop which was with their gallees having struck also. Three of their gallees are said to be sunk, the others pulled off. Our gallees were about obeying with alacrity the signal to follow them, when all the vessels were reported to me to be in a sinking state;

it then became necessary to annul the signal to the galleys, and order their men to the pumps.

I could only look at the enemy's galleys going off in a shattered condition, for there was not a mast in either squadron that could stand to make sail on; the lower rigging being nearly all shot away, hung down as though it had been just placed over the mast-heads.

The *Saratoga* had fifty-five round shot in her hull; the *Confiance* one hundred and five. The enemy's shot passed principally just over our heads, as there were not 20 whole hammocks in the nettings at the close of the action, which lasted without intermission two hours and twenty minutes.

The absence and sickness of lieutenant Raymond Perry, left me without the services of that excellent officer; much ought fairly to be attributed to him for his great care and attention in disciplining the ship's crew, as her first lieutenant. His place was filled by a gallant young officer, lieutenant Peter Gamble, who, I regret to inform you, was killed early in the action. Acting lieutenant Vallette worked the 1st and 2d divisions of guns, with able effect.—Sailing-master Brum's attention to the springs, and in the execution of the order to wind the ship, and occasionally at the guns, meets with my entire approbation; also captain Young's commanding the acting marines, who took his men to the guns. Mr. Beale, purser, was of great service at the guns, and in carrying my orders throughout the ship, with midshipman Montgomery. Master's mate Joshua Justin, had command of the 3d division; his conduct during the action was that of a brave and correct officer. Midshipmen Monteath, Graham, Williamson, Platt, Thwing, and acting midshipman Baldwin, all behaved well, and gave evidence of their making valuable officers.

The *Saratoga* was twice set on fire by hot shot from the enemy's ship.

I close, sir, this communication with feelings of gratitude for the able support I received from every officer and man attached to the squadron which I have the honor to command.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant.

T. MACDONOUGH.

*Hon. Wm. Jones, secretary of the navy.*

P. S.—Accompanying this is a list of killed and wounded, a list of prisoners and a precise statement of both forces engaged. Also letters from captain Henley and lieutenant com. Cassin.

*Return of killed and wounded on board the United States' squadron on Lake Champlain, in the engagement with the British fleet on the 11th of September, 1814.*

*Ship Saratoga.*

*Killed*—Peter Gamble, lieutenant; Thomas Butler, quartermaster; James Norberry, boatswain's mate; Abraham Davis, quartermaster; William Weyer, sail maker; William Brickell, Peter Johnson and John Coleman, seamen; Benj. Purcell and Andrew Parule, oarsmen; Peter Post, David Bennet and Ebenezer Johnson, seamen; Joseph Conch landsman; Thomas Stephens, seaman; Randall McDonald and John White, oarsmen; Samuel Smith, seaman; Thomas Malony, oarsman; Andrew Nelson, John Sellack, Peter Hanson, Jacob Laraway and Edward Moore, seamen; Jerome Williams, oarsman; James Carlisle, marine; John Smart and Earl Hannonen, seamen—23.

*Wounded*—James M. Baldwin, acting midshipman; Joseph Barron, pilot; Robert Gray, quartermaster; George Cassin, quartermaster; John Hollingsworth, Thomas Robinson, Purnal Smith, John Ottwell and John Thompson, seamen; Edward Rowland, William Fabee and William Williams, oarsmen; John Towles, landsman; John Shays, John S. Hammond and James Barlow, seamen; William Nagle, oarsman; John Lawson and Peter Colberg, seamen; William Newton, oarsman; Neil J. Heidmont and James Stewart, seamen; John Adams, landsman; Charles Ratche, seaman; Benj. Jackson, Jesse Vanhorn, Joseph Ketter and Saml. Pearson, marines—9.

*Brig Eagle.*

*Killed*—Peter Vandermere, mast mate; John Ribero and Jacob Landman, seamen; Perkins Moore, James Winship, Thomas A. Wright and Nace Wilson, oarsmen; Thomas Lewis, boy; John Wallace, Joseph Heaton and Robert Stratton, marines; James M. Hale and John Wood, musicians—15.

*Wounded*—Joseph Smith, lieutenant; William A. Spencer, acting lieutenant; Francis Breeze, master's mate; Abraham Walters, pilot;

Wm. C. Allen, quartermaster; James Duick, quartermaster; Andrew McEwen, Zebadiah Coucklin, Joseph Valentine, John Hartley, John Melan and Robert Buckley, seamen; Aaron Fitzgerald, boy; Purnell Boice, oarsman; John N. Craig, seaman; John McKenney, Matthew Seaver, George Mainwaring, Henry Jones and John McCarty, marines—20.

*Schooner Thunderoga.*

*Killed*—John Stansbury, lieutenant; John Fisher and John Atkinson, boatswain's mate; Henry Johnson, seaman; Deodorick Think and John Sharp, marines—6.

*Wounded*—Patrick Cassin, Ezekiel Goud, Saml. Sawyer, Wm. Le Count and Henry Collins, seamen; John Condon, marine—6.

*Sloop Frodo.*

*Killed*—Rogers Carter, acting sailing master; Joseph Rowe, boatswain's mate—2.

*Wounded*—None.

*Gun-boat Borer.*

*Killed*—Arthur W. Smith, purser's steward; Thomas Gill, boy; James Day, marine—3.

*Wounded*—Eben. Cobb, corporal marines—1.

*Gun-boat Centipede.*

*Wounded*—James Taylor, landsman—1.

*Gun-boat Wilner.*

*Wounded*—Peter Frank, seaman—1.

RECAPITULATION.

	Killed.	Wounded.
<i>Saratoga,</i>	28	29
<i>Eagle,</i>	13	20
<i>Thunderoga,</i>	6	6
<i>Preble,</i>	2	—
<i>Borer,</i>	3	1
<i>Centipede,</i>	—	1
<i>Wilner,</i>	—	1
	52	58

  

Gun-boats	None killed or wounded.
<i>Nettle,</i>	
<i>Allen,</i>	
<i>Viper,</i>	
<i>Burrows,</i>	
<i>Ludlow,</i>	
<i>Alwyn,</i>	
<i>Ballard,</i>	

GEO. BEALE, jun. purser.

*Statement of the American force engaged on the 11th Sept. 1814.*

<i>Saratoga</i>	8 long 24 pounders	
	6 42 pound carronades	
	12 32 pound do.	Total 26
<i>Eagle,</i>	12 32 pound carronades and 8 long 18 prs.	20
	8 long 12 pounders	
<i>Thunderoga</i>	4 18 do.	
	5 32 pound carronades	17
<i>Preble,</i>	long 9 pounders	7
	10 galleys, viz.	
<i>Allen,</i>	1 long 24 pr. and 1 18 pr.	Columbiad 2
<i>Burrows,</i>	1 24 pr. and 1 18 pr.	do. 2
<i>Borer,</i>	1 24 pr. and 1 18 pr.	do. 2
<i>Nettle,</i>	1 24 pr. and 1 18 pr.	do. 2
<i>Viper,</i>	1 24 pr. and 1 18 pr.	do. 2
<i>Centipede,</i>	1 24 pr. and 1 18 pr.	do. 2
<i>Ludlow,</i>	1 12 pr.	1
<i>Wilner,</i>	1 12 pr.	1
<i>Alwyn,</i>	1 12 pr.	1
<i>Ballard,</i>	1 12 pr.	1

Guns 86

*Recapitulation.*—14 long 24 pounders  
 6 42 pound carronades  
 29 32 pound do.  
 12 long 18 pounders  
 12 12 pounders  
 7 9 pounders  
 6 18 pound Columbiads.

Total 86 Guns. T. MACDONOUGH.

*Statement of the enemy's force engaged on the 11th September, 1814.*

<i>Frigate</i>	27 long 24 pounders	
<i>Confiance</i>	4 32 pound carronades	
	6 24 pound do. and	
	2 long 18 pounders on birth deck	39
<i>Brig Linnet,</i>	16 long 12 pounders	16
<i>Sloop "Chub"</i>	10 18 pound carronades	
	1 long 6 pounder	11
	6 8 pound carronades	
<i>Sloop "Finch"</i>	1 18 pound Columbiad and	
	4 long 6 pound rs	11
	13 galleys, viz.	
<i>Sir James Yeo,</i>	1 long 24 pr. and 1 30 pr. car.	2
<i>Sir George Prevost</i>	1 do. and 1 32 pr. do.	2
<i>Sir Sy. Beckwith</i>	1 do. and 1 32 pr. do.	2
<i>Broke,</i>	1 18 pr. and 1 32 pr. do.	2
<i>Murray,</i>	1 18 pr. and 1 18 pr. do.	2
<i>Wellington</i>	1 18 pr.	1
<i>Tennisch</i>	1 18 pr.	1
<i>Name unknown</i>	1 18 pr.	1
<i>Drummond</i>	1 32 pr. car.	1
<i>Simcoe</i>	1 32 pr. do.	1
<i>Unknown</i>	1 32 pr. do.	1
<i>Do.</i>	1 32 pr. do.	1
<i>Do.</i>	1 32 pr. do.	1

Total, guns 95

Recapitulation.—30 long 24 pounders

7	13	do.
16	12	do.
5	6	do.
13	32	p. carronades.
6	24	do.
17	13	do.
1	18	p. Columbiad.

Total 95 guns.

T. MACDONOUGH.

\*These sloops were formerly the U. S. Growler and Eagle.

INTERESTING SCRAPS.

Com. Macdonough is the son of Dr. Macdonough, late of New Castle county, state of Delaware. He was a midshipman under Decatur, at Tripoli, and one of the gallant band that destroyed the Philadelphia, &c. He is about 23 years of age.

A comparative statement of the guns of the two fleets is given in the commodore's letter—a like statement of the men, and the loss sustained, is given below from the Burlington Centinel—in every thing, but courage and good conduct, were the enemy our superiors. We much question if even a "British official" will dare to brazen us out of the glory of this victory in the eyes of the world. It is very certain that the British ships were manned with picked men; ours with the "common run" of our sailors, who are better than the best of the British. *Ecce Signum!*

The battle was exceedingly obstinate; the enemy fought gallantly; but the superiority of our gunnery was irresistible. We fired much oftener than they did. All the vessels are much wrecked.

The killed, on both sides, have a very unusual proportion to the wounded—on ours 52 to 58! This is, perhaps, unprecedented. It may serve to shew the warmth and closeness of the action.

It is stated, that in the hottest of the action, a cock in the commodore's ship flew into the shrouds, and crowed three times! The crew seized the happy omen, and shouted *victory!* This little incident must have had a powerful effect on the seamen.

Salutes and illuminations, in all parts of the United States yet heard from, have celebrated Macdonough's glorious victory, and Maccomb's gallant repulse of the imperious foe.

A part of the prisoners taken by com. Macdonough, have arrived at Greenbush, viz. 1 captain, 8 lieuts. 1 sailing master, 2 sailing-masters mates, 2 surgeons, 2 pursers, 1 captain's clerk, 5 midshipmen, 1 boatswain, 2 gunners, 1 carpenter, 1 assistant-surgeon, and 340 seamen.

Extract of a letter to a gentleman in Boston, dated Burlington, September 15.

"Com. Macdonough is a religious man as well as a hero, and prayed with his brave men on the morning of the victory. He was asked how he escaped amid such carnage? and replied, pointing to Heaven, there was a power above which determined the fate of man.

"He had repeatedly to work his own guns when his men at them were shot; and three times he was driven across the deck by splinters, &c.

"The steward's wife of the British ship was on board, and unfortunately killed in the battle.

"It is said, but I think an exaggeration, that Macdonough took more prisoners than he had men.

"At one time, during the battle, Macdonough had all his guns on one side but two dismounted, when he wore his ship. The enemy endeavoring to do the same, failed, and gave us an opportunity to rake him.

"Our superior gunnery is again proved as the enemy had two, to one of ours, killed or wounded; and they had locks on their guns, which we had not.

"The galleys did but little; and the enemy's galleys, which were distant spectators, pulled off when they saw their fleet was beaten.

"It is said our commodore intends to go to the Isle-au-Motte, to see sir George's batteries there.

"A rooster was on the shrouds of the Saratoga, and repeatedly crowed; which animated the sailors, as they considered it a good omen.

"Gov. Prevost has made a precipitate retreat.—Some think it a *ruse* to draw our men across the Rubicon: but I think not.

"The Saranac has been a fine place for our militia, for on the banks was nearly all the execution done. The enemy repeatedly attempted to ford it, but were repulsed every time but the last, when a few officers and men got over, but afterwards straggled into the woods and surrendered to our men, sir George retreating without calling them in. Four lieuts. are here (Baker's) on parole. They speak in terms of admiration of the kindness of Maccomb, but are very severe in their remarks on their Sir G. They say, had Wellington, or even Brisbane (whom they term a *fire-eater*) commanded, they would have had Plattsburg forts. They say they have beaten the cleverest soldiers in the world, and now have been taken by a rabble.

"Their capt. Purchess, they say, was killed by the militia, while holding up his white jacket as a flag.

"The Vermont militia are returning, but the New York militia are still flocking into Plattsburg, as there are but regulars enough to man the forts.—Many deserters came in yesterday, and many more are in the woods. Brooks has greatly distinguished himself at Plattsburg."

From the Burlington Centinel, Sept. 16.—The following account of the force and loss, on board the British and American fleets, was received by a gentleman in this place, directly from com. McDonough, and put on paper on the spot, and may be relied on as correct, so far as his indefatigable attention to the wounded and the burial of the dead, and the fidelity of the British officers, have enabled him to ascertain the facts.

BRITISH.

	Guns.	Men.	Killed.	Wounded.
Large ship, -	39	300	50	60
Brig, (Linnet) -	16	120	20	30
Sloop formerly Growler, 11	40	6	10	
Sloop do. Eagle, 11	40	8	10	
13 Gun-boats, -	18	550	2	robably sunk.

Total, 95 1050 84 110

Several of the gunboats struck; but the sinking state of the large vessels required the assistance of the men in our galleys, so that not being able to take possession of them, they were able to save themselves by flight.

AMERICAN.

	Guns.	Men.	Killed.	Wounded.
Saratoga, ship	26	210	28	29
Eagle, brig	20	120	13	20
Ticonderoga, schooner	17	140	6	6
Preble, sloop	7	30	2	0
10 Gunboats,	16	350	3	3

Total 86 820 52 58

The British officers killed, were commodore Downie and 3 lieutenants, etc. The American officers killed were lieutenants Gamble and Stansbury, the latter of whom was knocked overboard, and not found, and sailing-master Carter.

The British officers taken are captain Pring, and 6 or 8 lieutenants. The wounded have been paroled and sent by a flag vessel, to the Isle aux Noix.

The British large ship is a fine vessel of her class, having two gun decks in her bow and stern, and mounting among her guns, 28 long 24 pounders, a battery which few frigates of the British navy can boast. This account and remark was from a British officer, who was taken.

#### MACOMB'S VICTORY.

*Head-quarters Plattsburg, Sept. 14, 1814.*

GENERAL ORDERS.—The governor-general of the Canadas and commander in chief of the British forces in North America, having invaded the territories of the United States, with the avowed purpose of conquering the country as far as Crown Point and Ticonderoga, there to winter his forces with a view to further conquest, brought with him a powerful army and flotilla—an army amounting to fourteen thousand men completely equipped, and accompanied by a numerous train of artillery and all the engines of war—men, who had conquered in France, Spain, Portugal, the Indies, and in various other parts of the globe, and led by the most experienced generals of the British army. A flotilla also, superior to ours in vessels, men and guns, had determined at once to crush us both by land and water.

The governor-general, after boasting of what he would do, and endeavoring to dissuade the loyal inhabitants of the United States from their allegiance by threats and promises, as set forth in his proclamations and orders, fixed his head-quarters at the village of Champlain, to organize his army and settle the government of his intended conquests. On the 2d day of the month, he marched from Champlain, and on the 5th, appeared before the village of Plattsburg, with his whole army; and the 11th, the day fixed for the general attack, the flotilla arrived.

The enemy's flotilla at 8 in the morning passed Cumberland head, and at 9 engaged our flotilla at anchor in the bay off the town, fully confident of crushing in an instant the whole of our naval force: but the gallant commodore Macdonough, in the short space of two hours, obliged the large vessels to strike their colors, whilst the galleys saved themselves by flight. This glorious achievement was in full view of the several forts, and the American forces had the satisfaction of witnessing the victory. The British army was also so posted on the surrounding heights, that it could not but behold the interesting struggle for dominion on the lake. At the same hour the fleets engaged, the enemy opened his batteries on our forts, throwing hundreds of shells, balls and rockets, and attempted at the same time to cross the Sarracok at three different points to assault the works. At the upper ford he was met by the militia and volunteers, and after repeated attempts was driven back with considerable loss in killed, wounded and prisoners. At the bridge near the village, he was repulsed by the pickets and the brave riflemen under captain Grovener and lieuts. Hamilton and Riley, and at the bridge in the town, he was foiled by the guards, block houses, and the artillery of the forts, served by captain Alexander Brooks, captains Richards and Smith, and lieuts. Mountford, Smyth and Cromwell. The enemy's fire was returned with effect from our batteries and by sun set we had the satisfaction to silence seven batteries which had been erected, and to see his column retiring to their camps, beyond the reach of our guns.

Thus beaten by land and water the governor-general, withdrew his artillery and raised the siege, at 9 at night sent off his heavy baggage and under cover of the darkness retreated with his whole army towards Canada, leaving his wounded on the field, and a vast quantity of bread, flour and beef which he had

not time to destroy, besides a quantity of bombs, shells, shot, flints and ammunition of all kinds which remain at the batteries and lie concealed in the ponds and rivers. As soon as his retreat was discovered the light troops volunteers and militia, were in pursuit, and followed as far as Chazy, capturing several dragoons and soldiers, besides covering the escape of hundreds of deserters, who continue still to be coming in. A violent storm and continued fall of rain prevented the brave volunteers and militia from further pursuit.

Thus have the attempts of the invader been frustrated by a regular force of only fifteen hundred men, a brave and active body of militia of the state of New-York under general Moores, and volunteers of the respectable and patriotic citizens of Vermont, led by general Strong and other gentlemen of distinction. The whole not exceeding two thousand five hundred men.

The British forces being now either expelled or captured, the services of the volunteers and militia may be dispensed with.

General Macomb cannot however permit the militia of New-York and the volunteers of Vermont, to depart without carrying with them the high sense he entertains for their merits. The zeal with which they came forward in defence of their country, when the signal of danger was given by the general, reflects the highest lustre on their patriotism and spirit. Their conduct in the field has corresponded with the laudable motives which led them into it. They have deserved the esteem of their fellow citizens and the warm approbation of their commanders. They have exemplified how speedily American citizens can be prepared to meet the enemies of their country. In testifying his sense of the merits of the troops, the general cannot but express his sorrow and regret, for the loss of some brave and virtuous citizens, and for those who have been wounded. The loss no doubt will be keenly felt by their friends and countrymen, but at the same time will be borne with that fortitude and resignation which become good citizens and good christians.

The affection of the general will accompany his brave associates in arms, wheresoever they may go, nor will any thing give him more pleasure than opportunities of testifying to them individually, by actions as well as by words, the high regard he cherishes for them.

The general, in the name of the United States, thanks the volunteers and the militia for their distinguished services, and wishes them a happy return to their families and friends. ALEX. MACOMB.

THE NORTHERN FRONTIER.—On entering the United States, sir *George Prevost* issued the following modest proclamation:

By his excellency lieutenant general sir George Prevost, baronet, captain general and governor in chief of his majesty's North American Provinces, and commander of the forces.

#### A PROCLAMATION.

The commander of his Britannic majesty's forces which have entered the State of New-York, makes known to its peaceable and unoffending inhabitants, that they have no cause for alarm from this invasion of their country, for the safety of themselves and families, or for the security of their property. He explicitly assures them, that as long as they continue to demean themselves peaceably, they shall be protected in the quiet possession of their homes and permitted freely to pursue their usual occupations.

It is against the government of the United States, by whom this unjust and unprovoked war has been declared, and against those who support it, either

openly or secretly, that the arms of his majesty are directed. The quiet and unoffending inhabitants, not found in arms or otherwise not aiding in hostility, shall meet with kind usage and generous treatment; and all just complaints against any of his majesty's subjects, offering violence to them, to their families, or to their possessions, shall be immediately redressed.

Those, therefore, who may have been induced to retire at the approach of his majesty's troops, from any mistaken apprehension respecting their object and their views, are hereby invited to return to their farms and habitations as the best means of securing them.

The magistrates and other civil authorities, who in the faithful discharge of the duties of their respective stations, shall continue to exercise their ordinary jurisdiction, for the punishment and apprehension of crimes, and the support of good order, shall not fail to receive countenance and protection.

Given under my hand and seal, at Champlain town, the 2d day of September, 1814.

GEORGE PREVOST.

*By command of his excellency,*

F. L. COONE, major and aid-de-camp

The following brief detail furnished for the *National Advocate*, is very interesting.

"On Tuesday the 6th of September, the British were met in Batismantown, about 6 miles from Plattsburgh, by about 700 militia, under the command of lieutenant colonel Miller, and about 300 regulars, under major Wool. The militia annoyed the enemy very much from the woods with their rifles. Captain Leonard, of the artillery, met the enemy about three miles from the village with two pieces of artillery, which were masked by the regulars under major Wool, and as the enemy approached he opened upon them a smart fire, which killed lieutenant colonel Wellington, and wounded many others—the British acknowledge a loss on that day of upwards of 100 killed and wounded of the left division, which advanced by the road through Batemantown. The British on their advance, treated the citizens with attention, and protected those who were not in arms. On Sunday, the day of the action on the lake, they were confident of success; and as their ships appeared the staff officers at the quarters of the left division gave three cheers, and boasted of soon having the Yankee fleet; and made preparations at the same time to attack the fort by land—but alas! when their fleet struck their colors, they were so mortified, that they were ashamed to show their faces—but began immediately to prepare for their retreat. Colonel Murray, the officer who last year burnt the public property at Plattsburgh, was heard to say, "This is a proud day for America—the proudest day she ever saw." On their retreat they plundered the citizens stole horses, oxen, waggons and harness, and every thing they could find. A party of three men and an officer, with pistols, went into a house, and robbed the man of 7 dollars 60 cents and a silver watch. There was on board of the British fleet 3000 stand of arms, with which they calculated to arm such as they supposed would join them; so confident were they of success. They were all Lord Wellington's veterans. After the action deserters were coming in, and when our informant left there, about 500 had arrived: they state that the British were hanging their deserters at Champlain by scores, and had sent their Indians out to scour the woods—either to shoot them or bring them in."

The report that 4 or 500 Germans had deserted in a body, is not true.

Further. The number of the enemy killed by *Jaquob* is not stated, but about 300 wounded were

left on the field, and some prisoners were made.—The whole loss of the enemy, by land and water, amounts to at least 2,000 men. Sir George effected his retreat in great confusion, leaving "a number of tents, several pieces of cannon, great quantities of ammunition, bombs, cannon balls, grape shot, fixed cartridges, shovels, spades, axes, pick axes, bread, flour, beef, &c. &c. in our possession, besides their sick and wounded to our mercy!" In their flight they destroyed the bridges, and obstructed the road by trees, baggage, &c. They were pursued as far as *Chazy*, but made one of the *Duke of York's* "retrograde movements" in such full gallop that the militia could not catch many of them. They were completely panic struck.

This has terminated one of the most formidable expeditions ever fitted out in America. If one disgrace can be balanced by another, *Hu's* surrender of *Detroit* is blotted from the catalogue, and the great commander in chief, Sir George Prevost, with *Wellington's* "invincibles," has carried the mark of dishonor from that miserable old man.

## Congress of the United States.

On Monday the 19th, both houses of congress met at Washington city, according to proclamation of the president, and each formed a quorum, Mr. Gailard president of the senate *pro tem*.

On Tuesday the president's message was received and read, &c.

*Wednesday, September 21.* The following resolutions were offered by Mr. Fisk, of N. Y.

1. Resolved, That so much of the message of the president of the United States as relates to the subject of foreign affairs, be referred to a select committee.

2. Resolved, That so much as relates to our military establishment be referred to a select committee.

3. Resolved, That so much as relates to our naval establishment be referred to a select committee.

4. Resolved, That so much as relates to our revenue be referred to a select committee.

5. Resolved, That so much as relates to the classing and disciplining of the militia be referred to a select committee.

These resolutions having been severally concurred in,

The committee of the whole rose, and reported the resolutions to the house.

Mr. *Bradley*, of Vt. offered the following amendment to the standing rules and orders of the house, assigning as a reason the distinctness and importance of the two subjects now confided to one committee.

"That, instead of the committee of commerce and manufactures, there shall be appointed two standing committees, the one to be stiled the committee of commerce, and the other the committee of manufactures, to consist of seven members each."

This motion lies on the table of course until the morrow.

The house adjourned.

SENATE.

*Thursday, Sept. 22.* Mr. *Giles* offered for consideration the following resolution, which lies on the table till to-morrow.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the state of the preparations for the defence of the city of Washington, and whether any further provisions by law be necessary for that object, with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

*Friday, Sept. 23.* Mr. *Brent* presented the petitions of the Washington Potomac Bridge Company, and of the Eastern Branch Bridge Company, praying remuneration for the losses sustained by them in the

partial destruction of the same by order of the officers of the government during the late invasion of the city. Referred to Messrs. Brent, Giles and Tait.

The resolution yesterday offered by Mr. Giles relative to the defence of the district, was taken up and referred to the committee of military affairs.

So much of the message of the president as relates to our naval affairs, was referred to Messrs. Tait, Howell, Daggett, Fromentin and Morrow.

Mr. *Giles* laid upon the table the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the president of the United be requested to cause to be laid before the senate such information in his possession, respecting the existing state of the relations between the United States and the continental powers of Europe, as he may deem not improper to be communicated.

*Monday, Sept. 26.* Mr. *Roberts*, of Pa. presented sundry resolutions of the burgesses and inhabitants of the borough of Lancaster, in the state of Pennsylvania, pledging themselves that suitable accommodations should be provided for the president and both houses of congress, and for other public offices, in case a removal thereof should be deemed expedient; and the resolutions were read.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Thursday, Sept. 22.*—Many additional member appeared and took their seats.

The following gentlemen compose the several committees, whose appointment was yesterday ordered, viz.

*Committee of Ways and Means.*—Messrs. Eppes, Fisk of New York, Archer, Oakly, Gaston, Creighton, Ingham.

*On public expenditures.*—Messrs. Macon, Findley, Champion, King, of North Carolina, Kent, of New-York, Hawkins, and Caldwell.

*On Commerce and Manufactures.*—Messrs. Newton, Seybert, Murfree, Jackson, of R. I. Baylies, Gourdin, Ruggles.

*On Claims.*—Messrs. Yancey, Sharp, Goodwyn, Davenport, Alexander, Bard, Boyd.

*On Pensions and Revolutionary claims.*—Messrs. Chappell, Bowen, Wilson of Pa. Sage, Ely, Wilcox, Conard.

*On privileges and elections.*—Messrs. Fisk of Vt. Goldsborough, Vose, Comstock, Anderson, Alston, Harris.

*On public lands.*—Messrs. McKee, Humphreys, Montgomery, Mosely, Geddes, Irwin, and McCoy.

*On post offices and post roads.*—Messrs. Rhea of Tenn. Lyle, Brigham, Bayly, Franklin, Hall and Rich.

*On the district of Columbia.*—Messrs. Kent, of Md. Lewis, Crawford, Pearson, Bradley, White and Denoyelles.

*On the judiciary.*—Messrs. Ingersoll, Pleasants, Telfair, Sturges, Cooper, Fisk of Vt. and Evans.

*On revival and unfinished business.*—Messrs. Stanford, Wheaton and Bradbury.

*On accounts.*—Messrs. Kershaw, Barnett, J. Reed.

*On so much of the president's message as relates to our foreign relations.*—Messrs. Forsyth, Clark, Ingersoll, Gholson, Grosvenor, Pearson and McLean.

*On so much as relates to our military establishment.*—Messrs. Troup, Johnson, of Ky. Sevier, Stuart, Lovett, Tannehill, Barbour.

*On so much as relates to our naval establishment.*—Messrs. Pleasants, Burwell, Seybert, King, of Mass. Ormsby, Post and Ward.

*On so much as relates to the classing of militia.*—Messrs. Jackson of Va. Cuthbert, Desha, Hanson, Mosely, Piper and Hubbard.

On motion of Mr. Fisk of Vt. it was *resolved*, that the committee on the judiciary be instructed to

enquire into the expediency of making further provision by law for aiding and protecting the officers of the customs in the execution of their duty, and for preventing intercourse with the enemy.

Mr. Johnson of Ky. laid before the house a resolution to cause an enquiry into the capture of the city, &c. which was laid over until next day.

*Friday, Sept. 23.*—Mr. Johnson's resolution being called up, was, after some amendments and remarks adopted as follows:

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the causes of the success of the enemy in his recent enterprizes against the Metropolis, and the neighboring town of Alexandria, and into the manner in which the public buildings and property were destroyed, and the amount thereof, and that they have power to send for persons and papers.

After three ballotings the rev. Obadiah Brown was appointed chaplain. Adj. until Monday.

*Monday, Sept. 26.* Mr. Fisk of N. Y. after some remarks on the necessity of having a safe and convenient place for the seat of government, &c. offered the following resolution—

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the expediency of removing the seat of government during the present session of congress, to a place of greater security, and less inconvenience than the city of Washington; with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

The question on taking this resolution into consideration was decided as follows, by yeas and nays:

For consideration	79
Against it	37

The house having agreed to consider the resolution, a considerable debate ensued. The result was, that the resolution was *AGREED* to as follows.

*YEAS.*—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Anderson, Archer, Avery, Baylies of Mass. Boyd, Bradbury, Bradley, Brigham, Brown, Caldwell, Champion, Clark, Comstock, Condict, Conrad, Cox, Crawford, Creighton, Crouch, Dana, Davenport, Davis of Penn. Denoyelles, Desha, Duvall, Ely, Findley, Fisk of N. Y. Geddes, Gourdin, Grosvenor, Harris, Hurlbert, Ingersoll, Ingham, Irwin, Johnson of Ky. Kent of N. Y. King of Mass. Ledferts, Lovett, Lyle, McLean, Miller, Moffitt, Mosely, Murfree, Markell, Oakley, Piper, Post, John Reed, Rea, of Penn. Rich, Ruggles, Seyb. of Ship Shrood, Skinner, Stanford, Stuckton, Sturges, Tannehill, Udree, Vose, Ward of Mass. Ward of N. J. Wheaton, Wilcox, Winter—72.

*NAYS.*—Messrs. Harboure, Bayly of Virg. Bowen, Burwell, Chappell, Culppeper, Cuthbert, Earle, Eppes, Farrow, Fisk of Vt. Forney, Forsythe, Franklin, Gaston, Gholson, Goodwyn, Griffin, Hall, Hanson, Hawes, Hawkins, Humphreys, Jackson of Virg. Kent of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, Newton, Pearson, Pickens, Pleasants, Rhea of Va. Roane, Sage, Sevier, Smith of Virg. Strong, Stuart, Telfair, Troup, White, Wilson of Penn. Wright, Yancey—51.

A committee was accordingly ordered to be appointed.

The house adjourned a little after 3 o'clock.

*Wednesday, Sept. 28.*—Mr. Fisk, of Vt. after a few remarks, offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the committee on the public lands be instructed to enquire into the expediency of giving to each deserter from the British army during the present war, one hundred acres of the public lands, such deserter actually settling the same; and that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

The question on consideration was decided by yeas and nays—yeas 82, nays 45. It was afterwards amended so as to refer it to the military committee.

On the yeas and nays being ordered on the passage of the resolution an interesting debate occurred. Messrs. Oakley and Grosvenor of N. Y. opposing, and Messrs. Fisk of Vt. and Sharp of Ky. supporting the resolution. The former gentlemen considered it an unusual and dangerous precedent; but the latter gentlemen supported it in practice and referred to *Wellington's* conduct in Spain, in offering twelve crowns to deserters from the French, &c. It was passed 80 to 55.



Mr. Hawkins, of Ky. with some observations to the point, offered the following:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the United States States in congress assembled, be presented to generals Brown, Scott and Gaines, and their companions in fame.

*Resolved*, That general Brown be requested to communicate to the other officers and soldiers under his command the thanks of the United States in congress, and the high sense of gratitude entertained for victories so splendid achieved in contests so unequal.

Laid over until Monday next.

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

ADM. COCHRANE'S LAST LETTER.—A message was received from the president of the United States by both houses of congress Sept. 26, transmitting the letter of adm. Cochrane and Mr. Monroe's reply, which we have already published, (see Register page 17) and also the following letter, concluding the correspondence, which has not before been published. These papers were ordered to be printed.

*Vice-admiral Cochrane to the secretary of state.*

His B. M. ship *Tonnant*, in the Chesapeake, Sept. 19, 1814.

SIR—I had the honor to receive your letter of the 6th inst. this morning, in reply to the one which I addressed to you from the Patuxent.

As I have no authority from my government to enter upon any kind of discussion relative to the points contained in your letter, I have only to regret that there does not appear to be any hope that I shall be authorised to recal my general order; which has been further sanctioned by a subsequent request from lieutenant-general sir George Prevost.

A copy of your letter will this day be forwarded by me to England, and until I receive instructions from my government the measures which I have adopted must be persisted in; unless remuneration be made to the inhabitants of the Canadas for the injuries they have sustained from the outrages committed by the troops of the United States.

I have the honor to be, &c.

ALEX. COCHRANE,

*Vice-adm. and commander in chief, &c. &c.*

*Hon. James Monroe, secretary of state.*

FROM THE SOUTH. A letter received at Philadelphia from New Orleans, dated August 22, says—An express has just arrived to capt. Patterson, informing that the British had arrived at and taken possession of Mobile. It has excited great alarm here.

And the *National Intelligencer*, of Saturday last, observes—We learn that information reached Nashville, by express, on the 9th inst. that the enemy had landed a body of troops, said to consist of 6000 men, at Pensacola in East Florida. The troops under the command of gen. Jackson were expected to march in that direction.

FROM NASHVILLE WHIG, EXTRA, September 9.

An express arrived here this morning from general Jackson, with the following important information.

*Head-quarters, 7th military district, Mobile, August 27, 1814.*

SIR—By an express sent from Pensacola as well as from Antonio Callina, a citizen of that place who left there yesterday at 12 o'clock, bringing with him the pass of colonel Nicholas, the British officer commanding there, for his protection, I have received information, which may be implicitly relied on, that three British vessels, the *Hermes*, *Orpheus* and *Carvin*, arrived at Pensacola on the 25th inst. and on

yesterday disembarked an immense quantity of arms, ammunition, munitions of war, and provisions—and marched into the Spanish fort between two and three hundred troops. That thirteen sail of the line with a large number of transports are daily expected at that place, with ten thousand troops.

The Havana papers received there state, that fourteen sail of the line had arrived at Bermuda. It is currently reported in Pensacola, that the emperor of Russia has offered his Britannic majesty 50,000 of his best troops for the conquest of Louisiana; and that this territory will fall a prey to the enemy before the expiration of one month. Sir J. Paurbridge and captain Pigot, are the naval commanders. Spain is said by a secret treaty to have ceded Pensacola to Great Britain.

You will immediately perceive the necessity of being on the alert, and taking time by the forelock. I have, therefore to request that you, without delay, cause to be organized, equipped and brought into the field, the whole of the quota of the militia of your state, agreeable to the requisition of the war department of the 4th of July last.

Colonel Robert Butler, my adjutant-general, is now in your state, and has been instructed to make the necessary arrangements for transporting provisioning and bringing to head-quarters these troops, as well as to prescribe their route. You will have them furnished with all the arms within your reach.

Those who cannot be furnished by you, will receive them here; but reliance must not be had on that if to be avoided.

I am, respectfully,

ANDREW JACKSON.

*His excellency Willie Blount, governor of Tennessee.*

THE NIAGARA FRONTIER. *Scraps*.—Several thousand (say three to five) militia had crossed or were about to cross at *Buffalo* [volunteers] to assist general *Brown* in some great enterprise. Some of them went over as early as the 11th September. Desertions are frequent from the enemy's camp—*Drummond* appears in a "bad way." Some troops have lately reinforced our army from *Erie*, Penn. in the United States' brig *Niagara*, &c. and more were expected. Lieut. col. *Wilcocks*, of the Canadian volunteers, was killed in one of the late skirmishes near fort *Erie*, which happened almost every day, until *Brown's* gallant attack on the enemy's works. In a skirmish on the 14th, the British lost thirty men, we none; and under cover of the enemy's fire twenty more deserted—during that week sixty deserters had come in. The enemy appears greatly disheartened by the difficulties that encompass him.

General *Izard* was embarking at Sackett's harbor, on the 18th, supposed for the head of the lake. Great gusts of wind had retarded the expedition for some few days. *Chauncey* had left the blockade of Kingston to aid this purpose. It is expected the whole may have sailed on the 20th. Our brig had also arrived from the head of the lake, in consequence of the gale. They suffered no loss, except that the *Jefferson*, captain *Ridgeley*, was compelled to throw a few guns overboard. The enemy's new ship at *Kingston* is launched, and had her masts in, but cannot be ready for some considerable time. *Chauncey* had been in Kingston harbor, and greatly alarmed sir *James*. We may daily expect important tidings.

### BROWN'S THIRD EXPLOIT!

*Extract of a letter from general Brown to general Gaines, dated*

*Head-quarters, Fort Erie, Sept. 18th, 1814.*

"My dear general—The sortie which had been meditated was ordered yesterday. It succeeded. We carried the enemy's batteries; destroyed his battering cannon; and blew up a strong new work."

which he had erected, with a view of demolishing fort Erie. He resisted manfully, but was promptly overpowered. We have about four hundred prisoners. The enemy's loss cannot be less than eight hundred men.

Again, we have to lament the loss of many gallant officers. Our loss is not very numerous, and our strength is but little impaired. General Ripley is badly wounded. Colonel Gibson and colonel Wood are killed; colonel Aspinwall has lost an arm.

Another letter states the capture of a number of British officers, and that 300 deserters from the enemy came in on the night of the 17th inst.

*Copy of a letter from major general Brown to the secretary of war, dated*

Head-quarters, Fort Erie, September 18th, 1814.

SIR—I have the satisfaction to announce to you a brilliant achievement yesterday, effected by the forces under my command. A sortie was made upon the enemy batteries. These were carried—we blew up his principal work, destroying his battering pieces, and captured 400 prisoners. The enemy resisted our assault with firmness, but suffered greatly. His total loss cannot be less than 800 men.

In such a business we could not but expect to lose many valuable lives; they were offered up a voluntary sacrifice to the safety and honor of this army and the nation.

I will forward to you the particulars of this splendid affair, with a return of the killed and wounded, in the course of a few days.

Very respectfully, your humble servant,  
JACOB BROWN.

*Honorable secretary of war.*

#### FURTHER PARTICULARS.

*Copy of a letter from J. B. Varnum, junr. esq. to his friend in Washington city, dated*

Buffalo, September 19, 1814.

DEAR SIR—We have had another battle on this frontier. The greater part of our forces sallied out from their works, at fort Erie, on the afternoon of the 17th inst. for the purpose of destroying the enemy's batteries, that were nearly ready to open a deadly fire upon our works and army. Two out of three of the most important batteries were carried, after a severe conflict of more than two hours. The guns and carriages were destroyed, besides a large quantity of ammunition—near four hundred prisoners were taken; and among them twelve officers.

The enemy's total loss must have exceeded eight hundred men—while ours was comparatively small, except in officers. We have to lament the loss of several valuable officers. Colonel Gibson, lieutenant colonel Wood, captain Hale and captain Armistead of the regular army, killed. General Ripley, colonel Aspinwall, major Trimble, and several other officers wounded. General Davis of the militia killed, general Porter and several other officers wounded. The enemy's loss will probably induce him to raise the siege. Six pieces of battering artillery were destroyed; among them was a sixty eight pound carro-nade. The sortie was very brilliant, and succeeded much better than could have been anticipated.

I am yours, &c.

J. B. VARNUM.

*A. Bradley, Junr. esq.*

P. S. I was over at the fort during the action, and was not able to come over to this place until late last evening, owing to the roughness of the lake. The prisoners have not yet come over. Major Vilette, who was formerly a prisoner, and a major De Winter, are among them.

Colonel Fisher, a lieutenant colonel, and a major of the British army, are all ascertained to have been killed.

J. B. V.

NEGOCIATION. We have nothing certain from Europe as to what is doing towards negotiation. We

incline to believe that the British will not yet attend the conference proposed by themselves! They are crazy with their successes in Europe; and must let blood to reduce the fever of their ambition. News, however, may soon be expected from Europe. In the mean time, let us prepare for every thing that the great power of an unprincipled enemy can do.

TREASURY REPORT. We exceedingly regret the necessity that forbids the insertion of Mr. Secretary Campbell's report. But it must lay over for our next. He states a deficit of 11 millions, and proposes new sources of revenue. It is interesting, and very important. "With a great price purchased I thus freedom," (of Ron e) said the captain to Paul—with a great price did we purchase independence; and with a great price must it be preserved.

The Fox of Portsmouth, has captured, and sent into Salem, the transport ship *Stranger*, from England for Quebec, laden with 66 pieces of cannon (44 32's, and 22 24's) 300 boxes ammunition, and a great quantity of blankets, &c. intended to supply the enemy's fleet on Ontario. If the guns are for the large ship, as is expected, it may delay her sailing this season. We are happy, very happy, in an acquaintance with this very valuable *Stranger*.

☞ The *Stranger* was separated from her convoy, in a storm. In the fleet were four ordnance ships, and two of them *founded*—one is ours.

#### THE ENEMY IN THE CHESAPEAKE.

Since his repulse at *Baltimore* the enemy has inactive laid about the Patuxent, without doing any thing to give us an idea of his intentions. From Norfolk, of the date of the 23d inst. we have the following:—"Last evening, at 5 o'clock, of the enemy's ships there went to sea, one 74, one frigate and two brigs; one 74 went out in the morning—remain in Lynnhaven this morning, a razeed and two tenders."

☞ We learn from Head-Quarters "That the two last ships of the enemy left the Patuxent on Thursday last and stood down the bay."

☞ We were able only a little to anticipate the regular time of publication—musterings and guard duties taking off our hands. We aim to publish another number next *Wednesday*. A very formidable quantity of important matter, of almost every description, lies over. At this time we had rather publish *supplements* than be in arrears, but cannot. Among the articles postponed, some that relate to *Baltimore*, have much local and general interest. We have also a great prize list for the month.

#### CHRONICLE.

As in every other department, we have a great body of matter belonging to this, lying over. The strangest feature in our European intelligence is the elopement of the Princess Charlotte of Wales (her apparent to the British throne) with a young nobleman, the earl of *Arran*, to France, where they have been married. If this be true, and we hope it is, it will produce a precious uproar in England. The principle, "that the king can do no wrong," we believe, applies to this wonton girl, as the heir apparent! "Legitimate sovereigns!!!"—What stuff is royalty!—How debased the *Guelphs*!—Such a family is not to be found on the face of the earth for stupidity and vice.

GEORGE WASHINGTON CAMPBELL, in consequence of long and increasing indisposition, produced by a severe and incessant devotion to official duties, has resigned the office of secretary of the treasury.

JAMES MONROE, late secretary of state, is appointed by the President, with the concurrence of the Senate, secretary for the department of war.

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

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BALTIMORE, *Thursday, Oct. 6, 1814.*

To relieve ourselves of articles in type, and to enable us also to bring up "lee way," certain articles are published in this paper which, under other circumstances, we would have longer *postponed*. This number is designed to supply the place of one of those omitted at the proper time—the next *copy* will be published on Saturday ensuing, but shall as soon as possible.

## Destruction of the Navy Yard.

### COMMODORE TINGEY'S REPORT

*Extracts of a letter from commodore Tingey to the secretary of the navy, dated*

Navy-yard, Washington, 27th August 1814.

str—After receiving your orders of the 24th, directing the public shipping, stores, &c. at this establishment, to be destroyed in case of the success of the enemy over our army; no time was lost in making the necessary arrangements for firing the whole, and preparing boats for departing from the yard, as you had suggested.

About 4 P. M. I received a message by an officer from the secretary of war, with information that he "could protect me no longer." Soon after this, I was informed that the conflagration of the Eastern branch bridge had commenced—and, in a few minutes, the explosion announced the blowing up of that part, near the "draw," as had been arranged in the morning.

The intended fate of the yard had before been publicly announced to the neighbours, in order that they might take every possible precaution for the safety of themselves, families and property.

Immediately several individuals came in succession, endeavoring to prevail on me to deviate from my instructions—which they were invariably informed was unavailing, unless they could bring me your instructions in writing, countermanding those previously given.

A deputation also of the most respectable women came on the same errand—when I found myself painfully necessitated to inform them, that any farther importunities would cause the matches to be instantly applied to the trains—with assurance however that, if left at peace, I would delay the execution of the orders so long as I could feel the least shadow of justification. Captain Creighton's arrival at the yard, with the men who had been with him at the bridge (probably about 5 o'clock) would have justified me in instant operation—but he also was strenuous in the desire to obviate the intended destruction; and volunteered to ride out, and gain me positive information as to the position of the enemy, under the hope that our army might have rallied and repulsed them. I was myself indeed desirous of delay, for the reason that the wind was then blowing fresh from the S. S. W. which would most probable have caused the destruction of all the private property north and east of the yard, in its neighbourhood, being of opinion also, that the close of the evening would bring with it a calm, in which happily we were not disappointed. Other gentlemen, well mounted, volunteered, as captain Creighton had done, to go out and bring me posi-

live intelligence of the enemy's situation, if possible to obtain it.

The evening came, and I waited with much anxiety the return of captain Creighton having almost continual information, that the enemy were in the neighbourhood of the marine barracks—at the Capitol-hill—and that their "advance" was near Georgetown; I therefore determined to wait only until half past 8 o'clock, to commence the execution of my orders becoming apprehensive that captain Creighton had, from his long stay, fallen into the hands of the enemy. During this delay, I ordered a few marines and other persons who were then near me, to go off in one of the small galleys, which was done, and that boat is saved. Colonel Wharton had been furnished with a light boat, with which he left the yard, probably between 7 and 8 o'clock.

At twenty minutes past eight, captain Creighton returned; he was still extremely averse to the destruction of the property, but having informed him that your orders to me were imperative, the proper disposition of the boats being made, the matches were applied, and in a few moments the whole was in a state of irretrievable conflagration.

When about leaving the wharf, I observed the fire had also commenced at the works at Greenleaf's Point, and in the way out of the Branch we observed the Capitol on fire.

It had been my intention, not to leave the vicinity of the yard with my boat, during the night, but having capt. Creighton and other gentlemen with me, she was too much incumbered and over-laden, to render that determination proper. We therefore proceeded to Alexandria, in the vicinity of which I rested till the morning of the 25th, when we left Alexandria at half-past 7 o'clock, and proceeded again up to the yard, where I landed unmolested about a quarter before nine.

The schooner Lynx had laid alongside the burning wharf, still unhurt—hoping therefore to save her, we hailed her to the quarter of the hulk of the New York which had also escaped the ravages of the flames.

The detail issuing store of the navy store keeper, had remained safe from the fire during the night, which the enemy (being in force in the yard) about eight o'clock set fire to, and it was speedily consumed. It appeared that they had left the yard about half an hour when we arrived.

From the number and movements of the enemy, it would have appeared rash temerity, to have attempted returning again that day, though my inclination strongly urged it; therefore, reconnoitering their motions, as well as could be effected at a convenient distance in the gig, until evening, I again proceeded to Alexandria for the night.

Yesterday morning the 26th, it was impossible to form (from the various and contradictory reports at Alexandria) any sort of probable conjecture, either of the proceedings and situation of our army, or that of the enemy. Determining, therefore, to have a positive knowledge of some part thereof, from ocular demonstration, I again embarked in the gig, proceeding with due caution to the yard, where I learned with chagrin, devastation and pillage had commenced; and found also to my surprise that the old gun-boat, which had been loaded with provis-

sions and had grounded in endeavoring to get out of the Branch, on the evening of the 24th was nearly discharged of her cargo, by a number of our people, without connexion with each other.

Having landed in the yard, I soon ascertained that the enemy had left the city, excepting only a sergeant's guard, for the security of the sick and wounded. Finding it impracticable to stop the scene of plunder that had commenced, I determined instantly on repossessing the yard with all the force at my command; repairing therefore immediately to Alexandria, lieutenant Haraden, the ordinary men and the few marines there were ordered directly up, following myself, and got full possession again at evening.

I am now collecting the scattered purloined provisions, ready for your orders presuming they will now become very scarce indeed;—the quantity saved you shall be informed of when known to me.

The Lynx is safe, except her foremast being carried away in the storm of the 25th, about 4 P. M. We have also another of the gun-boats with about 100 barrels of powder; and one of the large yard-cutters, nearly full with the filled cylinders, for our different guns previously mounted. The powder of those however is probably much wetted by the storm.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

T. TINGEY.

*Honorable William Jones, secretary of the navy.*

## Enemy in the Chesapeake.

In the greater events which have latterly transpired, and the more extensive desolations that have happened since the following articles were in type, a considerable part of your present interest is lost, yet the contain many facts that ought to be known and preserved.

*On the Patuxent.*—The following articles are copied from the *Federal Republican* of the 26th and 27th Aug. They present a tolerably distinct account of the late proceedings of the enemy in the Patuxent. We have omitted only some political remarks.

"On Saturday admiral Cockburn, with 1200 marines, and about 40 sailors, landed on the farm of John Kilgour, esq. at the mouth of St. Clement's bay. Mr. Kilgour had repaired to camp, leaving a young infant with his sisters, (Mrs. Kilgour is lately dead.) Anxious about the fate of his sisters and children, he obtained a furlough and hurried home. In a few minutes after his arrival, the enemy debarked at his landing, treated him with respect, declaring that they must have stock. They took from him 20 head of cattle, 21 sheep, much poultry, and some vegetables. During their stay, admiral Cockburn remarked that he should respect private buildings, unless fired on by the militia from them; that he should take no citizen unless found in arms; that reinforcements had arrived that morning; and that he should immediately pay Washington a visit. He left in the room occupied by the officers, \$305 in silver. Mr. Kilgour immediately informed general Stuart of these occurrences. Mr. Kilgour asked permission to count the marines. It was granted him."

"On last Wednesday week a detachment from the enemy's shipping in the Patuxent, in pursuit of stock, landed at Mr. Benedict Heard's in St. Mary's. Lieutenant-colonel Ashton immediately detached in pursuit of them captain Blackstone's rifle corps and captain Brown's company of infantry. The enemy discovered them and retreated with great precipitation to their barges. On the next day they burnt every house on the land, all of which had been recently repaired—his loss is estimated at upwards of four thousand dollars. On Saturday the Severn, a

new ship, built last year of fir, carrying 56 guns, commanded by captain Nourse, the Bruin, a troop-ship, with 350 marines, carrying 16 guns, a bomb-ship, carrying 10 guns, with four small captured sloops, ascending the Patuxent as high as Sheudan's Point, about eight miles below Benedict. On Sunday they ascended as high as God's Grace, the property of the late George Mackall, when they debarked nearly 500 men, and demanded about 20 hogsheads of tobacco, belonging to Mr. Billingsly, the late tenant, and which they carried off, except three hogsheads, which they gave to an overseer or tenant of doctor Bell's. From thence they marched about 350 marines to Huntington, nearly seven miles, where they burnt the warehouse. Upon their return, some of their men were so much exhausted as to render it necessary for them to be moved in ox carts.

"On Tuesday they landed a very considerable force and marched to Calvert Court House, which, with the gaol, they destroyed. On Monday the shipping (except the detachment in the Patuxent) disappeared from the mouth of the Patuxent, and a heavy force appeared off Britton's Bay on Monday night. On Tuesday morning they landed, near Newtown, a heavy force, which marched to the right of Leonardtown, another to the left, and a third, commanded by admiral Cockburn, landed at the warehouse, and took possession of Leonardtown. The two flank parties, it is stated, reached the rear of the town a few minutes after the barges reached the landing. Their whole force in this expedition was estimated at about 1500 men. During their stay in the village, which was till about 2 o'clock, they behaved with great politeness to the ladies, respected private property wherever the proprietors remained at home, destroyed about 100 bbls. of supplies belonging to colonel Carberry's regiment, the whole of Mr. Hanslip's store, and the furniture, clothing and bedding of captains Forrest and Millard, all of whom had left town. They got possession of some muskets belonging to the state, which they broke to pieces, saying they were only fit to stick frogs with. Mrs. Thomson and Miss Eliza Key were very instrumental in saving the court-house, stating that it was sometimes a place for divine worship. On Thursday a detachment of about 500, exclusive of sailors, landed from the Patuxent shipping near Trent Hall. The sailors were armed with boarding pikes and cutlasses (for the cavalry.) They ascended into the country in quest of a quantity of tobacco, and other property belonging to Mr. W. Kilgour, which he had removed about three miles to a Mr. Avey's, as a place of safety. The property was in a barn and covered with Avey's wheat, this they deliberately removed for some time; they at length became tired and rolled out four hogsheads of tobacco, which they gave Avey as an equivalent for the remaining wheat and a saddle they took from him—the barn was then burnt with all the tobacco. They then under the direction of a negro of Mr. Kilgour's, who had gone to them, patiently selected the bacon and other things belonging to him, and denied to Mrs. Kilgour, who was there, even a small portion of necessaries for her immediate use, saying that they had determined to destroy every thing which they should find, which had been removed by the proprietors; that they would act otherwise where they remained at home. They found eight hogsheads of tobacco concealed in the woods near the water, which they carried off with a great deal of stock. Mr. Kilgour's loss is ruinous. As soon as general Stuart received intelligence that the enemy were landing, he moved with his whole force in pursuit of them. He arrived at High Hill where he saw the enemy's barges prepared to cover the retreat

of the men over the plain, and a frigate with her broadside ready for the same object. He could not receive any intelligence of the course they had taken till it was disclosed by the smoke ascending from Alvey's barn. To get between them and their shipping he must necessarily have exposed his force to a galling fire from their shipping, and give their infantry the advantage of a high commanding situation; to get in their front, so as to annoy them in their retreat, he must have taken a circuitous route of seven miles. Independent of all this, his force was much inferior to that of their's; he therefore returned to his encampment; he has ordered out all of his brigade. On Friday the enemy's vessels left their station at Benedict. A deserter states their object to be Annapolis; that admiral Cochrane has arrived; that they have neither barges nor vessels; that at present Burney's force is too formidable for them; that the Severn only draws thirteen feet of water, was built for the American station; that a very heavy land force is expected—that the bomb vessel only draws ten feet. No part of St. Mary's county is deemed secure; the inhabitants are removing their cattle and negroes to the interior; their crops are abandoned."

*Extract to the editor, dated Wicomico river, St. Mary's county, Aug. 14.*

"The British landed at Leonard Town, in this county, the 19th of last month; and, out of curiosity, I visited the town next day. Every housekeeper was plundered except one—to the court-house they did great injury; not a sash or pane of glass but what they destroyed; much of the inside work cut to pieces; all the tobacco, about 70 hhd. carried off, and property belonging to individuals and the United States, to the amount of 4,000 dollars. Although admiral Cockburn gave to some of the inhabitants a guard, yet his men plundered almost within reach of the guards' muskets. The admiral and his officers, I hear, conducted themselves politely to a Mr. Key and his daughter, and to most of the inhabitants; in this way they were honorably remunerated for the loss and destruction of their property—no houses were burnt. On the 30th, the same worthy body of men landed at Choptico, in this county—(except a few that the Virginia militia killed and wounded when they landed near Namony on the 20th and 21st) In this little village they got about 30 hhd. of tobacco and no other plunder; the inhabitants having removed all their property out of their grasp. Yet here they made a most furious attack on every window, door, and pane of glass in the village; not one was left in the whole; the place was given up to the fury of their men, and if the prince regent had commanded in person, the victory and destruction could not have been more complete. They picked their stolen geese in the church—dashed the pipes of the church-organ on the pavement; opened a family vault in the church-yard, broke open the coffins, stirred the bones about with their hands in search of hidden treasure—all this in the presence of their worthy admiral. During all this havoc, not a man was in arms within fifteen miles of them, and they worked until ten o'clock at night, before they got the tobacco on board their vessels, owing to the shallowness of the creek that leads up to Choptico warehouse, they rolled more than half the tobacco one mile. General Stewart was encamped with the militia near sixteen miles from these free-boaters: I presume he is waiting for a regular field action with the British. He has no confidence in our trees and bushes, as our militia had in the revolutionary war."

[*American.*]

*From the Alexandria Herald, July 24.*—It is ascertained that admiral Cockburn was at Leonardtown in

person, and sanctioned every species of plunder—such articles as were not carried off were destroyed—the doors and windows of the houses were broken. &c. After doing all the damage they could, short of burning, they went to the Virginia shore, burnt the dwellings of five widows and several others on the shore; burnt every building at Namony ferry, and plundering the country round of every kind of provisions, and carried off a great many negroes. The militia of Spottsylvania had marched en masse to the relief of their fellow-citizens below.

## The Eastern Coast.

On the 1st of September, ultimo, the depredators, under admiral *Griffith* and the governor of *Nova Scotia*, sir *John Sherbrooke*, having under him general *Robinson*, with about 40 sail of vessels and several thousand troops, (reported from 3 to 7,000) entered the *Penobscot*. The small garrison in the fort at *Castine* discharged their guns, blew up the fort and retired. The enemy then took possession without opposition. They next sent 600 men to *Belfast*, which submitted. The following day they proceeded up the river to *Hampden*, where the *Adams* frigate laid, distant 35 miles. Capt. *Morris* prepared himself to receive them as well as he could, by landing his guns and erecting batteries. A considerable militia force had by this time assembled;—but they disgracefully fled on the approach of the enemy.—He therefore, after a few fires, spiked his guns, burnt his stores and prize goods, and blew up the ship.—He and his crew escaped. If the militia had stood, he would have beat off the enemy. They evacuated *Belfast*, &c. on the 7th ult. with the avowed design of proceeding against *Portland* and *Portsmouth*, &c. It seems their fixed intention to destroy particularly our shipping. Chagrined beyond measure at the triumphs of our navy, they vainly strive to prevent future disgrace by capturing empty hulks. It is estimated that they took 120 vessels in the *Penobscot*, of all descriptions. Captain *Morris* had arrived at *Boston*.—His crew are chiefly at *Portsmouth*. He was the last man on board of his vessel, and is said to have made his escape, after firing the train, by swimming.

It is stated that at *Castine* there were 24 thirty-two pounders; 14 of which were designed for the new fort erecting at *Portland*. The British troops that landed had belonged to *Wellington's* army; having each a medal in evidence of serving under him. The militia in great numbers were pushing to the sea-board. 8,000 were collected at *Portland*, and the other towns on the coast were filling with them. But the enemy expresses the utmost contempt for us, and expects to possess himself of all the *Massachusetts* and *Maine* ports in six weeks to destroy the shipping. The fleet consists of 3 74's, 3 frigates, 3 sloops of war and a schooner, besides the transport vessels; and they talk of reinforcements. Many of their troops appear to be *Germans*, probably the better to secure themselves against desertion. They plundered many houses, and threatened to burn the several little towns, such as *Frankfort* and *Bangor*, if provisions were not liberally supplied. At the latter place were some vessels on the stocks; the firing of these might have destroyed the village; so the people conditioned to launch and deliver them at *Castine*!—They took what they pleased, and done what they liked; and left the *Penobscot* about the 8th inst. going westward. The river was covered with burning vessels.

By the following proclamations it will be seen that all the towns east of the *Penobscot* are declared *British colonies*. All persons passing east or west

from below Belfast must report themselves or be stopped.

#### A PROCLAMATION,

By lieutenant general sir John Coape Sherbrooke, K. B. Commanding a body of his Britannic majesty's land forces, and Edward Griffith, esq. rear admiral of the White, commanding a squadron of his majesty's ships, now arrived in the Penobscot.

Whereas it is the intention of the British commanders to take possession of the country lying between the Penobscot river and Passamaquoddy bay, the peaceable inhabitants of that district are hereby informed, that if they remain quietly at their respective homes, and carry on their usual occupations, every protection will be afforded them, so long as they shall comply with such regulations as may be established for their conduct and guidance by the authority of the commanders.

All persons taken in arms employed in conveying intelligence to the enemy, or in assisting him in any way shall be treated accordingly.

Such of the inhabitants as may wish to avail themselves of the terms offered in the preceding part of the Proclamation, will be required to give up their arms, and to demean themselves in a quiet peaceable manner; and those who may be willing to supply the British forces with provisions, &c. will be regularly paid for the articles furnished, and shall receive every encouragement and protection in so doing.

By command, CHARLES MARTYR, naval secretary.

J. F. ADDISON, military secretary.

#### PROCLAMATION.

By lieutenant general sir John Coape Sherbrooke, K. B. Commanding a body of his Britannic majesty's forces, and Edward Griffith, esq. rear admiral of the White, commanding a squadron of his majesty's ships now arrived in the Penobscot.

This is to certify unto all persons whom it may concern that the municipal laws as established by the American government for the maintenance of peace and tranquility in that part of the district of Maine lying between the Penobscot river and Passamaquoddy bay will continue in force until further orders, and the civil magistrates are permitted to execute the laws as heretofore, and shall be supported in so doing.

By command, T. F. ADDISON, military secretary.

CHARLES MARTYR, naval secretary.

On these proclamations the *Boston Palladium* has this article:

#### INCREASE OF APPETITE.

When the war commenced the enemy promised to respect Eastport; but they took it, and then declared they meant to trouble no place to the westward of it. They have however now taken Castine, and claim all from Passamaquoddy to Penobscot, but utter assurances that they mean to molest no other part of Maine; and these assurances will probably be found as sincere as former ones.

The territory between Penobscot and Passamaquoddy, which the governor and admiral from Nova Scotia have, by proclamation, declared their intention to take possession of, and have commenced by occupying Castine, includes about forty towns belonging to the state of Massachusetts. Among these towns are Ash-ton, with about 400 inhabitants, Calais 400, Cherryfield 200, Columbia 500, Harrington 500, Jonesborough 600, Machias 1600, Stubbens 600, Lubec, Robinson, Bluehill 700, Buckstown 1500, Castine 1100, Deerisle 1600, Eden 700, Frankfort 1500, Gor-rington 1400, Sadgwick 1400, Isleborough 600, Mt. Desart 1100, Trenton 600, Sullivan 800, Goldsborough 600, Penobscot 1400, &c.

Machias and some other towns have also been taken, but we have not yet received particulars.

Eastport is under military law. The following was posted there about the 25th ult.

*Province of New-Brunswick in council, 13th August 1814.*—His honor the president having submitted to the consideration of the council the present state of the inhabitants of Moose-Island, [Eastport] under the articles of capitulation, and the subsequent proclamations issued there by sir Thomas Hardy and colonei Palkington, dated 14th July, 1814; and the expediency of extending to those inhabitants all the rights and privileges of British subjects.

It is the opinion of this council, that it is not expedient at present to extend to them all the rights and privileges of British subjects: but that they should be left under the control of the military authority, pursuant to the articles of capitulation and the proclamation above mentioned, until further instructions on this subject are received from his majesty's ministers.

(Signed)

J. ODELL,

Secretary of the Province of New-Brunswick.

*Salem, Sept. 21.*—The British ship *Leander*, sir Gen. Collier, appeared off Gallops Folly, yesterday forenoon, and sent three barges full of men into the Cove, who were repelled by about 50 men who had assembled from the vicinity, with muskets and one six pounder and the barges returned to the ship after exchanging several fires. A barge with a flag was then sent from the ship with a letter, of which the following is a copy:—

*"Leander, Tuesday, 1 o'clock, P. M.*

"Sir George Collier, believes the boat on shore a fisherman. He desires to examine her without recourse to arms, and if objected to he will land and destroy every house within two miles of the cove. This the inhabitants may rely upon.

G. COLLIER."

Lient. col. Appleton, who had by this time assembled the Cape Ann regiment, and had about 600 men under arms, received the note and returned the following answer:

*"Tuesday, half past 2 o'clock.*

"Sir Gen. Collier, sir—You have permission to examine the boat now lying at the wharf in this cove. This is permitted without reference to the threat connected with your request, which is such as was not to be expected from a British commander.

"J. APPLETON, Lieut. Col."

The boat was accordingly examined but nothing found in her, and the barges returned to the ship.

The enemy's threatening *Boston*. They who are in the bay took of a force of 15,000 men to effect a landing at Cape Cod or Cape Ann. They have destroyed many small vessels. The following recapitulation of their infamous proceedings is from a *Boston* paper of the 20th Sept.

"A very respectable gentleman from Sandwich, cape Cod, has brought information that on Thursday last the British ships Spencer, commodore Raggett, *Leander*, Sir George Collier, and *Nymph* anchored off Wellfleet and sent a flag on shore with a demand of \$2000 as a ransom for their fishing vessels, and that in case it was not paid they should be destroyed.

A demand was sent to East am for the beading, &c. which had been before demanded, taken on board the tender of the *Leander* cast away some time ago.

A committee on behalf of the town was sent on board the *Leander*, with information that the articles demanded were in the keeping of the deputy marshal at Barnstable, and that it was not in their power to restore them. They were told nevertheless

that if every article found on board the tender, and \$10 cash for each seaman for having been obliged to lie without their bedding, and \$1200 as a ransom the salt works were not delivered at Provincetown in the course of this month, the town and the salt works should be destroyed.

A committee of the town of Brewster was likewise despatched on board the commodore's ship, of whom a ransom of \$4000 was demanded for the salt works—an answer to be given on Monday. A town meeting was called, and it was voted that the ransom should be paid.

The commander of the *Nymph* threatened to destroy Burnstable, in consequence of the insult which he said was offered to his lieutenant who was lately sent on shore to demand the effects taken in the tender. He also declared that all works of public utility in the cape towns must be ransomed or they would be destroyed. There were on board the ships 500 marines, and seven cannon mounted on travelling carriages.

An agent has been despatched to this town by the inhabitants of Eastham, with a petition to the district judge, that he may order the seized articles to be restored.

A flag was seen going into Orleans on Sunday, probably with a similar message to the preceding, to that town.

Letter from Sir George R. Collier.

H. B. M. ship *Leander*, Sept. 21.

"GENTLEMEN—I have to inform you that all the fishing on the banks is prohibited, every vessel curing fish or having salt on board for that purpose will be destroyed.

"Small vessels with fresh fish only will in future be permitted to proceed into the harbors of this coast.

"You are required to give this publicity, as I shall destroy all vessels I meet with curing fish, or vessels exceeding 30 tons in or near the offing.

"I am sir your obedient servant,

"GEO. R. COLLIER captain.

"To the selectmen of Portsmouth and vicinity."

Sir John Sherbooke has returned to Halifax. The eastern people, touched to the quick by the outrages of the enemy, begin to have a "notion" that an invasion of New-Brunswick might have a good effect in checking the incursions of the foe. This would be sound policy in every respect—and if the thing were taken up heartily, the British might soon be routed from the whole country, "Wellington's invincibles" to the contrary notwithstanding; who seem likely to have enough to do with *Brown, Izard and Macomb*. It would not be straining probability to say that one third of all the British reinforcements that have arrived in the present year, are already lost to the enemy's strength. They are mere mortals—the heroes of *Niagara* have proved it, if proof were wanting.

On the 21 ult. the greater part of the enemy's force collected at *Castine*, embarked for some new expedition—their land troops are stated at 1200; they have taken on board a number of horses.

## Recently omitted Scraps.

Copy of a letter from colonel Hawkins, agent for Indian affairs, to his excellency the governor of Georgia, dated

"Creek Agency, August 23, 1814.

"Gen. Jackson terminated his negotiations with the Creeks on the 9th. The line of limits drawn for them is Coosa river, with a reserve of two miles square for Fort Williams, to the falls seven miles above Fort Jackson, thence eastward to a point two

miles north of Gakfuskee (a large creek three miles below Autos ee on the east side of Talpoosa) thence across Talpoosa to the mouth of the creek, and up the same ten miles in a direct line. Thence to Chat, thache and across it at the mouth of Stimm, choco, the first large creek below Oke, te, yoo, on, ne (about 68 miles north of the confluence of Chat, thache) thence east to Georgia, with an eventual reserve to accommodate the Kinnards.

"We continue to receive daily rumours of hostile appearances at Appalatchicola. Ten British armed vessels off that coast; have manœuvred dexterously by landing and re-embarking their crews, to deceive the Indians in that neighborhood. They furnished considerable munitions of war, and some clothing, and are training the Indians and some \*\*\*\*\* for purposes hostile to us.

"We have from a credible Indian source the following from a British naval officer, to the hostile chief:

"The British and other powers had conquered France and seven powers were now united against AMERICA. A little before white frost, you will hear of smoke all around the United States. In the sea ports, and the burning of powder. The War is just beginning.—There will be several armies landing in different places. His king, George, said the seven powers would be able, and were determined to CONQUER AMERICA, and the British would be masters of it. They need not expect to be deceived; the British would fulfil their promises, AND NEVER LEAVE THIS LAND AGAIN.

"The Indians who recently committed a violent outrage below Hartford, were from the banditti assembling under British influence; there were four of them. As I have some confidential people among them, one of whom will probably be here in a week, I expect some interesting details to our present stock, which I shall communicate to you.

I am, respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

BENJN. HAWKINS.

Governor EARLY.

From other sources that appear worthy of entire credit, it appears that the Spaniards at Pensacola are more than passive instruments in the hands of the merciless British, to raise the tomalawk in the south. There are many Indians at that place, dressed in British uniforms, and exercised by British officers, &c. Much bloodshed must be expected in that quarter. If the truce and treaty that Jackson has lately made with the Creeks, is broken, we shall not probably ever hear of another. How cruel is it in *Englishmen* to bring about the extermination of this race; for exterminated they certainly will be, if they do not cease their murders. They were a happy and contented people, cultivating their farms a *man facturing*, until the British, like the devil in *Eden*, tempted them to evil. They have already paid a dreadful penalty for their folly and weakness—but the end is not yet. They still listen to the deceiver. Inhuman *Englishmen!* let the poor savage have peace. Wretched murderers! permit us in safety to spare the remnant of the *Creeks!* Monsters, let them return to that progressive state of civilization we fastened with so much charity, justice, and good faith. One lesson of practical christianity, is worth all your regiments of canting "Bible Societies," headed by such men as *George or Frederick Guelfh*.

THE ENEMY. Gen. Jackson's letter (page 47) reports that the British said they expected 50,000 *Russians*, to assist in conquering the United States. A person who was captured by the Wolverine sloop of war, on a voyage from Charleston to New York, was informed by the captain that the British government would demand *Louisiana, the Floridas, and a*

part of *Maine*—and that if the war should continue, *Russia* was under obligations to furnish two hundred thousand men to coerce them.

Another report says, that a reinforcement of 10,000 British had actually arrived at *Bermuda*.—The "season of lying" seems just beginning!! There is no reason to believe or suppose either of those.

**PRISONERS.** There are causes to expect that it is the design of the *Goths* to send all the prisoners they take to *England*, even non-combatants and passengers! Alas! how rapidly is *Great Britain* sliding into finished barbarism.

**HIS FORCE.**—We believe that the full force of the enemy is now in his colonies and on our coasts, and that other reinforcements may not be expected this season from *Europe*, some ships to relieve others excepted. To fit out the *Penobscot* expedition, they hardly left troops enough at *Halifax* to guard the town. The men employed in that expedition are a mixture of Spaniards, Portuguese, Germans and British. The *Halifax* papers, however, still talk of Lord *Hill's* expected arrival.

**CHARLESTON.** The *Goths* talk of laying *Charleston* in ashes this winter; and expect soon to commence the siege of *New York*—as they say.

**BALTIMORE.** The gentle souls at *Montreal*, *Halifax*, &c. had heard of the capture of *Washington City*, but deferred their public rejoicings until the "poor *Baltimoreans*" were suitably chastised—which they looked upon as a certainty. They were also "out of their reckoning" as to *Plattsburg*, and will have as much cause for mourning as for rejoicing, at least!

**NEW YORK**—25,500 men, we are told, can be bro't to act in one place, in three hours, for the defence of the city of *New York*.

**BOSTON.**—The hills round *Boston* are covered with troops, and works of defence are erecting with great industry. The same remarks apply to other towns on the coast of *Massachusetts*. A town meeting was lately held at *Boston*, (present 3 to 4000 persons) at which measures of defence were resolved upon with great spirit.

**THE MILITIA.** The general orders of the governors of the several states, respecting the militia, &c. would occupy too much room for present insertion; but they may be recorded. The following brief notices will shew that all is activity. The governor of *New Hampshire* has ordered that the whole force of the state shall hold itself ready to march at a moment's warning; he also invites the exempted to prepare for the defence, and detaches a certain body of men for the protection of the seaboard, on account of "the recent depredations of the enemy." The governor of *Massachusetts* has issued a like order, and directs that the whole militia of the state shall march "as the laws of the United States or of that state shall require," in "consequence of the violations of our territory," &c. He also detaches a considerable force, and urges, very pointedly, vigilance to all. *Connecticut*, *New York*, *New Jersey*, and *Pennsylvania*, particularly the three last, are making great exertions to present a respectable force at every "assailable" point (see *Cochrane's* Letter, page 17); *Ohio* and *Kentucky* are sending men to be north—in *Marland*, *Virginia*, *North* and *South Carolina* and *Georgia*, all is on the alert; and *Tennessee* holds herself ready to meet the allies in the *Creek* county under her favorite *Jackson*. *Vermont* would forth her strength on the *Champlain* frontier. In short, the whole nation seems roused to arms. The people of *Virginia* have come forward in such multitudes that the governor has dismissed thousands of them as unnecessary.

THE PATRIOTIC SPIRIT of the people of the United

States, in all parts, is reaching the standard of '76. However pressed, there are no fears for the republic. All will be well. Instances of magnanimous exertion shall be noticed hereafter to the honor of both parties of our citizens.

**THE FISHERIES.** The British treaty with France was discussed in the British house of commons, June 29. Mr. Canning said, the interest of France was small in the Newfoundland Fisheries; but he wished the government to give those fisheries due consideration as to America. In our treaty of peace with that power, we gave away more than we ought—and we never now heard of that treaty, but as a trophy of victory on one hand, or the monument of degradation and shame on the other. We ought to recur in questions with America, to the state in which we now stand, rather than that in which we once stood.

Lord Castlereagh said he was fully aware of the importance of the Newfoundland fisheries.

**MASSACHUSETTS.** The legislature of this state was to convene at *Boston* on the 5th instant; called by the governor on account of events of a public and alarming nature that have recently occurred.

A SCOUNDREL CAUGHT. A letter from *Stonington*, dated Sept. 18, says—Yesterday afternoon the people of *Mystic* fitted out their captured barge, and hoisted British colors, for the purpose of decoying a sloop which was suspected to be aiding the enemy. They boarded her without exciting any suspicion, and the following dialogue ensued between the two captains:

"Barge—What are you doing?"

"Sloop—I have been supplying your commodore,

"Barge—With what?"

"Sloop—Soap, candles, onions, &c.

"Barge—Have you a pass?"

"Sloop—Yes," and produced it.

"Barge—This is a good pass to go into *Mystic* with. Make sail immediately!"

The captain of the sloop offered the barge a bill of sale of the sloop, and a present of 500 dollars; but they were rejected, and the vessel brought in. She is about 35 tons burthen, and belongs to the westward. *Mer. Adv.*

**VANDALISM.**—About 500 negroes from the *Chesapeake*, arrived at *Halifax* on the 2nd ult. in an emaciated condition—30 had died on the passage, and four expired on the quay, at landing them. Among them were many women and children, one man 70 years old and blind. Nine hundred more were expected. Those able to work had been sent to the work-house. The people were dissatisfied with the incumbrance.

The master of a vessel arrived with a very valuable cargo at *Philadelphia* from *St. Barts*, reports that the negroes stolen in the *Chesapeake* had been sold in the *West Indies* from 150 to 200 dollars higher than the island negroes. The cargo of the "Defender of the Faith's" ship *Dragon*, of 74 guns, was particularly esteemed. While these things occur, the British at home are ready to quarrel with France for not abolishing the slave trade. The righteously prince regent is patron of the Bible societies.

**PROCLAMATION.** By the governor of *Virginia*.—Whereas, in consequence of a proclamation heretofore issued, apprising the good people of this commonwealth of the instant danger of an invasion, and calling upon them to rally round the standard of their country to defend and protect it from disgrace and desolation, such numbers of volunteers, animated with zeal and patriotism, have already reported themselves, as, in addition to the requisition of militia, render the army now assembled amply sufficient for every purpose, so that the services of any other



volunteers are unnecessary: I have therefore thought proper to issue this my proclamation to apprise the public of the state of the force already assembled, and require all volunteers who have not yet arrived at Richmond, to return home, their aid being no longer wanting for the defence and security of their country.

Done at Richmond, this 9th September, in the [L S] year 1814, and the 39th year of the commonwealth. JS. BARBOUR

**LIGHTS.**—A *Boston* paper says that orders have been given for extinguishing all the lights and dismantling all the light houses on our coast; and grumbles that the same is not advertised in the papers—for the information of the enemy. On whose account—he, probably, has noticed it.

**THE PORTUGUESE.**—It is stated that the Portuguese government has refused to clear out vessels for the United States—in obedience to the British paper blockade.

**THE KNIGHTS,** sir *George Prevost* and sir *Alexander Cochrane* are playing a curious game. The first tells the people, that peaceable citizens shall not be molested; that private property taken shall be restored, &c. and that it is only against the government that he will carry on the war. See his proclamation, page 44. Now the other knight, sir *Alexander*, says in his letter to Mr. *Monroe*, (page 17) that he is specially enjoined by the said sir *George* "to destroy and lay waste all such towns and districts on the coast as may be found assailable." These men must be very great fools, or suppose the people of the United States to be so; else they would have had more method in their business. They are however alike in one thing—they were both shamefully disappointed and unexpressibly chagrined—the one in attempting to save *Plattsburg*; the other in his design to destroy *Baltimore*. But sir *George*, with all his exulting, compelled the people of the Isle au Motte to take the oath of allegiance to his Britannic majesty. Query—Will *Macdonough* "wear them back again?"

**BRASS GUNS.**—*Portsmouth*, Sept. 24.—The two elegant brass field pieces captured by the privateer *Harpey* from a British Packet and brought into this port, were purchased by the town at a late sale, for \$1524. They belonged to the post-office department, and bore its initials.

**JUST REMARK.**—The most extraordinary event in the military history of this country, (says the *Democratic Press*) is the precipitate flight of 14,000 British troops, under five lieutenant and major-generals, from before the American fort at *Plattsburg*, manned by 1500 sick, convalescent and healthy men, and 2,500 New York and Vermont militia and volunteers, on the 12th of September, 1814. A vast quantity of military stores and provisions, and even their wounded on the field, were left as evidences of their hurry and panic.

**ROCKET BATTERY.**—From the *Boston Gazette*—A correspondent would beg leave to suggest to the committee of defence the utility of erecting a rocket battery on either forts Warren or Independence.—By means of a recent invention, rockets from one to thirty-two pounds, or larger if necessary, may be fired with as much accuracy as ordnance; and possessing a quality equally destructive as shells, they may be made a powerful weapon of annoyance to the enemy's vessels, should they attempt to come within their reach—and it is said they can be thrown two miles and upwards. We understand Mr. Beath has expressed a willingness, not only to superintend the making of these rockets, of which it is believed he has a perfect knowledge, but also to be stationed at the battery, in case of attack.

**MORE ALLIES.**—The old friends of England, the

"Algerine patriots," have fitted out a squadron of vessels to assist in "restoring" the United States "to the arms of their legitimate sovereign." But they have yet only captured Dutch, Swedish and Spanish vessels.

**CHARLESTON, S. C.**—The works for the defence of this important city, are going on with all the activity and zeal that distinguished New York, &c. The Seventy-six Association—the Cincinnati and Revolution societies, take the lead in directing the labors of the people, and the direction cannot be in better hands.

**THE STRANGER.**—The cargo of this valuable prize is advertised for sale at \$1 lem. It consists of 66 guns, 24 pounders, on *Congreve's* principle, with their carriages, and every thing that belongs to their immediate use, for actual service. The other munitions of war with which she is laden, are really "too tedious to mention" at present. They consist of 2 or 300 different and important articles, among which are muskets, pistols and blue lights, with great quantities of clothing. The inventory is curious and shall be preserved. She is a fortune to her captors and of no small national importance, not only for the convenience of many of those things to be immediately transferred to the *Independence* 74, at *Boston*, but for her value to the enemy. For the "Boston Patriotism" says—"It is certain that the guns taken on board the *Stranger* were intended for and necessary to the new British ship at Kingston, it follows that we shall continue masters of Lake Ontario through this season, unless some accident befalls our squadron." The loss of this vessel, with that of the two other ordnance ships that sailed in company, foundered at sea, may, and probably will, have no little effect on the events of the present campaign, as well in *Canada* as on the sea board.

**EASTERN COAST.**—A small force remains at *Castine*—only about 100 men, and a frigate and a brig. The rest of the troops, &c. were said to have returned to *Halifax*. Some say they will be sent to *Canada*, others to the *Cheapeake*; the latter we think the most probable—for *Cochrane* has certainly gone for reinforcements, and the report is that he expects to meet lord *Hill* at *Halifax*.

**COM. MACDONOUGH.**—The common council of New York, have unanimously resolved to present the freedom of the city in a gold box to commodore *Macdonough*, the hero of lake *Champlain*, and their thanks to his officers and crews; and to request his portrait for the picture gallery.

PUBLIC MEETINGS have been given to *Macdonough* and *Maccomb* and their officers at *Burlington* and *Plattsburg*. At the former gov. *Chittenden* and gen. *Strong* of the Vt. volunteers, were invited guests.

MILITARY.

**PROMOTIONS.** The President has conferred the following brevet commissions for distinguished and meritorious services in the army of the U. States:

- Brig. gen. *Gaines*, August 15, major-general.
- Capt. *D. Ketchum*, 15th infantry, July 25th, major.
- 2d Lieut. *E. B. Randolph*, 20th infantry, July 25, 1st lieut.
- Capt. *T. Bidelle*, junior corps of artillery, August/15, major.
- Capt. *A. C. W. Fanning*, corps of artillery, Aug. 15, major.
- Capt. *B. Birdsall*, 4th rifle, Aug. 15, major.
- 1st Lieut. *N. A. Hall*, 21st infantry, assistant inspector-general, Aug. 15, captain.
- Capt. *R. Desha*, 24th infantry, August 4, major.
- Brig. gen. *Dearborn*, son of major-gen. *Dearborn* of the U. S. A. has been appointed to the command of the forts in Boston harbor.
- Brig. gen. *Peter B. Porter*, of the New-York vo-

unteers, for his gallant conduct on the Niagara frontier, has been brevetted a major-general of the militia of New-York, by governor Tompkins.

Major *George Armistead*, for his gallant defence of fort M'Henry, has been promoted to lieutenant-colonel of artillery, by the president of the United States.

**THE UPPER LAKES.**—Though the expedition under lieutenant-col. Croghan and captain Kennedy has failed of its primary object, the enemy has suffered immensely by their exertions. Supplies of provisions of the first necessity, and of clothing and munitions of war for the garrison and post of Michilimackinac, &c. of great value, with a large collection of furs, &c. belonging to the N. W. company, have all been captured or destroyed. Before our squadron entered Lake Huron, flour was \$100 per barrel, salt \$3 per lb. &c. Capt. *Smith's* account of his cruise is exceedingly interesting. It gives us a clear detail of his proceedings and furnishes many important geographical facts.

**GENERAL ARMISTEAD.**—From the *National Intelligencer*—Many of our readers will be pleased to learn that general Armistead was misinformed as to the fact, stated in his letter, that "Alexander C. Hanson, editor of the Federal Republican," was one of the deputation which he states to have waited on the President of the United States from Georgetown, on the morning of the 29th Aug.—and, indeed, as to the fact that *any* deputation waited on the President from Georgetown, on that occasion.

Brig. gen. Cadwallader has taken command of the Pennsylvania volunteers and militia, encamped at *Kennet Square*, for the defence of the upper shores of the *Delaware*—7,500 men are collected at *York*. A camp is forming at *Marcus Hook*.

*New-Orleans.*—Considerable preparations are making for the defence of this city and its neighbourhood. A force of 10,000 men is expected to be stationed here.

#### NAVAL.

The cargo of the India ship *Countess of Harcourt*, a prize of the *Sibine*, of Baltimore, has been sold at an average price of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  the pound sterling, by invoice. Some articles sold as high as \$18.

A large Russia ship with a very valuable cargo, lately sent into St. Mary's by one of our gun boats, has been released, and is disposing of her goods—woolens and crockery.

*Scotch prize.* "His majesty's" brig *Moselle*, of Carthagenia, lately fell in with one of our privateers, in a calm, which she took for a merchantman, and manned five barges to take possession. They were permitted to come close aboard when a tremendous fire was opened upon them; they had the master and two midshipmen and 18 men killed and wounded—the rest got away, and the privateer being to windward escaped.

*Boston, Sept. 17.* An English ship of 370 tons, full cargo pepper, a prize to the letter of marque ship *Hyder Ali*, Thorn-like, arrived in Mount Desert harbour a few days since—finding that part of the country in possession of the British, she stood out again with a pilot on board—at night was becalmed, when she was discovered by a frigate at anchor near the land—the capt. 2d lieutenant and sailing master of the frigate came in 3 barges full of men, two on one side and one on the other—as the capt. of the frigate came over the side, capt. Oxnard, prize-master, and the pilot jumped over the other side into the pilot's boat; one of the barges fired on the boat, killed the pilot, and slightly wounded capt. Oxnard, but he escaped, and arrived safely at Portland on Tuesday. The barges' crews which boarded the ship on different sides, mistook each other for the

enemy, and an engagement ensued between them, in which the capt. was shot through the shoulder, and 4 men badly wounded. The prize left the coast of Sumatra 12th May. [The cargo of this vessel is said to have been worth 100,000L sterling.]

The U. States sloop *Peacock* lately watered at the isle of Flores—two British sloops of war had sailed in quest of her from Payal. She had burnt the brig *Stranger*, from Buenos Ayres for Liverpool.

The *Pike*, privateer of Baltimore, was lately run on shore to avoid the British cruisers on the southern coast, and went entirely to pieces: She had taken 23 prizes, and had goods on board worth \$50,000. A part of her crew were made prisoners.

Gun boat No. 149, by some accident was blown up at Ocoocock, on the 23d ult.—nine persons lost their lives by the disaster.

By a prize to the *Chasseur*, of Baltimore, arrived at New-York, we learn that a fine American ship, laden with seal skins, which had been gone 2 years, came into Buenos Ayres, and was taken possession of by the British frigate *Nevius*, by whom she was sent to Rio Janeiro. The ship had a *British licence*, and the capt with part of his crew were left on shore at Buenos Ayres.

Several Portuguese and other vessels have been lately captured off our coast, and sent to Halifax on a suspicion of their going to violate the blockade.

The *London Gazette* of June 21, officially announces the capture of the American privateers *Hawk* and *Polly*, by two frigates.

The southern coast is much infested by the enemy's cruisers; yet there are some valuable arrivals of prizes, and merchant vessels. Those from foreign voyages are chiefly *Baltimore* schooners.

The cartel *Anastasia* has sailed from Savannah for Halifax, with 110 British prisoners—among them the officers late of the *Epervier*.

The news of the capture of the *Essex* frigate gave great joy in England; but they did not fire the tower guns for the *glorious victory*.

The *Wasp* sloop of war, has arrived at *Bayonne*, where she was repairing damages.

The *David Porter*, privateer, arrived at New-York, was chased nine hundred and forty miles, by a frigate and two sloops of war.

Governor *Strong*, has loaned commodore Bainbridge, 632 pounders of the State artillery for the defence of the independence 74. We are happy to see that governor *Strong*, and the people at large, seem now to feel the necessity of defending their *Independence*.

A New York paper says—The secretary of the navy has appointed commodore *Porter* to command the Steam-battery constructed by Mr. Fulton.

The *Mammoth* privateer of Baltimore is dealing destruction to the enemy, off the coasts of Newfoundland. In imitation of the enemy, she has ordered the fishermen off the Banks! She had a hard fight with a large transport ship, with 500 or 400 troops; in which she did not succeed, and had one man wounded.

The *York* of Baltimore, has arrived at Boston, filled with the richest spoils of several vessels; among them, them-East India ship *Coromandel*, of 500 tons.

The *Surprise* of Baltimore, has arrived at Salem, after a wonderful cruise of *one month*—in which she took 20 prizes; some of them of great value—nine or ten of which she burnt. She is full of dry goods. Particulars in prize list.

An American sloop has been sent as prize into "his majesty's" new port of EASTPOINT.

It is ascertained that the enemy launched his ship to carry 110 guns, at Kingston, on the 10th of September, on which occasion a royal salute was fired.

# The Treasury Report.

Treasury Department, September 23, 1814.

Sir—I have the honor to transmit a report prepared in obedience to the "Act supplementary to the act, entitled an act to establish the Treasury Department."

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, sir, your most obedient,

G. W. CAMPBELL.

To the honorable the president of the senate, &c.

The secretary of the treasury, in obedience to the act "supplementary to the act, entitled an act to establish the treasury department," has the honor respectfully to submit to congress the following report and estimates.

The sums authorised by congress to be expended during the year 1814, and for which appropriations have been made, are as follow:

1. For civil, diplomatic and miscellaneous expenses

Del. 2,245,355 59  
 To this sum is to be added the amount which may be payable on the following accounts, viz: 1. The amount of fines, penalties and forfeitures actually received into the treasury, which is appropriated for defraying the expenses of courts of the United States. 2. The sums received by the collectors of the customs for the Marine Hospital fund, and private person fund, which are paid into the treasury with the other monies derived from the customs, but are exclusively applicable to the two objects here mentioned respectively. 3. The monies received into the treasury for the United States' moiety of prizes captured by public vessels, which belong exclusively to the navy pension fund. These items are contingent and uncertain, until the accounts for the year are made up, and their amount ascertained. As they appear among the receipts into the treasury, they must be also placed among its expenditures. They may be estimated for the year 1814, at 2,000 00

2. Military expenses, including the indian department, and the permanent appropriation of 20,000 dollars annually, for arming and equipping the whole body of the militia of the United States 24,502,905

3. Naval expenses, including 200,000 dollars for the purchase of timber, appropriated by the act of March 30, 1812 8,169,910 87

4. For the public debt, such sum as the public engagements may require, and which during the year 1814 may be estimated as follows:

Interest on the public debt existing previously to the present war 1,935,000  
 Interest on the debt contracted during the present war, including the loans of the present year, and treasury notes 2,950,000  
 Reimbursement of principal, consisting of the annual reimbursement of the old six per cent, and deferred stocks, temporary loans payable during this year, and treasury notes reimbursable during the same 7,572,000  
 12,507,000

But for these purposes there had been advanced from the treasury during the year 1813, to sundry commissioners of loans, beyond the demands upon them for the year 1813, and to the treasurer of the United States as agent for the commissioners of the sinking fund, about 350,000

Leaving payable during the year 1814 12,157,000

47,270,172 46

The means by which this sum was to be provided were the following:

1. Monies receivable on account of the public revenue, and which were estimated as follows:

From the customs 6,500,000  
 Sales of public lands 600,000  
 Direct tax and internal duties 3,800,000  
 Postage and incidental expenses 50,000  
 10,950,000

2. Monies receivable for the proceeds of loans and for treasury notes, to be issued as follows:

Amount payable into the treasury during the year 1814, of the loan of seven and a half millions, made under the act of Aug. 2, 1813 3,592,655

Amount authorised to be borrowed by the act of March 25, 1814, 25,000,000

Amount authorised by the act of March 4, 1814, to be issued in treasury notes 5,000,000  
 33,592,655

And it was estimated, that out of the balance of cash remaining in the treasury on the 1st day of Jan. 1814, which amounted to 5,196,482 dollars, there

might be applied a sum sufficient to cover the whole amount of the authorised expenditures, and which would be 2,727,507 46  
 47,270,172 46

The accounts of the treasury have as yet been made up only for the two first quarters of the year 1814, or to the 30th of June of that year. The annexed statement marked A shows the receipts and expenditures at the treasury, for the fourth quarter of the year 1813, which have not before been communicated to congress, and, separately, those of the two first quarters of the year 1814.

By this statement it appears that the payments from the treasury during the first half of the present year, have been, for civil, diplomatic and miscellaneous expenses

Military expenses 1,441,962 60  
 Naval do. 11,210,258  
 Public debt 4,157,010 97  
 3,026,580 77  
 19,695,731 27

And would leave payable during the remainder of the year, on those several accounts, the following sums:

For civil, diplomatic and miscellaneous expenses 1,001,292 99  
 Military expenses 13,292,668  
 Naval do. 4,157,010 97  
 Public debt 9,125,419 23  
 27,576,391 19  
 47,270,172 46

The receipts into the treasury during the first half of the present year, have been as follows:

For the proceeds of the customs 4,183,088 25  
 Public lands (including those in the Mississippi territory, the proceeds of which are now payable to the state of Georgia) 540,265 68  
 Internal duties and direct tax 2,189,272 40  
 Postage and incidental receipts 166,744  
 7,078,170 32

Loan of 7 1/2 millions, under the act of August 2d, 1813 3,592,655  
 Loan of 10 millions (part of 25 millions) under the act of March 24, 1814, 6,087,011  
 9,679,670

Treasury notes issued under the act of Feb. 2, 1813, 1,070,000  
 Treasury notes issued under the act of March 4, 1814, 1,592,109  
 2,662,109  
 12,141,776  
 19,219,946 33

And there remained cash in the treasury on the 1st of July, 1814, 4,723,639 32  
 23,943,585 65

To make up the sum, therefore, which will be wanted to meet the expenditures, as above estimated, there must be obtained during the third and fourth quarters of the present year, 23,327,586 81

Dols. 47,270,172 46

And the further sum of 1,540,000 dollars, which is the least that ought at any time during a state of war to be left in the treasury, making \$24,827,586 81

Of this amount it is estimated that there will be derived from the various sources of existing revenue, the following sums viz: 2,820,000

From the customs  
 It has not been practicable to prepare the statements of this and of the other branches of the revenue, in the usual official form, to be communicated to congress at this time. Some of the statements have been heretofore regularly given for periods terminating on the 31st of Sept. and to preserve the series unimpaired, their preparation is postponed until they can be made out terminating with that day. They will hereafter be laid before congress in the proper form. The amount of the custom house duties which accrued during the year 1813 was 7,707,000 dollars. During the two first quarters of the present year they amounted to about 3,000,000 dollars; but during the two last quarters will not probably exceed one million.

The amount receivable into the treasury during the year 1814, from bonds outstanding at the commencement of the year, and from the duties accruing and which will become payable during that year, is esti-

mounted at 7,000,000 dollars, which is 507,000 dollars more than was heretofore estimated. Of this sum, 4, 30,000 dollars and 5 cents, was paid during the first half of the year, and will leave payable during the remainder of the year the sums here stated.

**Sales of Public Lands.** The proceeds of the public lands sold in the Mississippi territory, which are now payable to the state of Georgia, are brought into the treasury in the same manner as the monies derived from the sales of other public lands. As the amount when paid out of the Treasury to the state of Georgia appears among the public expenditures, it is proper that these monies should be placed among the receipts of the Treasury. Including the proceeds of the lands in the Mississippi territory, the receipts during the year 1814 are estimated at 900,000 dollars, of which 540,056 dollars and 69 cents, having been received during the two first quarters of the year, there will be receivable during the two last quarters

**Internal Duties and Direct Tax.** The receipts into the Treasury from these sources during the present year, will fully equal the estimate heretofore made. These taxes are paid readily and cheerfully. The direct tax is in collection in more than three fourths of the districts, and will shortly be in the same state in all the districts, except two or three where the difficulty of obtaining competent persons to act as assessors has produced some delay. In several of the districts the collection is already nearly completed. The amount estimated as receivable from these two sources was 3,360,000 dollars. Of this sum there was received prior to the 1st of July last 2,199,272 dollars and 30 cents, and leaves to be received during the remainder of the year

**Postage and Incidental Receipts.** These were estimated for the whole year, at 50,000 dollars. Including repayments, prize money and the arrears of the former direct tax and internal duties, there was received, on these accounts, during the first half of the year 166,744 dollars. These receipts are so casual and uncertain that it is difficult to make any estimate of their amount. During the remainder of the year, they may, perhaps be expected to produce

⌈ Total amount receivable for revenue

Dolls. 4,940,000

Under the act of the 24th of March, 1814, by which the president was authorised to borrow twenty-five millions of dollars, a loan was opened on the 2d of May, for ten millions of dollars in part of that sum. A loan for ten millions of dollars was considered as more likely to prove successful, than if an attempt were made to obtain the whole amount of twenty-five millions at once. The sums offered for this loan amounted to 11,900,806 dollars, of which 2,671,750 dollars were at rates less than 88 per cent. and 1,183,400 dollars at rates less than 85 per cent. Of the sum of 9,229,056 dollars, which were offered at 88 per cent. or at rates more favorable to the United States, five millions were offered with the condition annexed that if terms more favorable to the lenders should be allowed for any part of the twenty-five millions authorized to be borrowed the present year, the same terms should be extended to those holding the stock of the ten million loan.— Taking into consideration the expectation then entertained of an early return of peace, and the importance of maintaining unimpaired the public credit, by sustaining the price of stock in the meantime; and also considering the measure was sanctioned by precedent, it was agreed to accept the loan with that condition. Had the sum to which the condition was annexed been rejected, the consequence would have been to reduce the amount obtained to less than five millions, a sum altogether inadequate to the public demands; or, by depressing the stock to 85 per cent. to have obtained only a little more than six millions, which would still have been insufficient to answer the purposes of government.— Offers were subsequently made to this loan, of sums amounting to 566,000 dollars, which were accepted on the same terms as the original offers, and augmented the amount of the loan which was taken to 9,795,056 dollars.

The papers annexed under the letter B. exhibit the particulars relating to this loan.

There was paid into the treasury on account of

the loan of ten millions, prior to the 1st of July, \$6,087,011, leaving to be paid after that day, \$3,708,045. Of this sum, a failure of payment on the days fixed by terms of the loan, of about 1,900,000 dollars has taken place; and it is doubtful whether the payment will be effected. No more, therefore, can be relied on towards the supply necessary for the third and fourth quarters of the year 1814, than what has been already paid and amounting to about \$1,830,000.

Proposals were again invited on the 22d of August, for a loan of six millions of dollars, in further execution of the power contained in the act of the 24th of March, for borrowing twenty-five millions. The whole amount offered was only 2,823,500 dollars, of which 100,000 dollars were at rates less than 80 per cent, and 2,213,000 dollars were at the rate of 80 dollars in money for 100 dollars of six per cent stock. The remaining sum of 510,300 dollars was offered at various rates from 80 to 88. Notwithstanding the reduced rate at which the greater part of the above sum was proposed, yet as the market price of stock hardly exceeded 80 per cent: as there was no prospect of obtaining the money on better terms, and as it was indispensable for the public service, it was deemed advisable to accept the sums offered at that rate. Including the sums offered at rates more favorable to the United States than that here stated, the whole amount of the proposals accepted, was 2,723,300 dollars; and a further sum of 207,900 dollars has been since accepted at the same rate; making the whole amount taken of this loan, 2,930,300 dollars.

The annexed papers under the letter C. relate to this loan.

Some of the persons who originally made proposals for this loan, which were accepted, have since given notice that they could not carry their proposals into execution. The sums in relation to which this failure has taken place, amount to 410,000 dollars, and there can, therefore, be relied on for the proceeds of this loan, only \$2,520,300.

Monies having been heretofore obtained by the United States on loan in Europe, upon favorable terms; and the punctuality and fidelity with which they were repaid, having established their credit there, on a firm and respectable footing, it was determined, in consequence of the difficulties experienced in obtaining at home the sums requisite for the public service, to try the market in that quarter. To effect this purpose the requisite powers and instructions have been given for negotiating a loan for six millions of dollars, as a further part of the loan of twenty-five millions authorised by the act of the 24th of March last; and in order to facilitate this object, six per cent. stock to that amount has been constituted and transmitted, with directions for its sale, if that shall be found the most advantageous mode for obtaining the money. The result, however, of this experiment is not certain; and the proceeds, in case it should be successful, will not probably come into the treasury in the course of the present year. They cannot, therefore, be placed among the resources of this year; but as this sum forms a part of that which was authorised to be borrowed, and which will be necessary for the service of the present year, further authority will be required from congress for obtaining this sum by loan or otherwise; in which case the proceeds of the negotiation undertaken in Europe will be applicable to the service of the ensuing year.

With a view to avoid the inconvenience increase of stock in the market, and its consequent depreciation, an effort was made to obtain temporary loans

from the banks by special contracts, but the attempt was not attended with success.

The amount of treasury notes issued prior to the 1st of July last, under the act of the 4th of March, 1814, was \$1,392,100. Those since issued, amount to \$1,512,300. The annexed statement marked E. shows the particulars relating to these notes; and in the paper marked D. an account is given of those treasury notes issued under the act of the 25th of February, 1813, which have not been heretofore reported to congress.

There are now in circulation near 8,000,000 of dollars in treasury notes; of which, during the fourth quarter of the present year, notes for more than four millions of dollars will become reimbursable. A part of them may perhaps be replaced by new notes; but it is not believed that, upon their present footing, more than two millions and a half of dollars can thus be replaced. This would still leave more than six millions of dollars of notes in circulation, which the experience of two years has shown to be nearly as large a sum, while the other circulating paper medium of the country remained unembarrassed, and maintained itself in the public confidence, as can in their present shape be freely and easily circulated. Notes of a smaller denomination than those heretofore issued, have been prepared, and will probably, by passing into a more numerous and extensive class of the money transactions of individuals, carry a greater quantity into circulation.— There having been already issued since the 1st of July, treasury notes amounting to 1,500,000 dollars, & it being estimated that a further sum of 2,500,000 dollars may be put in circulation previously to the end of the present year, the amount estimated to be derived from this source during the third and fourth quarters of the year will be \$4,000,000.

The means then, for meeting the demands upon the treasury during the last half of the present year, as now ascertained, are estimated as follows:

From the Revenue,		4,840,000
Loans under the 25 million act, viz.		
Loan of 10 millions	1,800,000	
Loan of 6 millions	2,500,000	
	<hr/>	4,310,000
Treasury Notes		9,160,000
		4,000,000
		<hr/>
		13,160,000
And leave still to be obtained		11,660,000
		<hr/>
		24,820,000

The difficulties already experienced in obtaining loans, and the terms on which it has been found necessary to accept them, sufficiently show the propriety of congress adopting effective measures for procuring the sums still required for the service of the residue of the present, as well as for that of the ensuing year.

The suspension of payments in specie by many of the most considerable banks in the United States, and of those most important in the money operations of the treasury, has produced, and will continue to cause difficulties and embarrassments, in those operations. The circulating medium of the country, which has consisted principally of bank notes, is placed upon a new and uncertain footing; and those difficulties and embarrassments will extend in a greater or less degree into the pecuniary operations of the citizens in general. The powers of congress, so far as they extend, will be required to be exerted in providing a remedy for these evils, and in placing if practicable, the currency of the country on a more uniform, certain and stable footing.

If further reliance must be had on loans, it is re-

spectfully suggested, that additional inducements should be offered to capitalists to advance their money, by affording an ample and unequivocal security for the regular payment of the interest, and reimbursement of the principal of such loans as may be obtained. This may be effected by establishing an adequate revenue, and pledging the same specifically for that purpose.

It is also submitted for the consideration of congress, whether treasury notes might not, by augmenting the rate of interest they now bear, and securing its payment as well as their eventual reimbursement, by an adequate revenue pledged for that purpose, be placed on a footing better calculated than at present, to sustain their credit, encourage their circulation, and answer with more certainty the purposes of government.

The estimates for the service of the year 1815 have not yet been prepared. It is certain, however, if the war continues, that a sum will be required, at least equal to that demanded for the present year; and under the head of public debt, an additional sum sufficient for the payment of the interest on the loans made in the meantime.

By the plan of finance which was adopted at the commencement of the present war, this additional sum would be all that would be required to be raised by new taxes during the year 1815, except what might be necessary to make good a deficiency in any of the existing revenues. According to that plan of finance, the expenditures to be covered by the revenue during the year 1815, would be as follows:

Expence of the peace establishment	7,000,000
Interest on the debt exhibiting prior to the war	1,900,000
Interest on the debt contracted since the war, including treasury notes, and including the interest which will become payable during the year 1815, on debt contracted within that year	4,600,000
	<hr/>
	6,500,000
	<hr/>
	13,500,000

The revenues as now established, are estimated to produce during the year 1815, the following sums, viz:

Customs. While the whole navy of the enemy is disposable for the interruption of our trade, this source of revenue cannot be very productive. From bonds which will be outstanding at the commencement of the year 1815, and from the duties which will accrue during that year, it is estimated that there will be received into the treasury	4,600,000
Sales of Public Lands	800,000
Internal Duties. These will all bring their full amounts into the treasury during the year 1815, and will, it is believed, produce a net sum of	2,700,000
Arrears of direct tax of 1814, which will be received in 1815,	600,000
Postage and other incidental receipts	100,000
Total amount	8,000,000
And leaving to be provided	5,300,000
	<hr/>
	13,300,000

Towards making up this sum of 5,300,000 dollars, a continuance of the direct tax will it is believed, be necessary; but at its present rate, it will not produce net to the treasury more than two 2,600,000 dollars.

In order to provide the remaining sum of 2,700,000 dollars, as well as such other sums as may be deemed requisite for the objects herein before suggested, it will be for congress to consider how far it would be expedient to increase this tax as well as the present internal duties; and also, what new objects of taxation may for that purpose be most advantageously resorted to.

But the plan of finance above referred to, assumed as one of the grounds upon which it depended, that loans might be annually obtained during the continuance of the war for the amount of the extraordinary expenditures occasioned by it. The experience of

the present year furnishes ground to doubt whether this be practicable, at least in the shape in which loans have been hitherto attempted. Nor is it even certain that the establishing and pledging of revenues adequate to the punctual payment of the interest and eventual reimbursement of the principal of the sums which will be required for the service of the year 1815, would enable the treasury to obtain them through the medium of loans effected in the ordinary way.

With this view of the subject, it is respectfully submitted whether it should not be expedient to extend the provisions to be made for the service of the ensuing year, beyond those contemplated in this plan of finance, hitherto pursued for carrying on the war; so as to provide by means other than loans for at least a portion of the extraordinary expenditures occasioned thereby. This would have a tendency to ensure public confidence and preserve and confirm public credit.

The present state of the country, growing out of the unjust policy of the enemy, as well as the unusual manner in which he prosecutes the war, calls for new and extraordinary exertions on the part of the nation, and the means requisite to meet the expenditures which these may occasion ought to be provided.

The resources of the nation are not exhausted; they are ample, and the occasion requires they should be brought into full activity.

The very expenditures which render necessary the imposition of additional taxes will themselves have increased in the community the ability to discharge them.

The promptitude and cheerfulness with which the present taxes are paid, afford the best pledges of the spirit with which the people will meet such demands as the interest and safety of the country may require.

A people who have not only tasted, but enjoyed in their full extent, the blessings of liberty and independence for more than thirty years, cannot consider any sacrifices too great which are found indispensable to preserve them inviolate.

Those sacrifices, however, which may be demanded by the present crisis in our affairs will be of a temporary nature only; for while we may fairly calculate that with the termination of the present contest, the duration of which will be shortened in proportion to the vigor and unanimity with which it is sustained on our part, will cease the expenditures consequent on a state of war, and render no longer necessary a continuance of those extraordinary revenues established to provide the supplies requisite for that object, we may with equal confidence rely that the growing revenue arising from the commerce of a few prosperous years of peace, will be found sufficient to redeem the pledges which have been made to the public creditors, and thus relieve the people from those burdens, which times of danger and difficulties rendered indispensable.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. W. CAMPBELL.

Treasury department, September 23, 1814.

## Macomb's victory.

Copy of a letter from brig. gen. Macomb, to the secretary of war, dated

Head-quarters, Plattsburgh, September 15th, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to communicate, for the information of the war department, the particulars of the advance of the enemy into the territory of the United States, the circumstances attending the siege of the posts entrusted to my charge.

The governor general of the Canadas, sir George Prevost, having collected all the disposable force in

lower Canad, with a view of conquering the country as far as Crown Point and Ticonderoga, entered the territories of the United States on the first of the month, and occupied the village of Champlain; there avowed his intentions, and issued orders and proclamations tending to dissuade the people from their allegiance, and inviting them to furnish his army with provisions. He immediately began to impress the waggons and teams in the vicinity, and loaded them with his heavy baggage and stores.— From this I was persuaded he intended to attack this place. I had but just returned from the lakes, where I had commanded a fine brigade, which was broken up to form the division under maj. gen. Izard, ordered to the westward. Being senior officer, he left me in command; and, except the four companies of the 6th regiment, I had not an organized battalion among those remaining. The garrison was composed of convalescents and recruits of the new regiments—all in the greatest confusion, as well as of the ordnance and stores, and the works in no state of defence.

To create an emulation and zeal among the officers and men in completing the works, I divided them into detachments, and placed them near the several forts; declaring in orders, that each detachment was the garrison of its own work, and bound to defend it to the last extremity.

The enemy advanced cautiously and by short marches, and our soldiers worked day and night; so that by the time he made his appearance before the place, we were prepared to receive him.

General Izard named the principal work *fort Moreau*, and to remind the troops of the actions of their brave countrymen, I called the redoubt on the right *fort Brown*, and that on the left *fort Scott*. Besides these three works, we have two block houses strongly fortified.

Finding, on examining the returns of the garrison, that our force did not exceed fifteen hundred effective men for duty, and well informed that the enemy had as many thousands, I called on general Mooers, of the New-York militia, and arranged with him plans for bringing forth the militia *en masse*. The inhabitants of the village fled with their families and effects, except a few worthy citizens and some boys, who formed themselves into a party, received rifles, and were exceedingly useful. By the fourth of the month, general Mooers collected about seven hundred militia, and advanced seven miles on the Beckman town road, to watch the motions of the enemy, and to skirmish with him as he advanced; also to obstruct the road with fallen trees, and to break up the bridges.

On the lake road at Dead creek bridge, I posted two hundred men under captain Sproul of the 15th regiment with orders to *abbatis* the woods, to place obstructions in the road, and to fortify himself; to this party I added two field pieces. In advance of that position, was lieutenant colonel Appling, with 110 riflemen, watching the movements of the enemy, and procuring intelligence. It was ascertained, that before day-light on the sixth, the enemy would advance in two columns, on the two roads before mentioned, dividing at Sampson's, a little below Chazy village. The column on the Beckman Town road proceeded most rapidly; the militia skirmished with his advanced parties, and, except a few brave men, fell back most precipitately in the greatest disorder, notwithstanding the British troops did not deign to fire on them, except by their flankers and advanced patrols. The night previous, I ordered m. jor Wool to advance with a detachment of 250 men to support the militia, and set them an example of firmness.— Also, Capt. Leonard of the light artillery was direct-

ed to proceed with two pieces to be on the ground before day; yet he did not make his appearance until 8 o'clock, when the enemy had approached within two miles of the village. With his conduct, therefore, I am not well pleased. Major Wool, with his party, disputed the road with great obstinacy, but the militia could not be prevailed on to stand, notwithstanding the exertions of their general and staff officers; although the fields were divided by strong stone walls, and they were told that the enemy could not possibly cut them off. The state dragoons of New-York wear red coats, and they being on the heights to watch the enemy, gave constant alarm to the militia, who mistook them for the enemy, and feared his getting in their rear. Finding the enemy's columns had penetrated within a mile of Pittsborough, I dispatched my aide de camp, lieutenant Root, to bring off the detachment at Dead Creek, and to inform lieutenant-colonel Appleby that I wished him to fall on the enemy's right flank. The colonel fortunately arrived just in time to save his retreat and to fall in with the head of a column *debouching* from the woods. Here he poured in a destructive fire from his riflemen at rest, and continued to annoy the column until he formed a junction with major Wool. The field pieces did considerable execution among the enemy's columns. So undaunted, however, was the enemy, that he never deployed in his whole march, always pressing on in column. Finding that every road was full of troops crowding on us on all sides, I ordered the field pieces to retire across the bridge and form a battery for its protection, and to cover the retreat of the infantry, which was accordingly done, and the parties of *Appleby*, and *Wool*, as well as that of *Spraul*, retired alternately, keeping up a brisk fire until they got under cover of the works. The enemy's light troops occupied the houses near the bridge, and kept up a constant firing from the windows and balconies, and annoyed us much. I ordered them to be driven out with hot shot, which soon put the houses in flames, and obliged these sharp shooters to retire. The whole day, until it was too late to see, the enemy's light troops endeavored to drive our guards from the bridge, but they suffered dearly for their perseverance. An attempt was also made to cross the upper bridge where the militia handsomely drove them.

The column which marched by the lake road was much impeded by the obstructions, and the removal of the bridge at Dead Creek, and as it passed the creek and beach, the gallies kept up a lively and galling fire.

Our troops being now all on the south side of the Saranac, I directed the planks to be taken off the bridges and piled up in the form of breastworks to cover our parties intended for disputing the passage, which afterwards enabled us to hold the bridges against very superior numbers.

From the 7th to the 11th, the enemy was employed in getting on his battering train, and erecting his batteries and approaches, and constantly skirmishing at the bridges and fords. By this time the militia of New-York, and the volunteers of Vermont were pouring in from all quarters. I advised general Mooers to keep his force along the Saranac to prevent the enemy's crossing the river, and to send a strong body in his rear to harass him day and night, and keep him in continual alarm.

The militia behaved with great spirit after the first day, and the volunteers of Vermont were exceedingly serviceable. Our regular troops, notwithstanding the constant skirmishing, and repeated endeavors of the enemy to cross the river, kept at their work day and night strengthening the defences, and evincing a determination to hold out to the last extremity.

It was reported that the enemy only waited the arrival of his flotilla to make a general attack.—About eight in the evening of the 11th, as was expected, the flotilla appeared in sight round Cumberland Head, and at nine bore down and engaged our flotilla at anchor in the Bay off the town. At the same instant the batteries were opened upon us, and continued throwing bomb-shells, shrapnells, balls and Congreve rockets until sunset, when the bombardment ceased, every battery of the enemy being silenced by the superiority of our fire. The naval engagement lasted but two hours in full view of both armies. Three efforts were made by the enemy to pass the river at the commencement of the cannonade and bombardment, with a view of assaulting the works, and had prepared for that purpose an immense number of scaling ladders. One attempt to cross was made at the village bridge, another at the upper bridge, and a third at a ford about three miles from the works. At the two first he was repulsed by the regulars—and at the ford by the brave volunteers and militia, where he suffered severely in killed, wounded, and prisoners; a considerable body crossed the stream, but were either killed, taken or driven back. The woods at this place were very favorable to the operations of the militia. A whole company of the 76th regiment was here destroyed, the three lieutenants and 27 men prisoners, the captain and the rest killed.

I cannot forego the pleasure of here stating the gallant conduct of captain McGlassin of the 15th regiment, who was ordered to ford the river, and attack a party constructing a battery on the right of the enemy's line, within five hundred yards of Fort Brown, which he handsomely executed at midnight with 50 men; drove off the working party, consisting of one hundred and fifty, and defeated a covering party of the same number—killing one officer and six men in the charge and wounding many.

At dusk the enemy withdrew his artillery from the batteries, and raised the siege; and at nine, under cover of the night, sent off, in a great hurry, all the baggage he could find transport for, and also his artillery. At two the next morning the whole army precipitately retreated, leaving the sick and wounded to our generosity—and the governor left a note with a surgeon, requesting the humane attention of the commanding general.

Vast quantities of provision were left behind and destroyed, also an immense quantity of bomb-shells, cannon balls, grape shot, ammunition, flints, &c. &c. intrenching tools of all sorts, also tents and marquees. A great deal has been found concealed in the ponds and creeks, and buried in the ground, and a vast quantity carried off by the inhabitants. Such was the precipitance of his retreat, that he arrived at Chazy, a distance of eight miles before we discovered that he had gone. The light troops, volunteers and militia pursued immediately on learning of his flight; and some of the mounted men made prisoners five dragoons of the 19th regiment and several others of the rear guard. A continual fall of rain and a violent storm prevented further pursuit. Upwards of three hundred deserters have come in, and many are hourly arriving.

We have buried the British officers of the army and navy, with the honors of war, and shewn every attention and kindness to those who have fallen into our hands.

The conduct of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers of my command, during this trying occasion cannot be represented in too high terms, and I feel it my duty to recommend to the particular notice of government, lieutenant-colonel Appleby of the 1st rifle corps, major Wool of the 20th, ma-

for Totten of the corps of engineers, captain Brooks of the artillery, captain McGlassie of the 15th, lieutenants de Russy and Trescott of the corps of engineers, lieutenants Smyth, Mountford and Cromwell of the artillery, also my aid-de-camp, Lt. Root, who have all distinguished themselves by their uncommon zeal and activity, and have been greatly instrumental in producing the happy and glorious result of the siege.

I have the honor to be, with sentiments of profound respect, sir, your obedient humble servant,

ALEX. MACOMB

The loss of the enemy in killed, wounded, prisoners and deserters, since his first appearance, cannot fall short of two thousand five hundred—including many officers, among whom is colonel Wellington, of the Buffs.

No 1. A report of the killed, wounded and missing on our part.

No 2. An exhibit of the force brought against us.

No 3. List of prisoners taken from the British army—total 75.

No. 1.

*Report of the killed, wounded and missing at Plattsburgh from the 6th to the 11th September, 1814.*

6th Reg.—Killed, 1 subaltern, 4 privates—total 5. Wounded, 1 sergeant, 1 musician, 15 privates—total 17. Total killed and wounded 22.

29th reg.—Killed, 1 sergeant, 14 privates; total 15. Wounded—1 sergeant-major, 1 sergeant, 2 corporals, 1 musician, 11 privates—total 16. Total killed and wounded, 31. Missing—1 sergeant, 8 privates—total 9.

30th and 31st regiments.—Killed, 1 private—total 1. Wounded, 1 musician, 6 privates—total 7. Total killed and wounded, 8. Missing—4 privates; total 4.

33d and 34th reg'ts.—Killed, 2 privates—total 2. Wounded—1 subaltern, 3 privates—total 4. Total killed and wounded 6. Missing, 1 private; total 1.

Captain Sproul's command. 3 privates killed. Wounded, 1 subaltern, 5 privates—total 6. Total killed and wounded 9. Missing, 3 privates—total 3.

4th regiment. Killed, 1 private—total 1. Wounded, 1 private—total 1. Total killed and wounded 2.

1st rifle regiment. Killed, 1 musician, 3 privates—total 4. Wounded 2 sergeants, 1 musician, 6 privates—total 9. Total killed and wounded, 11. Missing 3 privates—total 3.

Light artillery. Killed, 3 privates—total 3.—Wounded, 1 private—total 1. Total killed and wounded, 4.

Corps of artillery. Killed, 3 privates—total 3. Wounded, 1 private—total 1. Total killed and wounded 4.

Aggregate. Killed, 1 subaltern, 1 sergeant, 1 musician, 34 privates—total 37. Wounded, 2 subalterns, 1 sergeant-major, 4 sergeants, 2 corporals, 4 musicians, 49 privates—total 62. Total killed and wounded, 99. Missing, 1 sergeant, 19 privates—total 20.

*Commissioned officers.*

6th regiment. 1st lieutenant George W. Runk, wounded on the 7th and died on the 8th September.

13th regiment. 3d lieutenant Robert M. Harrison, wounded in the shoulder.

34th regiment. 3d lieut. Henry Taylor, wounded in the knee.

No. 2.

*A list of the principal officers of the British army, and an exhibit of the several regiments and corps under the command of lieutenant general sir George Prevost, at the siege of Plattsburg.*

Lieutenant-general De Rottenburg, second in command.

Major-general Robertson; commanding first brigade.

Major-general Powers, commanding second brigade.

Major-general Brisbane, commanding third brigade.

Major-general Baynes, adjutant-general.

Sir Sidney Beckwith, quarter-master-general.

Colonel Hughes, chief engineer.

Major Sinclair, commanding officer of artillery.

Lieutenant-colonel Tyrall, assistant adjutant-general.

Capt. Burke, deputy assistant adjutant-general.

Colonel Murray, assistant qr. master general.

Major Montgomery, do. do.

Captain Davis, dep. assistant qr. master general.

*List of the regiments and corps.*

4 troops 19th light dragoons.	300
4 companies royal artillery	400
1 Brigade of rocketeers	25
1 brigade royal sappers and miners	75
1st brigade—27th reg. 1st. battalion	900
58th	900
5th	1000
3d or Buffs,	900
	<hr/> 3,700
2d brigade—88th reg.	1000
39th	900
76th 3d battalion,	900
27th 3d battalion,	800
	<hr/> 3,600
3d brigade—8th or king's, 2d battalion,	900
13th	600
49th	600
6th	1000
	<hr/> 3,100
Light brigade—Muron's reg. (Swiss)	1200
Canadian Chasseurs	900
Voltigeurs	550
Frontier light infantry	150
	<hr/> 2,800
	<hr/> 14,000

**Loss of the Adams frigate.**

*Copy of a letter from captain C. Morris\* to the secretary of the navy, dated*

Portland, Sept. 8, 1814.

SIR—It is with regret that I inform you we were compelled to destroy the Adams at Hampden, on the morning of the 3d inst. to prevent her falling into the hands of the enemy.

All the officers effected their escape, and I believe the crew, with the exception of very few, who were unable to travel. Their precise number cannot yet be ascertained, as we were obliged to pursue different routes, for the purpose of obtaining provisions through the woods between the Penobscot and Kennebeck.

I am now engaged collecting and forwarding the men with the utmost dispatch to Portsmouth, from which place I hope soon to forward a detailed account of our proceedings.

In the mean time, I request you to believe that the officers and crew of the ship neglected no means in their power for her defence.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

C. MORRIS.

*The honorable Wm. Jones, secretary of the navy.*

\*The letters of captain Morris to the secretary of the navy, giving an account of the cruise of the Adams, and of her arrival at Hampden, are among the documents that lie over for future insertion.



*Copy of a letter from captain Morris to the secretary of the navy.*

Boston, September 20, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to have forwarded a detailed report of the circumstances attending the destruction of the United States' ship Adams at Hampden on the 3d instant.

On the first instant at noon, I received intelligence by express that the enemy with a force of sixteen sail were off the harbor of Castine thirty miles below us. This intelligence was immediately forwarded to brigadier general Blake, with a request, that he would direct such force as could be collected to repair immediately to Hampden. As our ship prepared for heaving down was in no situation to receive her armament, our attention was immediately directed to the occupation of such positions on shore as would best enable us to protect her. By great and unremitting exertions, and the prompt assistance of all the inhabitants in our immediate vicinity, during the 1st and 2d insts. nine pieces were transported to a commanding eminence near the ship, one to the place selected by general Blake for his line of battle, fourteen upon a wharf commanding the river below, and one on a point covering the communication between our hill and wharf batteries; temporary platforms of loose plank were laid, and such other arrangements made as would enable us to dispute the passage of a naval force. Want of time prevented our improving all the advantages of our position and we were compelled to leave our rear and flanks to the defence of the militia in case of attack by land troops. Favored by a fresh breeze, the enemy had advanced to within three miles of our position at sunset on the 2nd with the Sylph mounting 22, and Peruvian 18 guns, and one transport, one tender and ten barges manned with seamen from the Bulwark and Dragon, under command of commodore Barrie. Troops were landed under command of colonel John, opposite their shipping without any opposition, their numbers unknown, but supposed to be about 350. To oppose these troops about 370 militia were then collected, assisted by lieutenant Lewis of the United States artillery, who by a forced march had arrived from Castine with his detachment of 28 men. Many of the militia were without arms and most of them without any ammunition, and as our numbers were barely sufficient to man our batteries, I ordered the ship's muskets to be distributed among the militia, and further ordered them to be supplied with ammunition. Our sick were sent across a creek with orders for such as were able, to secure themselves in the woods in case of our defeat. These arrangements were not concluded until late on the evening of the 2nd. As the wind was fair for the enemy's approach and the night dark, rainy and favorable for his attempting a surprize, our men were compelled, notwithstanding previous fatigue to remain at their batteries. At day-light on the 3d, I received intelligence from general Blake, that he had been reinforced by three companies, and that the enemy were then advancing upon him. A thick fog concealed their early movements, and their advance of barges and rocket boats was not discovered until about 7 o'clock. Believing from their movements that they intended a simultaneous attack by land and water, I placed the hill battery under the direction of my first lieutenant Wadsworth, assisted by lieutenant Madison and Mr. Rogers, the purser, and directed lieutenant Watson to place his small detachment of twenty marines in a position to watch the movements of the enemy's main body, assist in covering our flank, and finally to cover our retreat in case that became necessary. I had but just joined the wharf battery under the direction of lieutenants Parker and Beatty,

and sailing-master McCulloh, when the enemy's infantry commenced their attack upon the militia. The launches still held their position beyond the reach of our fire, ready to improve any advantage their troops might obtain. A few minutes only had elapsed when lieutenant Wadsworth informed me that our troops were retreating, and immediately after that they were dispersed and flying in great confusion. We had now no alternative but precipitate retreat or captivity. Our rear and flanks entirely exposed, without other means of defence on that side than our pikes and cutlasses. The only bridge across the creek above us nearer the enemy than ourselves, and the creek only fordable at low water, with the tide then rising. I therefore ordered lieutenant Wadsworth to spike his guns and retire across the bridge, which was done in perfect order, the marines under lieutenant Watson covering their rear. Orders were given at the same time to fire the ship, spike the guns of the lower battery and join our companions across the creek. Before these orders were fully executed the enemy appeared on the hill from which our men just retired and were exposed to their fire for a short time while completing them. Retreating in front of them for about five hundred yards, we discovered it impossible to gain the bridge, forded the creek, ascended the opposite bank, and gained our companions without receiving the slightest injury from the ill-directed fire of the enemy. We continued our retreat towards Bangor when we found and retired upon a road leading to the Kennebec by a circuitous route of 65 miles. Perceiving it impossible to subsist our men in a body through a country almost destitute of inhabitants, they were ordered to repair to Portland as speedily as they might be able. The entire loss of all personal effects rendered us dependent on the generosity of the inhabitants between the Penobscot and Kennebec for subsistence—who most cheerfully and liberally supplied our wants to the utmost extent of their limited means. Our warmest thanks are also due to the inhabitants of Waterville, Augusta and Hallowell for their liberality and attention. Our loss was but one marine and one seaman made prisoners. That of the enemy was estimated at eight or ten killed, and from forty to fifty wounded, principally by the 18 pounder under charge of lieutenant Lewis of the United States artillery.

The character of my first lieutenant Wadsworth was already too well established to require the additional evidence he gave of richly deserving the entire confidence of the department and his country. His brother officers of the navy and marines, equally zealous and attentive, are equally entitled to my thanks and their country's approbation. The bravery of the seamen and marines is unquestioned, their uncommon good conduct upon their march—those feelings which induced them to rally round their flag at a distance of 200 miles from the place of their dispersion, without one instance of desertion, entitle them to particular approbation, and render them an example which their brother tars may ever be proud to emulate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. MORRIS.

Honorable William Jones, secretary of the navy.

### Miscellaneous Articles.

*Copy of a letter from major-general Brown to the secretary of war, dated*

Head-Quarters, Fort Erie, September 27, 1814.

SIR—Among the officers lost to this army in the battle of Niagara Falls, was my aid-de-camp, captain Ambrose Spencer, who being mortally wounded,

was left in the hands of the enemy. By signs from the British army, I was shortly afterwards assured of his convalescence, and an offer was made me by lieutenant-general Drummond to exchange him for his own aid, captain Loring, then a prisoner of war with us. However singular this proposition appeared, as captain Loring was not wounded, nor had received the slightest injury, I was willing to comply with it on captain Spencer's account; but as I knew his wounds were severe, I first sent to ascertain the fact of his being then living. My messenger, with a flag was detained, nor even once permitted to see captain S. though in his immediate vicinity. The evidence I wished to acquire failed, but my regard for captain Spencer would not permit me longer delay, and I informed general Drummond that his aid should be exchanged even for the *body* of mine. This offer was, no doubt, gladly accepted, and the corpse of captain S. sent to the American shore.

Indignant, as I am, at this ungenerous procedure, I yet hold myself bound in honor to lieutenant-general Drummond to return captain Loring; and must, therefore, earnestly solicit of you his immediate release. He can return to lieutenant-general Drummond by the way of Montreal.

Very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,  
JAC. BROWN.

*Hon. James Monroe, secretary of war.*

**NEGOTIATION.**—An American gentleman who left the British fleet in the Potomac on Friday last, (says the "Baltimore Patriot" of the 4th inst.) was informed, that English papers of the 9th and 15th of August, had been received on board, and that the British commissioners had certainly sailed for Ghent to meet those appointed on the part of the United States.

**Brown and Drummond.** The latter with his "invincibles" ran away from his position near Fort Erie, in the night of the 22d ult. The soldiers of Wellington are becoming famous for night retrograding. They ran away from Baltimore in the night—from Plattsburg in the night—and from Erie in the night! Brown, though able to beat them in manœuvring or at arms, was reported too weak to chase them. As they retired they destroyed the bridge at Frenchman's creek, and burnt the stores they had at that place, and are said to be fortifying at Chippewa, and on Queenstown mountain. We hope they have stopped!

The last exploit of general Brown is one of those incidents in "the sublime business of war," that excites unceasing admiration. A better planned or more gallantly executed affair never happened. The whole rested with the general himself until the moment it was to be performed—the batteries were stormed—4 or 500 killed and wounded, and 400 prisoners made; one 68lb carronade, one 10½ inch mortar, five 24 pounders, and a great magazine of powder were destroyed—and much ammunition seized which was afterwards brought away—in the space of twenty-five minutes. The like, perhaps, was hardly ever done before. Some interesting unofficial details shall be preserved.

**LATEST FROM THE SOUTH.** Gen. Jackson has laid an embargo on all the ports of the Mississippi, Mobile &c. He is at or near Mobile, with 1500 regulars and some militia, number not stated. It is said that the enemy has occupied Mobile Point, which stops the [water] communication with New-Orleans. The state's quota of militia and many volunteers were pouring towards them from patriotic Tennessee—a hardy and generous race of freemen. What Jackson's immediate designs really are, are unknown to his most confidential officers—but all is life and

energy, and we expect some signal event. Preparations have been made for the defence of New-Orleans; the naval force commanded by "pupils of the gallant Porter" assisting. The 7th infantry is cantoned at the navy yard. It is expected that we shall be assisted to drive out the invaders by a large indian force—Creeks, Cherokees and Choctaws.

**THE ENEMY IN THE CHESAPEAKE.**

Several of the enemy's vessels have left our bay. It is understood that Cochrane has gone to Halifax and Cockburn to Bermuda to collect and push forward all their disposable force, for a second attack upon hated BALTIMORE. The fleet in the Chesapeake lies chiefly off St. George's island, in the Potomac and consists of 5 ships of the line and 7 frigates, besides transports, brigs and tenders, and is commanded by vice adm. Malcolm. They are collecting provisions and water and recruiting the health of their men, who are said to be sickly. Several small parties of robbers from the fleet have been nabbed by the militia in St. Mary's county.—None of the troops have left the bay.

**BALTIMORE.** The works for defence are extensively improved every day. Parties of volunteers and many pay-laborers are employed to strengthen the former and erect new batteries, intrenchments, &c. The avowed object of the enemy is to collect a great force and pay us another visit. If he does, we have a full confidence that he will repent it. The following resolves were issued by the "Committee of Vigilance and Safety," on the 3d inst.

**Resolved,** That all free people of color, be and they are hereby ordered to attend daily, commencing with Wednesday morning, the 5th inst. at the different works erecting about the city for the purpose of laboring therein, and for which they shall receive an allowance of fifty cents per day together with a soldier's ration.

**Resolved,** That capt. George Stiles and captain Isaac Philips, be, and they are hereby authorised to enforce the preceding order, and to call to their aid the different military companies of exempts, or such other aid as may be necessary to its complete execution.

**Resolved,** That our fellow-citizens who are exempt from military duty, be, and they are hereby earnestly invited to labor on the fortifications either in person or by substitute, and in the latter case to furnish the substitutes with notes to the superintendants, requesting them to certify therein that the bearer had performed his duty.

**Resolved,** That the thanks of this committee be and they are hereby tendered to the military associations, who have volunteered their services to labor, and that the committee will be gratified by a continuance of military aid on the fortifications.

**POSTSCRIPT.**

Sir George Prevost with the greater part of the force he had at Plattsburg, has gone to Kingston, supposed to attack Sacketts-harbor. Izard's army had landed near the Genessee river. He went on and had an interview with Brown, and it was understood he would immediately march for Buffalo. It was expected he would have landed on the British shore. Drummond has probably escaped. The fleet has returned to Sacketts-harbor to assist its defence.

The *Burlington Centinel* of the 30th September, mentions a report brought there from Montreal, of intelligence by a late arrival at Quebec, that an armistice had been agreed upon by the commissioners for 90 days, and that the same was sent up by express to Sir George Prevost. This is possibly true; but the shape it comes in does not give us confidence in the report.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

NO. 5 OF VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 161.]

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.—VIRGIL.*

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## State of Vermont.

*By the governor of the state of Vermont.*  
PROCLAMATION.

Whereas it appears, that the war, in which our country is unfortunately engaged, has assumed an entirely different character, since its first commencement, and has become almost exclusively defensive, and is prosecuted by the enemy with a spirit, unexampled pending negotiations for peace, which leaves no prospect of safety but in a manly and united determination to meet invasion at every point, and expel the invader.

And whereas, notwithstanding the signal and glorious naval victory lately achieved by our gallant commander Mc'Donough and his brave officers and seamen, over a superior British naval force, on lake Champlain; and a like discomfiture of the enemy's whole land force, concentrated at Plattsburgh, by general Macomb's small but valiant band of regular troops, aided and powerfully supported by our patriotic, virtuous and brave volunteers, who flew to meet the invader with an alertness and spirit unexampled in this or any other country, it is stated to me, that the British army is still on the frontier of our sister state, collecting and concentrating a powerful force, indicating further operations of aggression.

And whereas, the conflict has become a common and not a party concern, the time has now arrived when all degrading party distinctions and animosities, however we may have differed respecting the policy of declaring, or the mode of prosecuting the war, ought to be laid aside; that every heart may be stimulated, and every arm nerved, for the protection of our common country, our liberty, our altars and our fire-ides; in the defence of which we may, with a humble confidence; look to heaven for assistance and protection:

Now therefore, I Martin Chittenden, governor and commander in chief, and over the state of Vermont, do issue this my proclamation, earnestly exhorting all the good people of this state, by that love of country which so signally distinguished our fathers, in their glorious and successful struggle for our independence, to unite both heart and hand, in defence of our common interest, and every thing dear to freedom.

I do enjoin it upon all officers of divisions, brigades, regiments and companies of the militia of this state, to exert themselves in the execution of their respective duties, in placing those under their command in a complete state of readiness, and without further order, to march at a moment's warning to meet any invasion which may be attempted, and to chastise and expel the invader.

And I would earnestly recommend it to those, who, by the lenity of our laws are exempt from ordinary military duty, were they have not already done it, to organize themselves into companies, and equip and stand in readiness to meet the approaching crisis, reminding them that it is their property, themselves and their families that are, in common with others, to be protected.

And more especially, I would recommend it to the selectmen and civil authorities of the respective

towns, to be vigilant in the execution of the duties enjoined on them in providing ammunition, and in affording such assistance to the militia as their situations may require.

After witnessing the severe and degrading terms imposed on many of our fellow citizens on the seaboard, no man, who is mindful of what he owes to his country and to his own character, can advocate submission while resistance is practicable.

The fate of Alexandria forcibly appeals to the proud feelings of every American, to exert the augmented force and resources with what it has pleased a beneficent Providence to bless us, for the defence and security of that soil and those rights, rendered inestimable by having been purchased by the blood of our fathers.

Given under my hand at Jerico, this 19th day September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, and of the independence of the United States the thirty-ninth.

MARTIN CHITTENDEN.

## Legislature of New-York.

On the 27th ult. at 11 o'clock, his excellency the governor met both branches of the legislature in the assembly chamber, and delivered the following speech:

*Gentlemen of the senate, and of the assembly*—The extreme pressure of public business, and the peculiar emergencies of the war in which we are engaged, induced me to call this session of the legislature. At the close of the last session, a confident expectation prevailed, that existing hostilities would soon be terminated by a fair and honorable peace. Great Britain, it is true, had declined the proffered mediation of the emperor of Russia—yet, as far as professions could be relied on, she was still disposed to restore amicable relations between the two countries, upon satisfactory and mutual terms. Subsequent events, however, have shown, that such hopes were fallacious. Whether originally insincere in his professions, or flustered by the recent events in Europe, and the vast disposable forces they have left at his command, the enemy has certainly assumed a tone of arrogance, and a spirit of increased hostility, incompatible with feelings of reconciliation. The most palpable delays and evasions have been practised to defer a meeting of negotiators—while, in the meantime, large armaments have been despatched to our coast, and powerful armies collected on our frontiers, in the presumptuous hope of overwhelming us in a single campaign. A predatory and wanton warfare, destitute of all generous principle, and disgraced by pillage and conflagration, has been carried on in our bays and rivers; and the enemy has openly avowed his intention of laying waste our cities, and of making a common ruin of public and private property.

But, besides the general causes of alarm, our apprehensions have been more immediately awakened for our own security, and we have been called upon to exert all our forces to protect our own homes from desolation. From information received, and corroborated by the movements of the enemy, there were sufficient grounds of belief that one great object of his campaign was to penetrate, with his northern army, by the waters of lake Champlain and the Hud-

son, and, by a simultaneous attack with his maritime force on New York, to form a junction which should sever the communication of the states. To defeat this arrogant design, to save the state from invasion, and our cities from destruction, it was necessary, immediately, to exercise fuller powers and more ample resources than had been placed in my hands by the legislature. The exigency of the time, while it subjected the executive to great responsibility, admitted of no delay: I proceeded, therefore, to make such dispositions as were deemed indispensable to secure the exposed points against menaced invasion. To effect these objects, I found it necessary to transcend the authority and means vested in me by law; but I feel perfectly satisfied, that the legislature will approve and sanction what I have done. In the mean time, I have requested this session, for the purpose of devising further measures of security and defence, and of clothing some public officer with the requisite powers to carry them into effect. A particular detail of the steps which have been taken, and of those which appear to me essential for the future safety of our frontiers, will form the subject of a special communication.

When we reflect that the present campaign was one in which the enemy had threatened to visit us with his wrath, and to make us feel his power, we cannot but exult that thus far we have sustained the shock with firmness, and have even gathered laurels from the strife. He has, it is true, been able to march our sea board, and harass and maim individuals. He has penetrated to our capital, feebly opposed by a hasty levy of undisciplined militia, and has wantonly demolished edifices and monuments of art, hitherto held sacred in all but barbarous warfare. But whenever we have met with him in fair and open contest, the result has been signally honorable to our arms. A series of brilliant actions, which shed lustre upon the Niagara army, has entitled its distinguished generals, Brown, Scott, Porter, Gaines and Ripley, and their brave associates, to the lasting gratitude of their country.

The gallant deeds of Porter, Warrington and Blakely, have well sustained the splendid character of our navy. At the invasion of Baltimore the foe was promptly met, was hurraised in his approach, and fled back with heavy loss to his ships. But the late glorious triumph at Plattsburgh, for grandeur of circumstance and importance of effect, renders all encomium feeble and inadequate. This was the blow by which the enemy hoped to lay open our northern frontier. He advanced with confidence in the superiority of his land and naval forces, and counted on a certain victory. After a severe and bloody contest his whole fleet was conquered and captured in the sight of his astonishing army. His land troops were like wise discomfited and driven to a precipitate and ignominious retreat before a handful of regulars under brigadier general Macomb, and an inconsiderable body of the militia and volunteers of New York and Vermont, under generals Moores and Strong. The conduct of our troops on that occasion, both in repulsing the powerful assaults of the enemy and in pursuing and harassing him in his retreat, reflects the highest honor on the commanding officers and their companions in arms.

The achievement of commodore Macdonough and his intrepid comrades is not surpassed in the records of naval history. It sheds glory on the nation at large; but its immediate benefits are more peculiarly felt by the states of New-York and Vermont. Permit me to recommend a prompt and public expression, by the constituted authorities of this state, of their high sense of the illustrious services of these brave men who have so eminently contributed to the safety and

glory of the nation; and the presentation of some testimonial of gratitude, worthy of the dignity of the state, and the acceptance of gallant and high minded heroes.

I have heretofore submitted to the consideration of the legislature, the propriety of relieving the poorer classes of the community from bearing that unreasonable proportion of the burthen of militia duty, to which they are subjected by the existing laws. I must be permitted to renew my solicitations upon that subject. The experience of this campaign has furnished abundant evidence of the unequal operation of the present system, and has shown the indispensable necessity of substituting property as the criterion of contribution to the public defence. We may then establish a more disposable, better disciplined, and more economical and efficient force, than can possibly be organized from militia at large hastily assembled, at a moment of hurry and alarm. The population and resources of this state enable us to place at the disposal of the nation, for the continuance of the war, ten thousand uniformed troops, and to reserve for local defence, ten thousand minute men, uniformed, equipped and disciplined, to take the field at a moment's warning, as a substitute for ordinary militia. It is, however, due to the militia of this state, to acknowledge, that they have repaired to their country's standard, whenever summoned, with promptness and alacrity; that they have cheerfully endured the hardships and privations of the camp, and that they have generally conducted themselves in action with the coolness and bravery of veteran troops.

*Gentlemen*—It is with heartfelt satisfaction, that I witness the unanimity and patriotic spirit that actuates all classes of the community. The acrimony of party has disappeared in the combined exertion for the maintenance of national honor and common safety. The present time will form a proud era in the history of this state. It will develop the vastness of her resources, the strength of her population, the intelligence and liberality of her legislative bodies, and the valor and patriotism of her citizens. She has it in her power to assume an attitude worthy of her intrinsic character; to set an example of open handed munificence that will challenge emulation; to impart vigor and effect to the national arm, and thus to secure and perpetuate the independence of the United States.

DANIEL D. TOMKINS.

*Albany September 27, 1814.*

The documents that belong to this patriotic communication are of great national interest and most honorable to the state of New-York and all concerned in the administration of its affairs—they are in type, but must lay over for our next. The legislature are engaged in giving effect to all that the governor has recommended.

## British Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS, SATURDAY, JULY 30.

The house met this morning at ten, when the royal assent was given to those bills which were passed since the last commission.

The speaker, attended by several members, soon after appeared at the bar, with the vote of credit bill in his hand, and after bowing to the prince regent, addressed his royal highness in the following terms:—

*May it please your royal highness,*

“We, his majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the commons of Great Britain and Ireland, do now attend your royal highness with our last bill of supply for the service of the present year.

“Assembled at a period when the fate of Europe was still doubtful, and balanced by hopes and re-

verses, we have been anxious but not inactive spectators of those great transactions which have wrought so fortunate a change in the state of the civilized world.

"During this portentous interval, we have pursued our legislative labors according to our accustomed course, applying practical remedies to the practical evils incident to old establishments or arising out of new occurrences in some cases proceeding experimentally by laws of a limited duration; in others collecting such materials of information, as may lay the ground for future measures; and those who may come in after us will see traces of that progressive improvement which the sober habit of this country cautiously, but not reluctantly, adopts into the system of its domestic policy and jurisprudence.

"With respect to our financial arrangements, by the provident measures of a former session, we have been enabled to refrain from augmenting the burthens of the people, and at the same time to make our military exertions correspond with the scale of passing events.

"Whilst we have been thus employed, the destinies of Europe have been gradually unrolled before our eyes; and the powerful nations of the north, sending forth their collective strength to try the last issues of war, whilst Great Britain and her allies were, with equal vigor, advancing from the south, their joint efforts have at length accomplished the downfall of the greatest military despotism which, in modern days, has disgraced and desolated the earth.

"In these arduous struggles, we can look back, with just pride, on the discharge of our high duties. The British army, modelled upon a wise system, steadily and impartially administered at home, and conducted by consummate skill and valor in the field, has borne its complete share in the glorious conclusion of this long and eventful war, and his majesty's faithful commons have gladly lent their aid to maintain the honors and dignities of those illustrious commanders, whom the wisdom of the sovereign has called upon to surround his throne.

"In the peace which has since followed, the efforts of this country have not been less glorious. The wise and liberal policy of our government which announced justice and equality of rights to be the basis of our diplomatic system, has been happily sustained abroad. The British name now stands high in policy as in arms; and an enlightened people has justly applauded the firmness and temper which have conciliated and cemented the interests of allies, cheered the doubtful, animated the zealous, and united the deliverers and the delivered in a peace honorable and advantageous to all the contracting powers.

"The events of our own times have outrun the ordinary march of history. Peace restored, commerce revived, thrones re-established, afford the well founded hope that the same councils and the same master-hand so mainly instrumental in the work hitherto accomplished, may, at the approaching congress, extend and fix the work of peace throughout Europe; and a further hope that the earnest and universal prayer of this great country, may prevail upon the nations of Europe, in re-establishing their own happiness, to concur also in putting an effectual end to the wrongs and desolation of Africa.

"Auspicious, however, as our present state may seem to be, the instability of all human affairs forbids us to be too confident of its prosperous continuance. Much yet remains to be done in Europe, and we have still one contest to maintain by war;

a war which we can never consent to terminate but by the establishment of our claims, according to the maxims of public law, and the maritime rights of this empire.

"To provide for these branches of the public service has been our last care, and the bill which I have to present to your royal highness, is entitled "an act for enabling his majesty to raise the sum of three millions for the service of Great Britain, and for applying the sum of 200,000*l.* British currency for the service of Ireland." To which bill your faithful commons, with all humility, entreat his majesty's royal assent."

The speaker then handed the vote of credit bill to the clerk, and the royal assent having been given thereto in the usual form, his royal highness the prince regent delivered the following speech:

"My lords and gentlemen,

"I cannot close this session of parliament, without repeating the expression of my deep regret at the continuance of his majesty's lamented indisposition.

"When, in consequence of that calamity, the powers of government were first entrusted to me, I found this country engaged in a war with the greater part of Europe.

"I determined to adhere to that line of policy which his majesty had adopted, and in which he had persevered under so many and in such trying difficulties.

"The zealous and unremitting support and assistance which I have received from you, and from all classes of his majesty's subjects; the consummate skill and ability displayed by the great commanders whose services you have so justly acknowledged; and the valor and intrepidity of his majesty's forces by sea and land have enabled me, under the blessing of Divine Providence, to surmount all the difficulties with which I have had to contend.

"I have the satisfaction of contemplating the full accomplishment of all those objects for which the war was either undertaken or continued; and the unexampled exertions of this country, combined with those of his majesty's allies, have succeeded in effecting the deliverance of Europe from the most galling and oppressive tyranny under which it has ever labored.

"The restoration of so many of the ancient and legitimate governments of the continent affords the best prospect of the permanence of that peace which in conjunction with his majesty's allies, I have concluded: and you may rely on my efforts being directed, at the approaching congress, to complete the settlement of Europe, which has been already so conspicuously begun; and to promote, upon principles of justice and impartiality, all those measures which may appear best calculated to secure the tranquility and happiness of all the nations engaged in the late war.

"I regret the continuance of hostilities with the United States of America. Notwithstanding the unprovoked aggressions of the government of that country, and the circumstances under which it took place, I am sincerely desirous of the restoration of peace between the two nations upon conditions honorable to both, but until this object can be obtained, I am persuaded you will see the necessity of my availing myself of the means now at my disposal, to prosecute the war with increased vigor."

"Gentlemen of the house of commons,

"I thank you for the liberal provision which you have made for the services of the present year.

"The circumstances under which the war in Euro-

\* How nearly "his royal highness" approached the truth, may be seen in page 76.

rope has been concluded, and the necessity of maintaining for a time a body of troops in British pay upon the continent, have rendered a continuation of our foreign expenditure unavoidable. You may rely, however, upon my determination to reduce the expenses of the country as rapidly as the nature of our situation will permit.

*"My lords and gentlemen,*

"It is a peculiar gratification to me to be enabled to assure you, that full justice is rendered throughout Europe to that manly perseverance which, amidst the convulsions on the continent, has preserved this country against all the designs of its enemies, has augmented the resources and extended the dominion of the British empire, and has proved in its result as beneficial to other nations as to our own.

"His majesty's subjects cannot fail to be deeply sensible of the distinguished advantages which they have possessed; and I am persuaded they will ascribe them, under Providence, to that constitution which it has now for a century been the object of my family to maintain unimpaired, and under which the people of this realm have enjoyed more of real liberty at home, and of true glory abroad, than has ever fallen to the lot of any nation."

Then the lord chancellor, by the prince regents command, said,

*"My lords and gentlemen,*

"It is the command of his royal highness the prince regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, that this parliament be prorogued on Saturday the 27th day of August next, to be then here holden; and this parliament is accordingly prorogued to Saturday the 27th day of August next."

The British parliament, July 20, passed a vote of credit to the prince regent of 3,000,000. It was said that the war with America, the agreement with the allies to keep up a large force on the continent till the pacific congress had set, and finally arranged the affairs of Europe—and the subsidies which were still payable to some of the continental powers—made this vote of credit necessary.

Mr. Whitbread thought the war with America would not be of long continuance, if her advances were met with a proper disposition. And asked whether commissioners had yet been appointed.

Lord Castlereagh said no time had been lost on the part of England in appointing persons to meet the American envoys; and he expected they would set out on their mission in a few days.

Lord Holland said that it was to be lamented that England was still kept out of the blessings of peace. It had been thought, on the late revolution at Paris, that the British people could have their burdens lightened, but still nearly every expense was kept up to the war establishment.

## British Proclamation.

By H. R. highness the prince of Wales, regent of the united Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty.

### A PROCLAMATION,

For recalling and prohibiting his majesty's natural born subjects from serving in the sea or land forces of the United States of America.

GEORGE, P. R.

Whereas, by the ancient law of this realm, founded upon the principles of general law, the natural-born subjects of his majesty cannot, either by swearing allegiance to any other princes or states, or by any other, their own acts, or by the acts of any foreign princes or states, either alone or concurring with their own, discharge themselves, or be discharged, from the natural allegiance which, from their birth, they owe to his majesty, his heirs and successors, which natural allegiance being antecedent and paramount to any other claim of allegiance whatsoever, cannot, by these or any other such acts, be withdrawn or cancelled.

And whereas it hath been represented to us, that divers of the natural born subjects of his majesty have accepted letters of naturalization, or certificates of citizenship, from the United States of America, and have sworn allegiance to the said states, and professed to renounce the natural allegiance which they owe, and must continue to owe, to his majesty, his heirs and successors, and have, in violation of such natural allegiance, engaged, by sea and land, in hostile and traitorous acts against his majesty: And whereas some of the said natural born subjects of his majesty may have been induced so to act, from an erroneous persuasion and belief, which they may have been led to entertain, that their duty of natural allegiance was capable of being dissolved or withdrawn from his majesty, his heirs and successors; we have therefore thought fit, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, and by and with the advice of his majesty's privy council, to issue this proclamation

herely warning all the natural-born subjects of his majesty, that the natural allegiance which they owe, and of right ought to bear and pay, to his majesty, his heirs and successors, cannot, either by their own acts, or by the acts of any foreign princes or states, either alone, or concurring with their own, be dissolved or withdrawn from his majesty, his heirs or successors: And we have further thought fit, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, and by and with the advice aforesaid, in consideration that some of the said natural-born subjects of his majesty may, through delusion or error, have so acted as aforesaid, by this proclamation, to publish and declare, that all such the natural-born subjects of his majesty who, having so acted, shall, within four months from the date hereof, withdraw themselves from the service of the said United States, shall receive his majesty's free and gracious pardon. And we do, moreover, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, and by and with the advice aforesaid, hereby also publish and declare, that all natural born subjects of his majesty who shall hereafter voluntarily enter, or, having entered, shall voluntarily continue to serve in the land forces, or on board any of the ships or vessels of war of the said United States of America, or in the private ships or vessels of war belonging to the citizens of the said states in enmity with his majesty, being thereby guilty of high treason, shall be punished with the utmost severity of the law.

Given at the court at Carlton-House, the twenty-third day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, in the fifth fourth year of his majesty's reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

## Macomb's Victory,

*From the Plattsburg Republican.*

We have been obligingly favored with a copy of the following general order, issued the day before the enemy entered Plattsburgh, which is a specimen of the excellent arrangements made by general Macomb, for the defence of this post, and an evidence of the determination which pervaded all ranks to retain the possession of the works or perish in their defence.

### GENERAL ORDERS.

*Head-quarters, Plattsburgh, September 5.*

The general is now satisfied that the enemy will attack the post in a few days. He relies with confidence on the valor and intrepidity of those he has the honor to command. Let it not be said that Erie was better defended than Plattsburgh. It was there that the American soldiers beat and defeated the heroes of Spain, France and Portugal, and their example must be followed, or our reputation is lost. The eyes of America are on us. Fortune always favors the brave. The works being now capable of resisting a powerful attack, the manner of defending them the general thinks it his duty to detail, that every man may know and do his duty.

The troops will line the parapet in two ranks, leaving intervals for the artillery. A reserve of one fifth of the whole force in infantry will be detailed and paraded fronting the several angles, which it will be their particular duty to sustain. To each bastion are to be assigned by the several commandants of forts, a sufficient number of infantry to line all the faces (in single rank) of each tier. Should the enemy gain the ditch, the front rank of the part assailed will mount the parapet and repel him with its fire and the bayonet. If the men of this rank are determined, no human force can dispossess them of that position. The officers are commanded to put to instant death any man who deserts his post. The principal work, fort *Moreau*, is entrusted to the command of colonel Melancton Smith, of the 29th regiment, having for his garrison the old 6th and his own regiment. Redoubt No. 1, is entrusted to lieutenant colonel Storms, and the detachments of the 30th and 31st will form his garrison. Redoubt No. 2, is entrusted to major Vinson and has for its garrison the 33d and 34th infantry. The block-house near Platt's is entrusted to captain Smith of the 1st rifle regiment, and has for its defence detachments of his company and convalescents of the 4th regiment. The block-house on the point is entrusted to lieutenant Fowler, and will

\*Since named forts Brown and Scott.

be garrisoned by a detachment of artillery, and the light troops under lieutenant colonel Appling and captain Sproul, will take post in the ravine near the assistant inspector general's marquee, when they come in, and will receive orders from the general.

The light artillery will take such position as will best annoy the columns of the enemy, keeping up constantly a brisk fire on them—they will also take post, when not employed, in the same ravine with the light troops.

Mr. Paris, captain of the artificers, will form a corps of rocketeers with his men—they will take the direction of the chief engineer. The artillery is to be considered a separate service and the officers of that arm are responsible to the commanding general for the correct exercise of their functions. The officers of engineers will give directions for additional defences and for repairs, as occasion may require, which it will be the duty of the several commandants to lend all the aid in their power to execute. Every man knowing his post and his duty, no excuse can be received for not executing with firmness and decision, all that may be required for a vigorous defence of the place.

By order of brig. gen. Macomb, commanding,  
WM. R. DUNCAN, *act. as. adj. gen.*

The following summary will show the movements of the British army, and our measures of defence, from the first invasion, to the retreat of the enemy's principal force over the lines.

On the 31st of August the advance of the British army under general Brisbane, entered Champlain, and encamped on the north side of the Great Chazy river, and on the same day major general Mooers ordered out the militia of the counties of Clinton and Essex. The regiment from Clinton county, under lieutenant colonel Miller, immediately assembled, and on the 2d instant, took a position on the west road near the village of Chazy; and on the 3d general Wright with such of his brigade as had arrived, occupied a position on the same road about eight miles in advance of this place. On the 4th the enemy having brought up his main body to Champlain, took up his line of march for this place. The rifle corps under Lt. col. Appling, on the lake road, fell back as far as Dead creek, blocking up the road in such manner as to impede the advance of the enemy as much as possible. The enemy advanced on the 5th within a few miles of Lt. col. Appling's position and finding it too strong to attack, halted and caused a road to be made west into the Beekmantown road, in which the light brigade under gen. Powers advanced, and on the morning of the 6th about 7 o'clock attacked the militia, which had at this time increased to nearly 700, under general Mooers, and a small detachment of regulars under major Wool, about 7 miles from this place. After the first fire, a considerable part of the militia broke and fled in every direction. Many however manfully stood their ground, and, with the small corps of major Wool, bravely contested the ground, against five times their number, falling back gradually and occupying the fences on each side the road, till they arrived within a mile of the town, when they were reinforced by two pieces of artillery under captain Leonard, and our troops occupying a strong position behind a stone wall, for some time stopped the progress of the enemy: being at length compelled to retire, they contested every inch of ground until they reached the south bank of the Saranac, where the enemy attempted to pursue them but was repulsed with loss. The loss of the British in this skirmish was colonel Wellington and a lieutenant of the 3d Buffs and 2 lieutenants of the 58th killed, and one captain and one lieutenant

of the 58th light company wounded, together with about 100 privates killed and wounded; while that on our part did not exceed twenty five. The corps of riflemen under col. Appling, and detachment under capt. Sproul, fell back from their position at Dead creek in time to join the militia, &c. just before they entered the village and fought with their accustomed bravery. The British got possession of that part of the village north of the Saranac about 11 o'clock, but the incessant and well directed fire of our artillery and musketry from the forts and opposite bank compelled them to retire before night beyond the reach of our guns. The enemy arrived towards night with his heavy artillery and baggage on the lake road and crossed the beach, where he met with a warm reception from our row-galleys, and it is believed suffered a heavy loss in killed and wounded. On our side lieutenant Duncan, of the navy, lost an arm by a rocket, and three or four men were killed by the enemy's artillery. The enemy encamped on the ridge west of the town, his right near the river, and occupying an extent of nearly three miles, his left resting on the lake, about a mile north of the village. From the 6th until the morning of the 11th, an almost continual skirmishing was kept up between the enemy's pickets and our militia stationed on the river, and in the mean time both armies were busily engaged—ours in strengthening the works of the forts, and that of the enemy in erecting batteries, collecting ladders, bringing up his heavy ordnance, and making other preparations for attacking the fort. On the morning of the 7th a body of the enemy under captain Noadie, attempted to cross at the upper bridge, about seven miles west of the village, but were met by captain Vaughan's company of about 25 men, and compelled to retire with the loss of two killed and several wounded, (one officer shot in the ankle.) On the morning of the 11th the enemy's fleet came round the head with a light breeze from the north, and attacked ours which lay at anchor in Cumberland-bay, two miles from shore, east of the fort. The action was long and bloody, but decisive, and the event such as we believe it will always be (except by accident) when our navy contends with any thing like an equal force. The enemy commenced a simultaneous bombardment of our works from seven batteries, from which several hundred shells and rockets were discharged, which did us very little injury; and our artillery had nearly succeeded in silencing all before the contest on the Lake was decided. The enemy attempted at the same time to throw his main body in rear of the fort, by crossing the river three miles west of the town, near the scite of Pike's cantonment. He succeeded in crossing after a brave resistance by the Essex militia and a few of the Vermont Volunteers, in all about 350 stationed at that place, who retired back a mile and a half from the river continually pouring in upon them an incessant fire from behind every tree, until lieutenant Sumpter brought up a piece of artillery to their support, when the enemy commenced a precipitate retreat. The Vermont volunteers, who had hastened to the scene of action on the first alarm, fell upon the enemy's left flank and succeeded in making many prisoners, including three officers. Had the British remained on the south side of the river 30 minutes longer, they must have lost nearly the whole detachment that crossed. Our loss in this affair was five killed and eight or ten wounded, some mortally. Immediately on ascertaining the loss of the fleet, sir George ordered preparations to be made for the retreat of the army and set off himself with a small escort for Canada a little afterwards. The main body of the enemy with the artillery and baggage, were taken off in the

afternoon and night, and the rear guard, consisting of the light brigade, started at day-break, and made a precipitate retreat, leaving their wounded and a large quantity of provisions, fixed ammunition, shot, shells, and other public stores in the different places of deposit about their camp. They were pursued some distance by our troops and many prisoners taken; but owing to the very heavy and incessant rain we were compelled to return. The enemy have lost upon land more than one thousand men in killed, wounded, prisoners and deserters, while our aggregate loss does not exceed one hundred and fifty.

New-York State Militia—Third Division.

Head Quarters Salmon River, Sept. 8th, 1814.

#### EXTRACT FROM GENERAL ORDERS.

The general is not insensible to the merits and patriotism of those who, upon approach of hostile forces upon this frontier, have gallantly flown to the defence of their country, and who under his command still continue steadfastly to oppose the progress of the enemy. The general regrets that there are some who are lost to patriotism and to honor, after coming forward in obedience to his call, fled at the first approach of the enemy, and afterwards basely disbanded themselves and returned home; thereby disgracing themselves, and furnishing to their fellow-soldiers an example of all that brave men detest and abhor.

The general is determined to have all deserters punished in the most exemplary manner, and all officers and others are directed to bring back such as are attempting to escape.

Those brave men of the militia and volunteer corps, who manfully kept their posts and fought the enemy on their retreat before a far superior force, for the distance of nearly seven miles, deserve the general's warmest thanks and the love and gratitude of their country.

The cool, intrepid and admirable skill and good order displayed by the small detachment of less than three hundred regulars, under that excellent officer major Wood, was highly honorable to themselves, and furnishes an example worthy of our future imitation.

The general cannot avoid noticing that the determined resistance of capt. Vaughan and his small band, at the upper bridge, which obliged a much superior force of the enemy to retire with loss, was both honorable to himself and the men under his command.

Captain Aikin's company of riflemen, and others of the volunteers have displayed throughout, a degree of gallantry in opposing the enemy, and of enterprise and boldness in reconnoitring him under all circumstances, highly gratifying to the general, and which merits his warmest thanks.

Let every man strive to do his duty at this crisis, as it will be much easier to retain our present position than to regain it after it is lost. By order of maj. gen. Mooers,

R. H. WALWORTH, A. D. C.

Third Division of the Militia of the state of N. York.

H. Q. Plattsburgh, Sept. 13th, 1814.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

The sudden, unexpected and dastardly retreat of the enemy, renders it unnecessary that those patriotic militia and volunteers who have so gallantly defended their country from invasion should longer be detained from their homes—the general therefore makes known to the militia under his command and the volunteers of the state of Vermont, that they may return to their homes with the thanks of the general and the reflection that they have deserved the gratitude of their country. Those few who

basely deserted their standard and returned to their homes, without leave, in time of danger, will meet their reward by being despised as cowards, not deserving to be freemen. Had the enemy remained a day or two longer we should have been enabled to have carried trouble and confusion into his camp. The spirit and emulation of the volunteers show to their country and to the enemy what may be expected in case of any future invasion on this frontier. The general tenders his thanks to general Strong and the officers and volunteers of the state of Vermont in general, for their promptness to meet the enemy on all occasions and on the shortest notice.

And he congratulates all who have been under his command, as well as his country, on the defeat, discomfiture and disgrace of the enemy, in his attack on this place both by water and land.

By order of major gen. Mooers.

R. H. WALWORTH, A. D. C.

The enemy's funny accounts of his discomfiture and disgrace, must lay over for the present.

### From our Ministers at Ghent.

#### HIGHLY IMPORTANT.

The following message was on Monday last sent to both houses of congress, by the president of the United States. The sentiments it excited in both houses were purely national, and almost unanimous. To the Senate and House of

Representatives of the United States,

I lay before congress communications just received from the plenipotentiaries of the United States, charged with negotiating peace with Great Britain; shewing the conditions on which alone that government is willing to put an end to the war.

The instructions to those plenipotentiaries, disclosing the grounds, on which they were authorised to negotiate and conclude a treaty of peace, will be the subject of another communication.

JAMES MADISON.

Washington, October 10, 1814.

#### DOCUMENTS.

Copy of a letter from Messrs. Adams, Bayard, Clay and Russell, to Mr. Monroe, secretary of state, dated

Ghent, 12th August, 1814.

Sir—We have the honor to inform you that the British commissioners, lord Gambier, Henry Goulburn, esquire, and William Adams, esquire, arrived in this city on Saturday evening, the sixth instant. The day after their arrival, Mr. Baker, their secretary, called upon us to give us notice of the fact, and to propose a meeting, at a certain hour, on the ensuing day. The place having been agreed upon, we accordingly met, at one o'clock, on Monday, the eighth inst.

We enclose, herewith, a copy of the full powers exhibited by the British commissioners at that conference; which was opened on their part by an expression of the sincere and earnest desire of their government, that the negotiation might result in a solid peace, honorable to both parties. They, at the same time, declared, that no events which had occurred since the first proposal for this negotiation, had altered the pacific disposition of their government, or varied its views as to the terms upon which it was willing to conclude the peace.

We answered, that we heard these declarations with great satisfaction, and that our government had acceded to the proposal of negotiation, with the most sincere desire to put an end to the differences which divided the two countries, and to lay upon



just and liberal grounds the foundation of a peace which, securing the rights and interests of both nations, should unite them by lasting bonds of amity.

The British commissioners then stated the following subjects, as those upon which it appeared to them that the discussions would be likely to turn, and on which they were instructed.

1. The forcible seizure of mariners on board of merchant vessels, and in connection with it, the claim of his Britannic majesty to the allegiance of all the native subjects of Great Britain.

We understood them to intimate, that the British government did not propose this point as one which they were particularly desirous of discussing; but that, as it had occupied so prominent a place in the disputes between the two countries, it necessarily attracted notice and was considered as a subject which would come under discussion.

2. The Indian allies of Great Britain to be included in the pacification, and a definite boundary to be settled for their territory.

The British commissioners stated, that an arrangement upon this point was a *sine qua non*; that they were not authorized to conclude a treaty of peace which did not embrace the Indians, as allies of his Britannic majesty; and that the establishment of a definite boundary of the Indian territory was necessary to secure a permanent peace, not only with the Indians, but also between the United States and Great Britain.

3. A revision of the boundary line between the United States and the adjacent British colonies.

With respect to this point, they expressly disclaim any intention, on the part of their government, to acquire an increase of territory, and represented the proposed revision as intended merely for the purpose of preventing uncertainty and dispute.

After having stated these three points, as subjects of discussion, the British commissioners added, that before they desired any answer from us, they felt it incumbent upon them to declare, that the British government did not deny the right of the Americans to the fisheries generally, or in the open seas; but that the privileges, formerly granted by treaty to the United States, of fishing within the limits of the British jurisdiction, and of landing and drying fish on the shores of the British territories, would not be renewed without an equivalent.

The extent of what was considered by them as waters peculiarly British, was not stated. From the manner in which they brought this subject into view, they seemed to wish us to understand that they were not anxious that it should be discussed, and that they only intended to give us notice that these privileges had ceased to exist, and would not be again granted without an equivalent, nor unless we thought proper to provide expressly in the treaty of peace for their renewal.

The British commissioners having stated, that these were all the subjects which they intended to bring forward or to suggest, requested to be informed, whether we were instructed to enter into negotiation on these several points? and, whether there was any amongst these which we thought it unnecessary to bring into the negotiation? and they desired us to state, on our part, such other subjects as we might intend to propose for discussion in the course of the negotiation. The meeting was then adjourned to the next day, in order to afford us the opportunity of consultation among ourselves, before we gave an answer.

In the course of the evening of the same day, we received your letters of the 25th and 27th of June.

There could be no hesitation, on our part, in informing the British commissioners, that we were not

instructed on the subjects of Indian pacification or boundary, and of fisheries. Nor did it seem probable, although neither of these points had been stated with sufficient precision in that first verbal conference, that they could be admitted in any shape.— We did not wish, however, to prejudge the result, or by any hasty proceeding abruptly to break off the negotiation. It was not impossible that, on the subject of the Indians, the British government had received erroneous impressions from the Indian traders in Canada, which our representations might remove: And it appeared, at all events, important, to ascertain distinctly the precise intentions of Great Britain on both points. We, therefore, thought it advisable to invite the British commissioners to a general conversation on all the points; stating to them, at the same time, our want of instructions on two of them, and holding out no expectation of the probability of our agreeing to any article respecting them.

At our meeting on the ensuing day we informed the British commissioners, that upon the first and third points proposed by them we were provided with instructions, and we presented as further subjects considered by our government as suitable for discussion:

1st. A definition of blockade; and as far as might be mutually agreed of other neutral and belligerent rights.

2d. Claims of indemnity in certain cases of capture and seizure.

We then stated that the two subjects, 1st of Indian pacification, and boundary, and 2d of fisheries, were not embraced by our instructions.

We observed, that as these points had not been heretofore the grounds of any controversy between the government of Great Britain and that of the United States, and had not been alluded to by lord Castlereagh, in his letter proposing the negotiation, it could not be expected that they should have been anticipated and made the subject of instructions by our government, that it was natural to be supposed, that our instructions were confined to those subjects upon which differences between the two countries were known to exist; and that the proposition to define, in a treaty between the United States and Great Britain, the boundary of the Indian possessions within our territories, was new and without example. No such provision had been inserted in the treaty of peace in 1783, nor in any other treaty between the two countries. No such provision had, to our knowledge, ever been inserted in any treaty made by Great Britain or any European power in relation to the same description of people, existing under like circumstances. We would say, however, that it would not be doubted, that peace with the Indians would certainly follow a peace with Great Britain: that we had information that commissioners had already been appointed to treat with them; that a treaty to that effect might, perhaps, have been already concluded: and that the United States having no interest, nor any motive to continue a separate war against the Indians, there could never be moment when our government would not be disposed to make peace with them.

We then expressed our wish to receive from the British commissioners a statement of the views and objects of Great Britain upon all the points, and our willingness to discuss them all, in order that, even if no arrangement should be agreed on, upon the points not included in our instructions, the government of the United States might be possessed of the entire and precise intentions of that of Great Britain, respecting these points, and that the British government might be fully informed of the objections, on the part of the United States, to any such arrangement.

In answer to our remark that these points had not been alluded to by lord Castlereagh, in his letter proposing the negotiation, it was said, that it could not be expected, that, in a letter merely intended to invite a negotiation, he should enumerate the topics of discussion, or state the pretensions of his government; since these would depend upon ulterior events, and might arise out of a subsequent state of things.

In reply to our observation, that the proposed stipulation of an Indian boundary was without example in the practice of European nations, it was asserted, that the Indians must in some sort be considered as an independent people, since treaties were made with them, both by Great Britain and by the United States; upon which we pointed out the obvious and important differences between the treaties we might make with Indians, living in our territory, and such a treaty as was proposed to be made, respecting them, with a foreign power, who had solemnly acknowledged the territory on which they resided to be part of the United States.

We were then asked by the British commissioners whether, in case they should enter further upon the discussion of the several points which had been stated, we could expect that it would terminate by some provisional arrangement on the points on which we had no instructions, particularly on that respecting the Indians, which arrangement would be subject to the ratification of our government?

We answered, that before the subjects were distinctly understood, and the objects in view more precisely disclosed, we could not decide whether it would be possible to form any satisfactory article on the subject; nor pledge ourselves as to the exercise of a discretion under our powers, even with respect to a provisional agreement. We added, that as we should deeply deplore a rupture of the negotiation on any point, it was our anxious desire to employ all possible means to avert an event so serious in its consequences; and that we had not been without hopes that a discussion might correct the effect of any erroneous information which the British government might have received on the subject which they had proposed as a preliminary basis.

We took this opportunity to remark, that no nation observed a policy more liberal and humane towards the Indians than that pursued by the United States; that our object had been, by all practicable means, to introduce civilization amongst them; that their possessions were secured to them by well defined boundaries, that their persons, lands and other property were now more effectually protected against violence or frauds from any quarter, than they had been under any former government; that even our citizens were not allowed to purchase their lands; that when they gave up their title to any portion of their country to the United States, it was by voluntary treaty with our government, who gave them a satisfactory equivalent; and that through these means the United States had succeeded in preserving, since the treaty of Grenville of 1795, an uninterrupted peace of sixteen years, with all the Indian tribes; a period of tranquility much longer than they were known to have enjoyed heretofore.

It was then expressly stated on our part, that the proposition respecting the Indians, was not distinctly understood. We asked whether the pacification, and the settlement of a boundary for them were both made a *sine qua non*? Which was answered in the affirmative. The question was then asked the British commissioners, whether the proposed Indian boundary was intended to preclude the United States from the right of purchasing by treaty from the Indians, without the consent of Great Britain, lands

laying beyond that boundary? And as a restriction upon the Indians from selling by amicable treaties lands to the United States as had been hitherto practised?

To this question, it was first answered by one of the commissioners, that the Indians would not be restricted from selling their lands, but that the United States would be restricted from purchasing them; and on reflection another of the commissioners stated, that it was intended that the Indian territories should be a barrier between the British dominions and those of the United States; that both Great Britain and the United States should be restricted from purchasing their lands; but the Indians might sell them to a third party.

The proposition respecting Indian boundary thus explained, and connected with the right of sovereignty ascribed to the Indians over the country, amounted to nothing less than a demand of the absolute cession of the rights both of sovereignty and of soil. We cannot abstain from remarking to you, that the subject (of Indian boundary) was indistinctly stated when first proposed, and that the explanations were it first obscure and always given with reluctance. And it was declared from the first moment, to be a *sine qua non*, rendering any discussion unprofitable until it was admitted as a basis. Knowing that we had no power to cede to the Indians any part of our territory, we thought it unnecessary to ask, what probably would not have been answered till the principle was admitted, where the line of demarkation of the Indian country was proposed to be established?

The British commissioners, after having repeated that their instructions on the subject of the Indians were peremptory, stated that unless we could give some assurance, that our powers would allow us to make at least a provisional arrangement on the subject, any further discussion would be fruitless, and that they must consult their own government on this state of things. They proposed accordingly a suspension of the conferences, until they should have received an answer, it being understood that each party might call a meeting whenever they had any proposition to submit. They despatched a special messenger the same evening, and we are now waiting for the result.

Before the proposed adjournment took place, it was agreed, that there should be a protocol of the conferences; that a statement should for that purpose be drawn up by each party, and that we should meet the next day to compare the statements. We accordingly met again on Wednesday the 10th inst. and ultimately agreed upon what should constitute the protocol of the conferences. A copy of this instrument, we have the honor to transmit with this despatch; and we also enclose a copy of the statement originally drawn up on our part, for the purpose of making known to you the passages to which the British commissioners objected.

Their objection to some of the passages was, that they appeared to be argumentative, and that the object of the protocol was to contain a mere statement of facts. They, however, objected to the insertion of the answer which they had given to our question respecting the effect of the proposed Indian boundary; but they agreed to an alteration of their original proposition on that subject, which renders it much more explicit than as stated, either in the first conference or in their proposed draught of the protocol. They also objected to the insertion of the fact, that they had proposed to adjourn the conferences, until they could obtain further instructions from their government. The return of their messenger may, perhaps, disclose the motive of their reluctance in that respect.

We have, the honor to be, very respectfully, sir,  
your humble and obedient servants,

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,  
J. A. BAYARD,  
H. CLAY,  
JONA. RUSSELL.

PROTOCOL OF CONFERENCE.

August 8th, 1814.

The British and American commissioners having met, their full powers were respectively produced, which were found satisfactory, and copies thereof were exchanged.

The British commissioners stated the following subjects as those upon which it appeared to them that the discussions between themselves and the American commissioners, would be likely to turn.

1. The forcible seizure of mariners from on board merchant ships on the high seas; and in connection with it the right of the king of Great Britain to the allegiance of all his native subjects.

2. That the peace be extended to the Indian allies of Great Britain, and that the boundary of their territory be definitively marked out, as a permanent barrier between the dominions of Great Britain and the United States. An arrangement on this subject to be a sine qua non of a treaty of peace.

3. A revision of the boundary line between the British and American territories, with the view to prevent future uncertainty and dispute.

The British commissioners requested information whether the American commissioners were instructed to enter into negotiation on the above points? But before they desired any answer, they felt it right to communicate the intentions of their government as to the North American fisheries, viz. That the British government did not intend to grant to the United States, gratuitously, the privileges formerly granted by treaty to them, of fishing within the limits of the British sovereignty and of using the shores of the British territories for purposes connected with the fisheries.

August 9.

The meeting being adjourned to the 9th of August the commissioners met again on that day.

The American commissioners at this meeting stated, that upon the first and third points proposed by the British commissioners, they were provided with instructions from their government, and that the second and fourth of these points were not provided for in their instructions. That in relation to an Indian pacification, they knew that the government of the United States had appointed commissioners to treat of peace with the Indians, and that it was not improbable that peace had been made with them.

The American commissioners presented as further subjects considered by the government of the United States as suitable for discussion.

1. A definition of blockade, and as far as may be agreed, of other neutral and belligerent rights.

2. Certain claims of indemnity to individuals for captures and seizures preceding and subsequent to the war.

3. They further stated that there were various other points to which their instructions extended, which might with propriety be objects of discussion, either in the negotiation of the peace, or in that of a treaty of commerce, which in the case of a propitious termination of the present conferences they were likewise authorised to conclude. That for the purpose of facilitating the first and most essential object of peace, they had discarded every subject which was not considered as peculiarly connected with that, and presented only those points

which appeared to be immediately relevant to this negotiation.

The American commissioners expressed their wish to receive from the British commissioners a statement of the views and objects of Great Britain, upon all the points, and their willingness to discuss them all.

They, the American commissioners were asked, whether, if those of Great Britain should enter further upon this discussion, particularly respecting the Indian boundary, the American commissioners could expect that it would terminate by some provisional arrangement, which they could conclude, subject to the ratification of their government?

They answered, that as any arrangement to which they could agree upon the subject must be without specific authority from their government, it was not possible for them, previous to discussion, to decide whether any article on the subject could be formed which would be mutually satisfactory, and to which they should think themselves, under their discretionary powers, justified in acceding.

The meeting was adjourned.

True copy,

CHRISTOPHER HUGHES, jr.  
Secretary of Legation.

*Draught of original protocol made by the American ministers, of the two first conferences held with the British commissioners.*

At a meeting between the commissioners of his Britannic majesty and those of the United States of America, for negotiating and concluding a peace, held at Ghent, 8th August, 1814, the following points were presented by the commissioners on the part of Great Britain as subjects for discussion:

1. The forcible seizure of mariners on board of merchant vessels, and the claim of allegiance of his Britannic majesty upon all the native born subjects of Great Britain.

2. The Indian allies of Great Britain to be included in the pacification, and a boundary to be settled between the dominions of the Indians and those of the United States. Both parts of this point are considered by the British government as a sine qua non to the conclusion of a treaty.

3. The revision of the boundary line between the territories of the United States and those of Great Britain, adjoining them in North America.

4. The Fisheries—Respecting which the British government will not allow the people of the United States the privilege of landing and drying fish, within the territorial jurisdiction of Great Britain, without an equivalent.

The American commissioners were requested to say, whether their instructions from their government authorised them to treat upon these several points, and to state on their part such other points as they might be further instructed to propose for discussion.

The meeting was adjourned on Tuesday, the 9th August, on which day the commissioners met again.

The American commissioners at this meeting stated, that upon the first and third points proposed by the British commissioners, they were provided with instructions from their government; and that on the second and fourth of those points, there not having existed heretofore any differences between the two governments, they had not been anticipated by the government of the United States, and were therefore, not provided for in their instructions.—That in relation to an Indian pacification, they know

that the government of the United States had appointed commissioners to treat of peace with the indians; and that it was not improbable that peace had been made with them.

The American commissioners presented as further points (subjects) considered by the government of the United States as suitable for discussion.

1. A definition of blockade, and, as far as may be agreed, of other neutral and belligerent rights.
2. Certain claims of indemnity to individuals for captures and seizures, preceding and subsequent to the war.
3. They further stated, that there were various other points to which their instructions extended, which might with propriety be objects of discussion, either in the negotiation of the peace or in that of a treaty of commerce, which in case of a propitious termination of the present conferences they were likewise authorised to conclude.

That for the purpose of facilitating the first and most essential object of peace, they had discarded every subject which was not considered as peculiarly connected with that, and presented only those points, which appeared to be immediately relevant to this negotiation.

The American commissioners expressed their wish to receive from the British commissioners a statement of the views and objects of Great Britain upon all the points, and their willingness to discuss them all, in order that if no arrangement could be agreed to upon the points not in their instructions, which would come within the scope of the powers committed to their discretion, the government of the United States might be put in possession of the entire and precise intentions of that of Great Britain with regard to such points; and that the British government might be fully informed of the objections on the part of the United States to any such arrangement.

They, the American commissioners, were asked whether, if those of Great Britain should enter further upon the discussion, particularly respecting the Indian boundary, the American commissioners could expect it would terminate by some provisional arrangement which they could conclude, subject to the ratification of their government?

They answered, that as any arrangement to which they could agree upon the subject must be without specific authority from their government, it was not possible for them previous to discussion to decide whether an article on the subject could be formed which would be mutually satisfactory, and to which they should think themselves under the discretionary powers, justified in according.

The British commissioners declined entering upon the discussion, unless the American commissioners would say, that they considered it within their discretion to make a provisional arrangement on the subject, conformable to the view of it prescribed by the British government, and proposed to adjourn the conferences for the purpose of consulting their own government on this state of things.

The British commissioners were asked, whether it was understood as an effect of the proposed boundary for the indians, that the United States would be precluded from the right of purchasing territory from the indians within that boundary by amicable treaty with the indians themselves without the consent of Great Britain? And whether it was understood to operate as a restriction upon the indians from settling by such amicable treaties, lands to the United States, as has been hitherto practised?

They answered, that it was understood, that the Indian territories should be a barrier between the

British possessions and those of the United States: that the United States and Great Britain should both be restricted from such purchases of land; but that the indians would not be restricted from selling to any third party.

The meeting was adjourned to Wednesday 19th August.

True copy,

C. HUGHES, Jr.

*Sec. to the mission extraordinary.*

Messrs. Adams, Bayard, Clay, Russell, and Gallatin to Mr. Monroe, secretary of state, dated

GHENT, 19th AUGUST, 1814.

SIR—Mr. Baker, secretary to the British mission, called upon us to-day, at 1 o'clock, and invited us to a conference to be held at three. This was agreed to, and the British commissioners opened it, by saying that they had received their further instructions this morning, and had not lost a moment in requesting a meeting for the purpose of communicating the decision of their government. It is proper to notice that lord Castlereagh had arrived last night in this city, whence, it is said, he will depart to-morrow on his way to Brussels and Vienna.

The British commissioners stated that their government had felt some surprize, that we were not instructed respecting the indians, as it could not have been expected that they would leave their allies, in their comparatively weak situation, exposed to our resentment. Great Britain might justly have supposed that the American government would have furnished us with instructions authorising us to agree to a positive article on the subject; but, the least she could demand was that we should sign a provisional article admitting the principle, subject to the ratification of our government; so that, if it should be ratified, the treaty should take effect; and, if not, that it should be null and void; on our assent or refusal to admit such an article would depend the continuance or suspension of the negotiation.

As we had represented that the proposition made by them, on that subject, was not sufficiently explicit, their government had directed them to give us every necessary explanation, and to state distinctly the basis which must be considered as an indispensable preliminary.

It was a *sine qua non* that the indians should be included in the pacification, and, as incident thereto, that the boundaries of their territory should be permanently established. Peace with the indians was a subject so simple, as to require no comment. With respect to the boundaries which was to divide their territory from that of the United States, the object of the British government was, that the indians should remain as a permanent barrier between our western settlements, and the adjacent British provinces, to prevent them from being conterminous to each other: and that neither the United States, nor Great Britain, should ever hereafter have the right to purchase, or acquire any part of the territory thus recognized, as belonging to the indians. With regard to the extent of the Indian territory, and the boundary line, the British government would propose the lines of the Greenville treaty, as a proper basis, subject, however, to discussion and modifications.

We stated that the Indian territory, according to these lines, would comprehend a great number of American citizens; not less, perhaps, than a hundred thousand: and asked, what was the intention of the British government respecting them, and under whose government they would fall? It was answered that those settlements would be taken into consideration, when the line became a subject of discussion; but that such of the inhabitants, as would

ultimately be included within the Indian territory, must make their own arrangements and provide for themselves.

The British commissioners here said that, considering the importance of the question we had to decide, (that of agreeing to a provisional article) their government had thought it right, that we should also be fully informed of its views, with respect to the proposed revision of the boundary line, between the dominions of Great Britain and the United States.

1st. Experience had proved that the joint possession of the lakes, and a right common to both nations to keep up a naval force on them, necessarily produced collisions, and rendered peace insecure. As Great Britain could not be supposed to expect to make conquests in that quarter, and as that province was essentially weaker than the United States, and exposed to invasion, it was necessary, for its security, that Great Britain should require that the United States should hereafter keep no armed naval force on the Western Lakes, from Lake Ontario to Lake Superior, both inclusive; that they should not erect any fortified or military post or establishment on the shores of those lakes; and that they should not maintain those which were already existing. This must, they said, be considered as a moderate demand, since Great Britain, if she had not disclaimed the intention of any increase of territory, might with propriety have asked a cession of the adjacent American shores. The commercial navigation and intercourse would be left on the same footing as heretofore. It was expressly stated, (in answer to a question we asked,) that Great Britain was to retain the right of having an armed naval force on those lakes, and of holding military posts and establishments on their shores.

2. The boundary line west of lake Superior, and thence to the Mississippi, to be revised and the treaty right of Great Britain to the navigation of the Mississippi, to be continued. When asked, whether they did not mean the line from the lake of the Woods to the Mississippi, the British commissioners repeated that they meant the line from lake Superior, to that river.

3. A direct communication from Halifax and the province of New-Brunswick to Quebec, to be secured to Great Britain. In answer to our question, in what manner this was to be effected, we were told that it must be done by a cession to Great Britain of that portion of the district of Maine (in the state of Massachusetts) which intervenes between New-Brunswick and Quebec, and prevents that direct communication.

Reverting to the proposed provisional article, respecting the Indian pacification and boundary, the British commissioners concluded by stating to us, that if the conferences should be suspended by our refusal to agree to such an article, without having obtained further instructions from our government, Great Britain would not consider herself bound to abide by the terms which she now offered, but would be at liberty to vary and regulate her demands according to subsequent events, and in such manner as the state of the war, at the time of renewing the negotiations, might warrant.

We asked whether the statement made, respecting the proposed revision of the boundary line between the United States and the dominions of Great Britain, embraced all the objects she meant to bring forward for discussion, and what were, particularly, her views with respect to Moose island, and such other islands in the bay of Passamaquoddy, as had been in our possession till the present war, but had been lately captured? We were answered, that those islands, belonging of right to Great Britain, (as much so, one

of the commissioners said, as Northamptonshire,) they would certainly be kept by her, and were not even supposed to be an object of discussion.

From the forcible manner in which the demand, that the United States should keep no naval armed force on the lakes, nor any military post on their shores, has been brought forward, we were induced to inquire whether this condition was also meant as a *sine qua non*? To this the British commissioners declined giving a positive answer. They said that they had been sufficiently explicit; that they had given us one *sine qua non*, and when we had disposed of that, it would be time enough to give us an answer as to another.

We then stated that, considering the nature and importance of the communication made this day, we wished the British commissioners to reduce their proposals to writing, before we gave them an answer; this they agreed to and promised to send us an official note without delay.

We need hardly say that the demands of Great Britain will receive from us an unanimous and decided negative. We do not deem it necessary to detain the John Adams for the purpose of transmitting to you the official notes which may pass on the subject and close the negotiation. And we have felt it our duty immediately to apprise you, by this hasty, but correct sketch of our last conference, that there is not at present, any hope of peace.

We have the honor to be, sir, with perfect respect, your obedient servants,

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,  
J. A. BAYARD,  
H. CLAY,  
JONA. RUSSELL,  
ALBERT GALLATIN.

*Note of the British commissioners. Received after the above letter was written.*

The undersigned, plenipotentiaries of his Britannic Majesty, do themselves the honor of acquainting the Plenipotentiaries of the United States, that they have communicated to their court the result of the conference which they had the honor of holding with them upon the 9th instant, in which they stated, that they were unprovided with any specific instructions, as to comprehending the Indian nations in a treaty of peace to be made with Great Britain, and as to defining a boundary to the Indian territory.

The undersigned are instructed to acquaint the plenipotentiaries of the United States, that his Majesty's government having at the outset of the negotiation, with a view to the speedy restoration of peace, reduced as far as possible the number of points to be discussed, and having professed themselves willing to forego on some important topics any stipulation to the advantage of Great Britain, cannot but feel some surprise that the government of the United States should not have furnished their plenipotentiaries with instructions upon those points which could hardly fail to come under discussion.

Under the inability of the American plenipotentiaries, to conclude any article upon the subject of Indian pacification and Indian boundary, which shall bind the government of the United States, his Majesty's government conceive that they cannot give a better proof of their sincere desire for the restoration of peace, than by professing their willingness to accept a provisional article upon those heads, in the event of the American plenipotentiaries considering themselves authorized to accede to the general principles, upon which such an article ought to be founded. With a view to enable the American plenipotentiaries to decide, how far the conclusion of such an article is within the limit of their general discretion, the undersigned are directed to state, fully and

distinctly, the bases upon which alone Great Britain sees any prospect of advantage in the continuance of the negotiations at the present time.

The undersigned have already had the honor of stating to the American plenipotentiaries, that in considering the points above referred to, as a sine qua non of any treaty of peace, the view of the British government is the permanent tranquility and security of the Indian nations, and the prevention of those jealousies and irritations, to which the frequent alteration of the Indian limits has heretofore given rise.

For this purpose it is indispensably necessary, that the Indian nations who have been during the war in alliance with Great Britain should, at the termination of the war, be included in the pacification.

It is equally necessary, that a definite boundary should be assigned to the Indians, and that the contracting parties should guarantee the integrity of their territory, by a mutual stipulation, not to acquire by purchase, or otherwise, any territory within the specified limits. The British government are willing to take, as the basis of an article on this subject, those stipulations of the treaty of Grenville, subject to modifications, which relate to a boundary line.

As the undersigned are desirous of stating every point in connection with the subject, which may reasonably influence the decision of the American plenipotentiaries in the exercise of their discretion, they avail themselves of this opportunity to repeat what they have already stated, that Great Britain desires the revision of the frontier between her North American dominions and those of the United States, not with any view to an acquisition of territory, as such, but for the purpose of securing her possessions, and preventing future disputes.

The British government, consider the lakes from lake Ontario to lake Superior, both inclusive, to be the natural military frontier of the British possessions in North America. As the weaker power on the North American continent, the least capable of acting offensively, and the most exposed to sudden invasion, Great Britain considers the military occupation of these lakes as necessary to the security of her dominions. A boundary line equally dividing these waters, with a right to each nation to arm, both upon the lakes and upon their shores, is calculated to create a contest for naval ascendancy in peace as well as in war. The power which occupies these Lakes should, as a necessary result, have the military occupation of both shores.

In furtherance of this object the British government is prepared to propose a boundary. But as this might be misconstrued as an intention to extend their possessions to the southward of the lakes, which is by no means the object they have in view, they are disposed to leave the territorial limits undisturbed, and as incident to them, the free commercial navigation of the lakes, provided that the American government will stipulate not to maintain or construct, any fortifications upon, or within a limited distance of the shores, or maintain or construct any armed vessel upon the lakes in question, or in the rivers which empty themselves into the same.

If this can be adjusted, there will then remain for discussion the arrangement of the north western boundary between lake Superior and the Mississippi, the free navigation of that river, and such a vacation of the line of frontier as may secure a direct communication between Quebec and Halifax.

The undersigned trust, that the full statement which they have made of the views and objects of the British government in requiring the pacification of the Indian nations, and a permanent limit to their territories, will enable the American plenipotentiaries to conclude a provisional article upon the basis

above stated. Should they feel it necessary to refer to the government of the United States for further instructions, the undersigned feel it incumbent upon them to acquaint the American plenipotentiaries, that the government cannot be precluded by anything that has passed from varying the terms at present proposed, in such a manner, as the state of war, at the time of resuming the conferences, may, in their judgment render advisable.

The undersigned avail themselves of this occasion to renew to the plenipotentiaries of the United States, the assurance of their high consideration.

(Signed) GAMBIER,  
HENRY GOULBURN,  
WILLIAM ADAMS.

Ghent, 19th August, 1814.

## The Budget.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS.  
*The committee of ways and means, to whom was referred so much of the message of the president of the United States as relates to the finances—REPORT.*

That taxes, loans, and treasury notes, appear to be the resources on which we must rely for carrying on the war. The product of the first, cannot be commanded in time to meet the immediate demands on the treasury—a reliance on loans, in the present situation of this country, would be uncertain, and the terms on which they would be obtained not such as to induce a resort to them at the present moment—treasury notes, combined with a system of taxation more extended than the one heretofore adopted, will, in its benefit, in the present state of bank credit, be found to be a much better resource. The want of some medium, which, resting on a firm and solid basis, may unite public confidence, and have a general, instead of a local circulation, is now universally acknowledged. The stoppage of specie payments by the principal banks of the middle states, has embarrassed greatly the operations of the treasury, and by confining the circulation of notes to the limits of the states within which they are issued, has deprived the government of all the facilities, in the remittance of money, which was afforded while public confidence gave to bank notes a general circulation. The notes of New York and Philadelphia will not be received in Boston; the notes of Baltimore, or of the District of Columbia, will not answer for payments in Philadelphia. If, by any new modification, treasury notes could be made to answer the purposes of a circulating medium, between the different states, they would greatly facilitate the operations of government, and free from embarrassment the transactions of individuals. To secure their circulation, it would be necessary, 1st, To issue the notes in sums sufficiently small for the ordinary purposes of society. 2d, To allow the individual who holds them, to fund them at pleasure at any of the loan offices, and to receive their amount in stock of the United States, bearing an interest of 8 per cent. 3d, To make them payable to bear, and transferable by delivery. 4th, To make them receivable in all payments for public lands and taxes. 5th, To pledge, for the payment of the interest on the amount issued, so much of the internal duties as shall be necessary. To prevent an accumulation of circulating medium, the United States to retain the power, on giving six months notice, of redeeming them with specie, or exchanging for them stock, bearing an interest of 8 per cent. If these provisions are adopted, and taxes imposed, which shall manifest clearly the ability of the government to meet its engagements, our present difficulties will vanish, confidence be restored, and the capital, hoarded by avarice, or locked up from utility, will be again restored to the accustomed channels of circulation. In presenting additional objects of taxation, care has been taken to select such as will bear equally on every portion of the community. In Europe, the price of agricultural products is not materially affected by a state of war; the produce of the earth is there consumed within the country, in peace and in war. The situation of the United States is totally different—with an extensive and fertile country, and a small population, compared to the extent of our territory, we have annually a large surplus to export to foreign markets, over and above what is necessary for consumption. On the export of this surplus, which is cut off by war, depends, in a great degree, the ability of the farmer to meet taxes. While, however, war depresses the agricultural interest, it gives vigor to various manufactures by destroying all foreign competition, the war has brought many of these manufactures to a state of perfection, which will secure their successful prosecution even after peace shall be restored. In times of difficulty and danger, we must appeal to the patriotism of every class of our citizens. These establishments, under the fostering hand of the government, have grown to maturity, and will not hesitate to bear, with the agricultural interests, their portion of the taxes necessary to maintain, unimpaired, that character for punctuality and good faith for which the American government has heretofore been distinguished. Several of these manufactures have been selected as proper subjects of taxation; and it is proposed to unite with the taxes, a pledge of the public faith for the continuance of the double duties, until the tax shall be repealed.

The committee deem it unnecessary, at present, to present any view of the expenditures for the next year, reserving a report on that subject, until the estimates from the treasury shall be forwarded. Confiding, therefore, this report to the additional taxes, necessary for the support of the public credit, they submit the following resolutions:

- 1. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to continue the direct tax, and to increase the same fifty per cent.
- 2. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to increase the duty on spirits distilled, by an additional duty of 12 1/2 cents on the gallon.
- 3. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to add one hundred per cent. to the present duty on sales at auctions.
- 4. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to add fifty per cent. to the present duty on the conveyance of papers and letters.
- 5. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to impose a duty on the following articles, viz. manufacturer of tobacco and snuff, in the hands of the manufacturer; candles, of tallow and spermacetti; bats, cotton yarn, spun by the aid of machinery, worked by steam or water; leather; pig iron; castings; bar, rolled and slit iron; and on nails made by the aid of machinery; on furniture, above a certain value, except beds, bedding, and articles of domestic manufacture, in the hands of the owner; beer, ale and porter, in the hands of the manufacturer; boots and shoes above a certain price, in the hands of the manufacturer; on plated harness, in the hands of the owner; on vats for the manufacture of paper; on saddles and bridles, above a certain price, in the hands of the owner; on gold and silver watches, in the hands of the owner; on pleasure horses, kept exclusively for the saddle or carriage; on playing cards, and on lotteries.

*Estimate of the amount of the proposed increase, and of the new duties.*

50 per cent. on the direct tax,	Dolls. 1,500,000	
Additional duty on distilled spirits,	3,000,000	
100 per cent. on the present auction duties,	150,000	
50 per cent. on postage,	250,000	
Manufactured tobacco and snuff, 10,000,000 of lbs. averaged at 4 cents,	400,000	
Candles of tallow 6,000,000 lbs. at 2 cents,	120,000	
Spermacetti and white wax 400,000 lbs. at 10 cents,	40,000	
Hats—on, payable 1 dollar, castors 75 cents, and forams 25 cents, as made by manufacturers,	600,000	
Cotton yarn, spun by the aid of machinery, worked by steam or water, 400,000 spindles, at 25 cents,	100,000	
Leather—saddles, harness, calf, horse and hog. Kid and seal skin, 18,000,000 lbs. averaged at three cents,	540,000	
Coat and sheep skins tanned with smooak, or otherwise to resemble Spanish leather, at 50 cents the dozen, and all other skins tanned or dressed with alum, averaged at 3 cents per lb.	60,000	
Iron, 300,000 tons of pig, at 1 dollar,	300,000	
100,000 tons of castings, at 1 dollar 50 cents,	150,000	
100,000 tons of bar, rolled and slit, at 1 dollar,	100,000	
On beer, ale, and porter, 6,000,000 gallons at 1 cent,	60,000	
Furniture: tax, excluding beds, bedding, kitchen furniture, carpets and curtains of domestic manufacture, and family pictures and excluding also from the operation of the tax, every person whose furniture, exclusive of the above articles, does not amount to 200 dollars. The estimate is made on a supposition that the United States contains 600,000 families:		
Families ex-ante possessing less than 20 dollars worth of furniture, 250,000,		
Posessing between		
200 and 400 dolls.	300,000 at 1 doll.	300,000
40 and 600 do.	100,000 at 1 50	150,000
600 and 1,000 do.	75,000 at 3	225,000
1010 and 1,500 do.	25,000 at 6	150,000
1500 and 2000 do.	15,000 at 10	150,000
2000 and 3000 do.	10,000 at 17	170,000
3000 and 4000 do.	10,000 at 78	280,000
4000 and 6000 do.	10,000 at 45	450,000
6000 and 9000 do.	5,000 at 75	375,000
Above 9000 do.	1,000 at 100	100,000
Boots, white top and full dress military boots, 100,000 pair at 75 cents,	75,000	
Other boots or booties of the value of 8 dolls. 250,000 pair, at 50 cents,	125,000	
Boots or booties, not less than 5 dollars in value, and not exceeding 8, 500,000 pair, at 25 cents,	125,000	
Fine shoes, above the value of 1 doll. and 75 cts. 1,000,000 at 10 cents,	100,000	
Plated harness in the hands of the owner, 50,000 pair, at 2 dollars,	100,000	
On the manufacture of paper; on vats exclusively employed in making white paper, 50 dolls. on vats employed in making part white and part brown, 30 dolls. on vats exclusively employed in making brown paper, 15 dolls. 2 00 vats averaged,	30,000	
On nails made by the aid of machinery, 20,000,000 lbs. at 1 cent,	200,000	
On saddles under 10 dollars value, 50 cents; over 10 and under 15, 75 cents; and above the value of 15 dollars, 1 dollar,	100,000	
On bridles of less value than 2 dolls. 10 cents; 2 dolls. and under 5, 20 cents; 5 dolls. and under 10, 40 cts. above 10 dolls. 1 dollar,	100,000	
Pleasure horses kept exclusively for the saddle, 1 dollar; horses kept exclusively for the carriage, 1 dollar and 50 cts.	15,000	
Gold watches, 20,000 at 2 dolls.	50,000	
Silver watches, 250,000, at 1 dollar,	250,000	
Playing cards, 400,000 packs at 25 cents,	100,000	
Lotteries a per cent. on the amount,	50,000	
	11,635,000	
Add the revenue of 1815, as estimated by the Secretary of the Treasury,	10,801,000	
Makes for 1815, a revenue of	Dolls. 22,436,000	

Congress of the United States.

SENATE.

Monday, October 3. Mr. Lacock submitted the following motion for consideration;

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to enquire and report to the senate the extent of the injury done the capitol and other public buildings of the United States by the enemy, the best means of preserving from further damage by the weather the remains of these edifices, and the expediency of an appropriation for repairing the same.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The following message was received from the president of the United States by Mr. Coles his secretary:

*To the senate of the United States.*

I transmit to the senate a report from the department of state complying with their resolution of the 25th ultimo.

JAMES MADISON.

October 3d 1814,

The undersigned, acting as secretary of state, to whom was referred the resolution of the senate, requesting the president to cause to be laid before the senate such information in his possession, respecting the existing state of the relations between the United States and the continental powers of Europe, as he may deem not improper to be communicated, has the honor to report:

That the relations of the United States and the continental powers of Europe, continue to be those of peace and amity; nor is there, so far as is known to this department, reason to believe that an unfavorable change is likely to take place.

Measures have been taken to continue our diplomatic relations with France under the existing government, and to renew those with Spain, which have been for a time interrupted by the peculiar circumstances of that country. Diplomatic relations are also renewed with the united provinces of the low countries. The new government has sent an envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the United States, who has been received.

With the other powers of the continent of Europe, our relations have undergone no change since the last session of congress.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES MONROE.

Department of state, October 1, 1814.

[The above is the only matter of importance in the proceedings of either house—the usual brief detail shall be inserted as customary.]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Thursday, September 9, The Speaker laid before the house the copy of a resolution, transmitted under cover to him from Philadelphia, passed by the select and common council of that city, offering to the congress and government, the use of buildings in that city, for their accommodation, provided it shall be deemed expedient in consequence of inconvenience experienced from the destruction of the capitol, &c. to remove from Washington.

On motion of Mr. Fisk of N. Y. this resolve was referred to the committee already raised on that subject.

Friday, Sept. 30.—Mr. Jackson's proposition to alter the constitution so that "congress shall have power to establish a national bank," was taken up in committee of the whole. After some interesting remarks from Mr. Johnson and Mr. McKee, the committee refused to agree to the proposition.

The question, in the house, on concurring with the committee in their disagreement to the proposition, was then decided as follows.

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Avery, Barnett, Baylies of

Mass. Bayly of Vir. Bigelow, Boyd, Bradley, Brigham, Butler, Caperton, Caldwell, Champion, Chappell, Cilley, Clark, Clouton, Constock, Cooper, Cox, Culpeper, Cuthbert, Dana, Davenport, Denoyelles, Desha, Duvall, Farrow, Findley, Fisk of Vt. Fisk of N. Y. Forney, Forsythe, Gaston, Gelders, Goldsborough, Grosvenor, Hanson, Hawkins, Hubbard, Hurlbert, Irwin, Jackson, of R. I. Kent, of N. Y. Kerr, King of Mass. Law, Lefferts, Lewis, Lovett, Lowndes, McKee, Miller, Moffitt, Moseley, Murfree, Markell, Oakley, Pearson, Pickens, Post, John Reed, Rea of Penn. Rich, Ruggles, Sage, Schureman, Sevier, Sharp, Sherwood, Skinner, Stanford, Stockton, Strong, Sturges, Thompson, Vose, Ward of Mass. Ward of N. J. Wheaton, White, Wilcox, Winter and Yancey—86.

**YAYS**—Messrs. Anderson, Barbour, Bard, Bowen, Burwell, Condict, Conard, Crawford, Creighton, Davis of Penn. Earle, Eppes, Evans, Franklin, Gholson, Glasgow, Goodwyn, Gourdin, Griffin, Hall, Harris, Hawes, Humphreys, Ingersoll, Jackson of Vir. Kershaw, King of N. C. Lyle, Macon, McCoy, McKim, McLean, Moore, Newton, Pickens, Piper, Pleasants, Rhea of Ten. Roane, Smith of Virg. Tammhill, Udree and Wilson of Penn.—44.

So the noise decided by a large majority, that it would not agree to this proposed amendment to the constitution.

It would rather appear from the little that was said, that many voted against the proposition on the idea that congress had already the power required.

Adjourned until Monday.

**Monday, October 3.**—Mr. Troup from the military committee reported a resolution to confer certain honorary rewards on generals Brown, Scott, Gaines and Macomb—referred to a committee of the whole.

Mr. Fisk, of N. Y. from the committee to whom the same was referred, reported as follows:

“Resolved, That it is *inexpedient* to remove the seat of government at this time from the city of Washington.”

The house having agreed to consider the report—

Mr. Fisk of New-York said he had reported that resolution in conformity to the directions of a majority of the committee; but he now thought it his duty to move to strike out the word *inexpedient* and insert the word *expedient*.

A short desultory conversation took place between several members in relation to the state of defence of the place, &c.

When the question on Mr. Fisk's motion to amend (the effect of which was to declare it expedient to remove) was taken and decided as follows:

**YAYS**—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Baylies, of Mass. Bigelow, Boyd, Bradbury, Bradley, Brigham, Brown, Butler, Caldwell, Champion, Cilley, Clark, Condict, Conard, Cooper, Cox, Creighton, Davenport, Davis of Penn. Denoyelles, Desha, Duvall, Ely, Findley, Fisk of N. Y. Gelders, Grosvenor, Hurlbert, Ingersoll, Ingham, Irwin, Jackson, of R. I. Kent of N. Y. King of Mass. Law, Lovett, Lyle, Miller, Moffitt, Moseley, Murfree, Markell, Oakley, Pickering, Piper, Post, John Reed, Rea of Penn. Rich, Ruggles, Schureman, Sevier, Sharp, Sherwood, Skinner, Stanford, Stockton, Sturges, Tammhill, Taylor, The apostle, Udree, Vose, Ward, of Mass. Ward of N. J. Wilcox and Winter—63.

**NAYS**—Messrs. Archer, Avery, Barbour, Bard, Barnett, Bayly of Vir. Bowen, Burwell, Caperton, Chappell, Clouton, Constock, Crawford, Culpeper, Cuthbert, Dana, Earle, Eppes, Evans, Farrow, Findley, Fisk of Vt. Forney, Forsythe, Franklin, Gaston, Gholson, Glasgow, Goodwyn, Griffin, Hall, Hanson, Harris, Hawes, Hawkins, Hubbard, Humphreys, Jackson of Virg. Johnson of Ky. Kerr, Kershaw, King, of N. C. Lefferts, Lewis, Lowndes, Macon, McCoy, McKee, McKim, McLean, Montgomery, Moore, Newton, Pearson, Pickens, Pleasants, Rhea of Ten. Roane, Sage, Sevier, Smith of Virg. Strong, Stuart, Telfair, Troup, White, Wilson of Penn. and Yancey—63.

The house being equally divided—

The speaker said, he was now called on to give a vote as unexpected as painful. The speaker would, on this occasion, as on any other, regardless of the feelings which might be thereby excited, and the impressions probably received, give that vote which he believed the interests, safety and honor of the nation under all the circumstances to require. He was deeply impressed with the belief that these considerations required him to vote in the affirmative. The reason for this vote was, that this district could not be defended except at an immense expence. And at an expence perhaps half of that which would be necessary to carry on the war.

So the amendment was carried.

Referred to a committee of the whole,

Mr. Montgomery, of Ky. offered the following:

**Resolved**, That the committee of claims be instructed to enquire into the expediency of making provision for the widows and orphans of militia privates slain in the service of the United States.

The motion having been amended, on suggestion of Mr. Desha of Ky. so as to include also those who may die or have died whilst in the service, and also so as to refer the subject to the military committee, instead of the committee of claims, was agreed to.

**Tuesday, October 4.**—Mr. Pleasants of Va. from the committee on naval affairs, who were instructed to enquire into the expediency of extending to merchant recaptors the provisions of the bill allowing a bounty on prisoners to the owners and crews of private armed vessels, reported, that it was *inexpedient* to extend the provisions of the said act to the case just stated.

After some objections by Mr. King of Mass. the report was accepted by a large majority.

The resolution on removing the seat of government was taken up—a motion for an indefinite postponement was neg'ived—ayes 61, nays 77. Progress reported, and the committee had leave to sit again.

From the 4th to the 10th, both houses waiting for the reports of their several committees, done nothing very important. In the senate, a vote bestowing the usual civic honors, on capt. Warrington and his officers and crew for capturing the *Epervier*, was passed unanimously. In the house, on the 5th and 6th, the resolves “that it was *expedient* to remove the seat of government,” was discussed. A motion to insert “*inexpedient*” for “*expedient*” was lost—ayes 67, nays 70. The next day, the question on the passage of the resolution, was, after debate, passed by yeas and nays, as follows; and a committee appointed to bring in a bill accordingly.

**YAYS**—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Baylies, of Mass. Bigelow, Boyd, Bradbury, Bradley, Brigham, Brown, Butler, Caldwell, Champion, Cilley, Clark, Condict, Conard, Cooper, Cox, Creighton, Davenport, Davis of Penn. Denoyelles, Desha, Duvall, Ely, Findley, Fisk of N. Y. Gelders, Grosvenor, Hurlbert, Ingersoll, Ingham, Irwin, Jackson of R. I. Kent, of N. Y. King, of Mass. L. W. Lovett, Lyle, Mill-r, Moffitt, Mosely, Markell, Oakley, Ormsby, Pickering, Piper, Post, John Reed, Rea, of Penn. Rich, Ruggles, Schureman, Sevier, Sharp, Sherwood, Shipperd, Skinner, Stockton, Sturges, Stanford, Tammhill, Taylor, Thompson, Udree, Vose, Ward of Mass. Ward of N. J. Wheaton, Wilcox and Winter—72.

**NAYS**—Messrs. Archer, Avery, Barbour, Bard, Barnett, Bayly, of Vir. Bowen, Burwell, Chappell, Clouton, Constock, Crawford, Culpeper, Cuthbert, Dana, Earle, Eppes, Evans, Farrow, Fisk of Vt. Forney, Forsythe, Franklin, Gaston, Gholson, Glasgow, Goldsborough, Goodwyn, Griffin, Hall, Hanson, Harris, Hawes, Hawkins, Hubbard, Humphreys, Hungerford, Irving, Jackson, of Virg. Johnson, of Ky. Kent, of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, King, of N. C. Lefferts, Lewis, Lowndes, Macon, McCoy, McKee, McKim, McLean, Montgomery, Moore, Nelson, Newton, Pearson, Pickens, Pleasants, Rhea, of Ten. Roane, Sage, Sevier, Smith, of Virg. Stuart, Telfair, Troup, White, Wilson, of Penn. Wright and Yancey—71.

On the 6th some time was spent in considering the resolution for giving due honors, to generals Brown, Scott, Gaines, &c. when the important message from the president, inserted in page 70, et seq. interrupted the proceedings. This message being read, on a motion for printing, Mr. Hanson rose and delivered a very patriotic and animated speech—short but pointed.—Messrs. Oakley, Forsythe and Wright also offered some remarks, and 16,000 copies of the message were ordered to be printed. [Particulars hereafter.]

On the 11th, the resolutions respecting Brown, Scott, &c. were order-d to be engrossed for a third reading—and in committee of the whole, a proposition made by Mr. Jefferson to sell to Congress, on their own terms, his valuable library, the work of 50 years attention and care, to supply that which had been destroyed, was considered. The venerable gentleman states that his constant design to have offered this library to the public, was hastened by the late events at Washington, &c. This letter will probably be published. The committee reported progress and had leave to sit again, to allow farther time to examine the catalogue.

On the 11th, also, the committee of ways and means made their report, which is inserted in page 76.

After ten ballots, Mr. Cutts, formerly a senator of New-Hampshire, was elected secretary of the senate. There were many candidates.

**Wednesday, Oct. 12.** Nothing of importance transacted.

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

From the south, we have glorious news! See gen. Jackson's letter below. Oflort Bowyer where this brilliant affair happened, the “National Intelligencer” observes—“This little fort, (which was erected in 1812, by lieut. col. Bowyer, and consists only of common logs filled in with sand) was performed, we learn by a detachment of the 2d regt, which had not before an opportunity of distinguish-



ing itself in the present war, tho' highly distinguished formerly, for its gallant stand against the savages in covering St. Clair's retreat, with its only 16 of its officers survived, and only 4 escaped unhurt. Of these col. Sparks and lieutenant col. Bowyer still remain in the regiment. col. Bowyer has been recently promoted, and transferred to the Northern frontier. Maj. Lawrence who commanded fort Bowyer, is an officer of high promise—a native of Calvert county, Maryland.

It is stated that gen. Jackson will have under his command, immediately, not less than 12,000 men; part of which is a fine body of regulars—the rest chiefly Kentucky and Tennessee militia, nearly equal to them; and perhaps, for the service required not inferior in real utility. We fear nothing in that quarter. The spirit of the population of the West, with the nature of the country, climate, &c. will, probably, confine the operations of the British forces to the murdering of a few men, women and children. 6000 men have been required from Louisiana, the number is partly made up of volunteers, 4500 march from Kentucky.

The British commanding officer at Pensacola—we say commanding at Pensacola, a Spanish place—is spouting away in great style; and with a force that we do not believe amounts to more than 2 or 300 British and as many Indians, is puffing and blowing beyond any thing that Bonaparte has left us samples of in that sort of style. We shall notice him more at length anon.

An expedition has been fitted out at New Orleans, supposed against Barataria and the command of capt. Patterson, of the navy. If his means are sufficient, the nest of privates will be destroyed. The people at Orleans have had a meeting, and appointed a committee of defence, &c.

Head-Quarters, 7th Military District,  
Mobile, September 7, 10 A. M.

SIR—I have but a moment to spare to tell you since the departure of my letter of this morning a messenger has returned from fort Bowyer, with the pleasing intelligence that major Lawrence has gallantly repulsed the enemy with great loss, blowing up a vessel of 30 guns. Only four of our men were killed and 5 wounded. The officers bringing the despatches will be here in an hour, when I will be enabled to give you the particulars.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
ANDREW JACKSON,  
Maj. gen. commanding.

The hon. John Armstrong, secretary at war.

Extract of a letter received in this city.

"By a letter just received from general Jackson, he has beaten the British and Indians at Mobile Point, blown up the admiral's ship, and sunk one brig. About 20 of their crews saved. The letter I saw."  
WM. DONNISON.

Fayetteville, Ten. Sept. 11, 1814.

FROM ONTARIO, besides the information contained in commodore Chauncey's letters inserted below; we learn that, our fleet had come to Sackett's harbor on the 7th, inst. supposed with a view of obtaining supplies. The enemy's great ship had not then sailed. A letter dated the 7th, says:—

"The enemy's ship is ready for sea, excepting that her sails are not bent, which it is expected they will be by the 12th. She is a large vessel of 102 guns. Her lower deck thirty-four 32 pounders; middle-deck thirty-four 24 pounders; has twenty 62-pound carronades on her upper deck, besides other guns. It will be impossible for our fleet to withstand the enemy on the lake. Probably the first object of the enemy will be to relieve Drummond's army, which is in great want of supplies. Bread is said to be a dollar a pound with them. The enemy made an attempt to send supplies up to them by two ships, some days since, but they were driven back by Chauncey.

"It is expected an attack will be made by sea and land, in a few days. The enemy is assembling his forces at Kingston for that purpose. Drummond, it is said, will lead the attack by land.

"The harbor is completely surrounded by breastworks and entrenchments, and every preparation making to give the foe a warm reception. A large additional militia force has been called out, and is repairing to the harbor with great alacrity."

We further learn that, lieutenant Dickerson, with a detachment, had captured five boats of the enemy's, loaded with goods of the north-western company, valued at \$12,000—350 seamen have gone from lake Champlain to join Chauncey.

*Copy of a letter from commodore Chauncey to the secretary of the navy, dated U. S. ship Superior, off the Ducks, Oct. 1, 1814.*

SIR—On the 28th ult. at day light, we discovered two of the enemy's ships standing out of Kingston, under a press of sail. As soon as they discovered us, they hove to. The wind being fresh from the northward and eastward, and fair to leave Kingston, I was impressed with a belief that sir James had got his large ship ready, and was coming out with his whole fleet. I immediately made sail, in order to get the wind; but as soon as we tacked for them, the enemy's ships filled, made sail on the wind, and soon after tacked from us. The weather being hazy, it soon became so thick a fog that we could not discover objects at more than 100 yards distance. I, however, continue to beat to windward, and late in the afternoon it cleared up for a short time, when we discovered the enemy's two ships outside of the Nine mile Point; as soon as he discovered that we had neared him considerably, and in a situation to cut him off from Kingston, if he ventured further out, he immediately made all sail, and beat into his anchorage.

As no other part of the enemy's squadron made their appearance, and these 2 ships from their manœuvres evidently wished to escape us, it struck me that the enemy had learnt the movements of general Izard up the lake, and apprehending an attack upon general Drummond's army (which probably also was distressed for provisions) had induced him to put on board these two ships troops and provisions, and risk them for the relief of his army on the Niagara frontier; the wind and thick foggy weather also favored such a movement. I determined to frustrate his designs if possible. Soon after sundown I anchored the fleet between the Galoos and Grenadier island, for the purpose of keeping them together, and put lieutenant Skinner with an additional number of men on board the Lady of the Lake with orders to anchor between Pigeon and Snake Islands, and if he discovered any movement of the enemy to make a signal with rockets or guns, his number, &c. It continued a thick fog during the night—the enemy made no movement, and the next morning (29th) the weather cleared up, with the wind to the westward—weighed with the fleet and stood in for Kingston, until we opened the town—sent the Lady of the Lake close in to reconnoitre and ascertain the state of forwardness of the new ship. Lieutenant Skinner found her hauled up in the stream, and

completely rigged, but sails not bent—1 other ships and a large schooner lying also in the stream, and apparently ready to sail.

From present appearances I have no doubt but the enemy will be on the lake with his whole force in the course of a week, and I think his first movement will be to attempt to retrieve, at Sacket's Harbor, what he lost at Plattsburgh. I hope, however, that he will meet with the same gallant resistance upon this lake that he experienced on lake Champlain.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant, I CHAUNCEY.

Hon. WM. JONES, Washington.

*From the same to the same*

U. S. S. Superior, off the Ducks, Oct. 2.

SIR—Having a very commanding breeze yesterday, I sent the Lady of the Lake into Kingston to reconnoitre. She stood close in with the forts and shipping, keeping just within the range of their shot and had a fair view. The ships lay in the same positions as on the 29th, and the large ship still without her sails bent—no visible preparations to embark troops. I shall watch them in this position as long as possible without endangering the fleet.

I have the honor to be very respectfully, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

ISAAC CHAUNCEY,

Hon. WM. JONES, sec of the navy.

REASON FOR WAR. Sir George Collier, of the Leander, is stated lately to have given an opinion "that Great Britain wished to continue the war in order to employ her numerous soldiers and sailors whom she dare not trust in idleness."

EASTERN COAST. Captain Raguet, of the Nymphe frigate, has received 40,000 dollars from Brewster, and 12,000 from Eastham, the amount of the ransom lately demanded for these places, see page 52. How pitiful!

THANKSGIVING. The mayor of Baltimore, on the suggestion "of the reverend pastors of the several congregations," has appointed Thursday next, to be observed as "a day of thanksgiving to the Adorable Disposer of all human events, on account of our recent deliverance from the British fleet and army."

REINFORCEMENTS. It is now resolved to a moral certainty that Lord Hill, is coming to America, with a force of from 10 to 14,000 men. A London paper of August 11, says—"At a grand fete given on Saturday, at White-church, in honor of Lords Hill, and Combermere, the Chairman, among other toasts gave "Success to Lord Hill and his American expedition." In returning thanks the noble lord said, that he had three days ago taken leave of his prince, and on the 1st of September, he should quit England for Cork where he should embark on the first favorable opportunity for America, to take the command of the British army; and he had no doubt, with the means already there, together with those on the way, and what were promised by his prince, he should humble the Yankees, and bring the contest to a speedy and successful termination. From the remote period fixed for his lordship's departure, it is evident that he waits the result of the negotiation at Ghent."

NEGOCIATION. Our documents have read in this number it is superfluous to remark, except they have excited an universal burst of indignation, and an unanimous determination to repel, to the last extremity, the outrageous pretensions of the enemy. They are such as America will never submit to. Such as none but a slave will accede to. The demands are as impudent as any they could offer us, if a conquered people. Events may teach the moderation. But we have no prospect of peace from the present mission. Let the energies of the country be brought fairly into action, and, at Washington, the scene of their barbarism, will they make an honorable treaty. Our resources are immense and the union of all honest men will bring them into full operation. On land and on water we have gloriously triumphed; and on either element we have men that can successfully meet and humble the impetuous Englishmen.

Hamilton, O. Sept. 12. The Indians, who are to co-operate with the Ohio and Kentucky mounted volunteers under general Cass, are rendezvousing at St. Mary's. Between one and 200,000 lbs. of beef and pork and 500 bbls. of flour, has been ordered to this place.

Brig. gen. Thomas Flournoy is stated in the Savannah papers has resigned his commission in the army.

Desertions are numerous from the enemy from all possible points. A Boston paper states that an entire sergeant's guard had arrived at Wisconsin from Castine, and there enlisted in the service of the U. States. At Castine, commissioned officers were necessitated to take charge of the guard.

A party of the red allies of the "defender of the faith" lately made an incursion into the Illinois territory. They were pursued by a party of our rangers, and a skirmish ensued, in which each side lost 4 men.

A court martial has been appointed to enquire into the conduct of general Proctor.

Maj. general Scott arrived in Baltimore on Tuesday evening last, and proceeded next day to Washington.

A court martial has been ordered and detailed for the trial of captain Dixon, who blew up Fort Washington, on the Potomac.

Maj. general Gaines, has taken command of the 3d military district—Northampton, Philadelphia. Scott and Gaines are of the sect of men to respect the lord Hills of the enemy.

For interesting particulars of *Niccomb's* repulse of the enemy at Plattsburgh, see page 68.

ON THE NIAGARA FRONTIER. Little has occurred since the retirement of Drumbois. Brown and Izard had an interview—the latter with his army was at *Levy's own*, at our last date. 320 of the prisoners taken by general Brown in the late soe die have arrived at Greenbush.

FROM THE NORTH WEST we have nothing important: except that the Indians are reported to be becoming troublesome in the neighborhood of Detroit.

"We have captain *Blakely's* account of the splendid cruise of the U. S. sloop of war *Wasp*, detailing his capture of the British sloop *Reindeer* of 21 guns, after a sharp action of 15 minutes. Our loss 5 killed and 21 wounded. The British: 25 killed and 42 wounded. Capt. B. also made 7 other valuable prizes on the British coast, which he sunk or burnt. The *Wasp* was at *L' Orient* July 6, refitting.

The U. S. *Peacock* capt. *Warrington*, has also been dealing destruction to the enemy in his own waters. She has destroyed several vessels even in *Dublin* bay, and has alarmed the whole coast. Several sloops of war went after her. We are assured as well by paragraphs in the *London* papers, as in the following letter, that she also has sunk a sloop of war "*Down cellar*," as the sailors say.

*Extract of a letter from the minister of the U States at Paris to the secretary of the navy, dated Aug. 17, 1814.*

"I have the pleasure to enclose you captain *Blakely's* despatches giving the result of his cruise and especially of the capture of the *Reindeer*. This is another proud trophy which will swell the glorious annals of our little navy. I believe the *Peacock* has sunk the *British sloop of war PELICAN*. It appears to be certain that she has had an action in the Irish channel and sunk a sloop of his majesty's.

"Many circumstances concur in favor of its being the *Pelican*: she is known to have sailed in quest of the *Peacock*."

[Every reader will recollect that it was the *Pelican* that took our sloop of war *Argus*, and that she was one of the best sloops of war in the British navy.]

#### THE ENEMY IN THE CHESAPEAKE.

About thirty-five of the enemy's vessels late in our bay, have gone to sea—they first appear collected chiefly in Lynnhaven bay. It is said they have burnt their hospital and barracks on Tangier island. A party landed at Northumberland, before they went down from the Potomac, and committed great depredations. Particulars not yet received.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

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BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 162.]

*Hec olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

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## The Instructions.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.*

I now transmit to congress copies of the instructions to the Plenipotentiaries of the United States, charged with negotiating a peace with Great Britain, as referred to in my message of the 10th instant.

JAMES MADISON.

Washington, October 13th, 1814.

*Mr. Monroe, secretary of state, to the plenipotentiaries of the United States, for treating of peace with Great Britain, dated*

Department of state, April 15th, 1814.

GENTLEMEN—I had the honor on the 11th ult. to receive from Mr. Adams two letters, one bearing date on the 30th September, and the other on the 17th October last, communicating the overture of the emperor of Russia to promote peace by his friendly mediation between the United States and Great Britain. On the day following, Mr. Daschkoff, the Russian minister, made a similar communication to this department. The subject has, in consequence, been duly considered, and I have now to make known to you the result.

The President has not hesitated to accept the mediation of Russia, and he indulges a strong hope that it will produce the desired effect. It is not known that Great Britain has acceded to the proposition, but it is presumed that she will not decline it. The president thought it improper to postpone his decision, until he should hear of that of the British government. Sincerely desirous of peace, he has been willing to avail himself of every opportunity which might tend to promote it, on just and honorable conditions, and in accepting this overture he has been particularly gratified to evince, by the manner of it, the distinguished consideration which the United States entertain for the emperor Alexander. Should the British government accept the mediation, the negotiation to which it leads will be held at St. Petersburg. The president commits it to you, for which a commission is enclosed, and he has appointed Mr. Harris secretary of the mission.

The impressment of our seamen and illegal blockades as exemplified more particularly in the orders in council, were the principal causes of the war. Had not Great Britain persevered obstinately in the violation of these important rights, the war would not have been declared. It will cease as soon as these rights are respected. The proposition made by Mr.

Russell to the British government immediately after the war, and the answer given by this department to admiral Warren's letter since, shew the ground on which the United States were willing to adjust the controversy relative to impressment.

This has been further evinced by a report of the committee of foreign relations of the house of representatives, and an act of congress passed in consequence of that report. By these documents you will see that to accommodate this important difference, the United States are disposed to exclude British seamen altogether from the American service. This being effectually done, the British government can have no pretext for the practice. How shall it be done? By restraints to be imposed by each nation on the naturalization of the seamen of the other, excluding at the same time all others not naturalized—or shall the right of each nation to naturalize the seamen of the other be prohibited, and each exclude from its service the natives of the other? Whatever the rule is, it ought to be reciprocal. If Great Britain is allowed to naturalize American seamen, the U. States should enjoy the same privilege. If it is demanded that the United States shall exclude from their service all native British subjects, a like exclusion of American citizens from the British service ought to be reciprocated. The mode also should be common to both countries. Each should be at liberty to give the same facilities, or be bound to impose the same restraints that the other does. The president is willing to agree to either alternative, and to carry it into effect by the most eligible regulations that can be devised.

If the first alternative is adopted, the extent of the proposed exclusion will depend on the impediments to naturalization, on the efficacy of the regulations to prevent imposition and the fidelity of their execution. The greater the difficulty in acquiring the right of citizenship, the easier will it be to avoid imposition, and the more complete the desired exclusion. The law of the last session of congress relative to seamen proves how sincerely desirous the legislative as well as executive branch of our government, is to adjust this controversy on conditions which may be satisfactory to Great Britain. By that law it is made indispensable for every British subject who may hereafter become a citizen, to reside five years without intermission within the United States, and so many guards are imposed to prevent frauds, that it seems to be impossible that

they should be eluded. No British subject can be employed in a public or private ship of the United States, unless he produces to the commander in one instance, and to the collector in the other, a certified copy of the act by which he became naturalized. A list of the crew, in the case of a private ship, must be taken, certified and recorded by the collector, and the consuls or commercial agents of Great Britain may object to any seaman, and attend the investigation. The commander of a public ship receiving a person not duly qualified shall forfeit a thousand dollars, and the commander or owner of a private ship, knowing thereof, five hundred dollars, to be recovered in an action of debt, one half to the informer and one half to the United States. It is also made penal, punishable as a felony by imprisonment and labor from three to five years, or by fine, from five hundred to one thousand dollars, for any person to forge or counterfeit, or to pass, or use any forged or counterfeited certificate of citizenship, or to sell or dispose of one.

It may fairly be presumed that if this law should be carried into effect, it would exclude all British seamen from our service.

By requiring five years continued residence in the United States, as the condition of citizenship, few if any British seamen would ever take advantage of it. Such as had left Great Britain, and had resided five years in this country, would be likely to abandon the sea forever. And by making it the duty of the commanders of our public, and of the collectors, in the case of private ships, to require an authenticated copy from the clerk of the court, before which a British subject, who offered his service, had been naturalized, as indispensable to his admission, and highly penal in either to take a person not duly qualified, and by allowing also British agents to object to any one offering his service, and to prosecute by suit the commander or collector, as the case might be, for receiving an improper person, it seems to be impossible that such should be received.

If the second alternative is adopted; that is, if all native British subjects are to be hereafter excluded from our service, it is important that the stipulation providing for it should operate so as not to effect those who have been already naturalized. By our law all the rights of natives are given to naturalized citizens. It is contended by some that these complete rights do not extend beyond the limits of the United States; that in naturalizing a foreigner, no state can absolve him from the obligation which he owes to his former government, and that he becomes a citizen in a qualified sense only. This doctrine, if true in any case, is less applicable to the United States than to any other power. Expatriation seems to be a natural right, and by the original character

of our institutions, founded by compact, or principle, and particularly by the unqualified investment of the adopted citizen with the full rights of the native, all that the United States could do, to place him on the same footing, has been done. In point of interest the object is of little importance to either party. The number to be affected by the stipulation is inconsiderable; nor can that be a cause of surprise, when the character of that class of men is considered. It rarely happens that a seaman who settles on a farm, or engages in a trade, and pursues it for any length of time, returns to sea. His youthful days are exhausted in his first occupation. He leaves it with regret, and adopts another, either in consequence of marriage, of disease, or as an asylum for age.

To a stipulation which shall operate prospectively only, the same objection does not apply. In naturalizing foreigners, the United States may prescribe the limit to which their privileges shall extend. If it is made a condition that no native British subject, who may hereafter become a citizen, shall be employed in our public or private ships, their exclusion will violate no right. Those who might become citizens afterwards would acquire the right; subject to that condition, and would be bound by it. To such a stipulation the president is willing to assent, altho' he would much prefer the alternative of restraints on naturalization; and to prevent frauds and to carry the same fully into effect, you are authorised to apply all the restraints and checks, with the necessary modification to suit the case, that are provided in the act above recited, relative to seamen, for the purposes of that act.

In requiring that the stipulation to exclude British seamen from our service, with the regulations for carrying it into effect, be made reciprocal; the president desires that you make a provision, authorising the United States, if they should be so disposed, to dispense with the obligations imposed by it on American citizens. The liberal spirit of our government and laws is unfriendly to restraints on our citizens, such at least as are imposed on British subjects from becoming members of other societies. This has been shown in the law of the last session relative to seamen, to which your particular attention has been already drawn. This provision may likewise be reciprocated if desired.

The president is not particularly solicitous that either of these alternatives (making the proposed reservation in case the latter be preferred) should be preferred. To secure the United States against impressment he is willing to adopt either. He expects in return that a clear and distinct provision shall be made against the practice. The precise form in which it may be done is not insisted on, provided the import is explicit. All that is re-

quired is, that in consideration of the act to be performed on the part of the United States, the British government shall stipulate in some adequate manner, to terminate or forbear the practice of impressment from American vessels.

It has been suggested as an expedient mode for the adjustment of this controversy that British cruisers should have a right to search our vessels for British seamen, but that the commanders thereof should be subjected to penalties, in case they made mistakes, and took from them American citizens. By this the British government would acquire the right of search for seamen, with that of impressing from our vessels the subjects of all other powers. It will not escape your attention, that by admitting the right, in any case, we give up the principle, and leave the door open to every kind of abuse. The same objection is applicable to any and every other arrangement, which withholds the respect due to our flag by not allowing it to protect the crew sailing under it.

If the first alternative should be adopted, it will follow, that none of the British seamen who may be in the United States at the time the treaty takes effect, and who shall not have become citizens, will be admitted into our service, until they acquire that right.

If the second is adopted, the number of native British seamen, who have been naturalized, and will be admissible into our service, will not, it is believed exceed a few hundred; all others who may be in the United States at the time the treaty takes effect, or who may arrive afterwards will be excluded.

As a necessary incident to an adjustment on the principle of either alternative, it is expected that all American seamen, who have been impressed, will be discharged, and that those who have been naturalized, under the British laws, by compulsive service, will be permitted to withdraw.

I have to repeat that the great object which you have to secure, in regard to impressment, is, that our flag shall protect the crew, and providing for this in a satisfactory manner, that you are authorized to secure Great Britain effectually against the employment of her seamen in the service of the United States. This it is believed would be done by the adoption of either of the above alternatives, and the application to that which may be adopted, of the checks contained in the law of the last session relative to seamen; in aid of which it will always be in the power of Great Britain to make regulations operating in her own ports, with a view to the same effect. To terminate, however, this controversy in a manner satisfactory to both parties, the president is willing, should other checks be suggested as likely to be more effectual, consistent with the spirit of our constitution, that you should adopt them. The

strong feature of the first alternative which authorizes the naturalization of seamen, requires their continued residence in the United States for five years, as indispensable to the attainment of that right. In case this alternative be adopted, the president is willing, for example to secure a compliance with that condition, to make it the duty of each alien, who may be desirous to become a citizen, to appear in court every year, for the term of five years, till his right shall be completed. This example is given, not as a limitation, but as an illustration of your power; for to the exclusion of British seamen from our service, no repugnance is felt. To such exclusion the amicable adjustment of this controversy with Great Britain affords a strong motive, but not the only one. It is a growing sentiment in the United States, that they ought to depend on their own population, for the supply of their ships of war and merchant service; experience has shewn that it is an abundant resource. In expressing this sentiment, you will do it in a manner to inspire more fully a confidence, that the arrangement which you may enter into, will be carried faithfully into effect, without derogating, however, from the conciliatory spirit of the accommodation.

A strong desire has heretofore been expressed by the British government to obtain of the United States an arrangement to prevent the desertion of British seamen, when in our ports, and it cannot be doubted, that a stipulation to that effect would be highly satisfactory, as well as useful to Great Britain. It is fairly to be presumed that it, alone, would afford to the British government a strong inducement to enter into a satisfactory arrangement of the difference relating to impressment. The claim is not inadmissible, especially as the United States have a reciprocal interest in the restoration of deserters from American vessels in British ports. You may therefore agree to an article, such as hath been heretofore authorized by the United States, which shall make it the duty of each party to deliver them up.

Of the right of the United States to be exempted from the degrading practice of impressment, so much has been already said, and with such ability, that it would be useless, especially to you who are otherwise so well acquainted with it, to dilate on its merits. I must observe, however, that the practice is utterly repugnant to the law of nations; that it is supported by no treaty with any nation; that it was never acquiesced in by any; and that a submission to it by the United States, would be the abandonment, in favor of Great Britain, of all claim to neutral rights and of all other rights on the ocean.

This practice is not founded on any belligerent right. The greatest extent to which the

belligerent claim has been carried, over the vessels of neutral nations, is, to board, and take from them, persons in the land and sea-service of an enemy, contraband of war, an enemy's property. All nations agree respecting the two first articles, but there has been and still exists a diversity of opinion as to the last. On that and other questions of considerable importance, disputes have arisen which are yet unsettled. The empress Catharine of Russia, a distinguished advocate of just principles, placed herself in 1780 at the head of neutral nations, in favor of a liberal construction of their rights, and her successors have generally followed her example. In all the discussions on these topics, we find nothing of the British claim to impressment; no acknowledgment of it in any treaty, or proof of submission to it by any power. If instances have occurred in which British cruizers have taken British seamen from the vessels of any other nations, they were, as it is presumed, in cases either not acquiesced in or of an extraordinary nature only, affording no countenance to their practice and pretension in relation to the United States. Cases of this kind if such there be, afford no proof of a systematic claim in the British government to impressment, or of submission to it by other powers. This claim has been set up against the United States only, who have in consequence thereof been compelled to discuss its merits.

This claim is in fact traced to another source, the allegiance due by British subjects to their sovereign, and his right by virtue thereof, to their service. This has been distinctly stated in a late declaration by the prince regent. Knowing the nature of the claim, we know also the extent of the right and obligations incident to it. Allegiance is a political relation between a sovereign and his people. It is the obligation which binds the latter in return for the protection which they receive. These reciprocal duties have the same limit. They are confined to the dominions of the sovereign, beyond which he has no rights, can afford no protection, and can of course claim no allegiance. A citizen or subject of one power, entering the dominions of another, owes allegiance to the latter, in return for the protection he receives. Whether a sovereign has a right to claim the service of such of his subjects as have left his own dominions is a question, respecting which also a difference of opinion may exist. It is certain that no sovereign has a right to pursue his subjects into the territories of another, be the motive for it what it may. Such an entry without the consent of the other power, would be a violation of its territory, and an act of hostility. Offenders, even conspirators, cannot be pursued by one power into the territory of another, nor are they delivered up by the latter, except in compliance with treaties; or by favor. That the

vessels of a nation are considered a part of its territory, with the exception of the belligerent right only, is a principle too well established to be brought into discussion.—Each state has exclusive jurisdiction over its own vessels. Its laws govern in them, and offences against those laws are punishable by its tribunals only. The flag of a nation protects every thing sailing under it, in time of peace, and in time of war likewise, with the exception of the belligerent rights growing out of the war. An entry on board the vessels of one power by the cruizers of another, in any other case, and the exercise of any other authority over them, is a violation of right, and an act of hostility.

The British government, aware of the truth of this doctrine, has endeavored to avoid its consequences in the late declaration of the prince regent. It has not contended that British cruizers have a right to pursue and search our vessels for British seamen. It asserts only that they have a right to search them for other objects, and being on board for a lawful cause, and finding British seamen there, that they have a right to impress and bring them away, under the claim of allegiance. When we see a systematic pursuit of our vessels by British cruizers, and the impressment of seamen from them, not at a port of the enemy, where a regular blockade had been instituted, and by the blockading squadron, but in every part of the ocean, on our coast, and even in our harbors, it is difficult to believe that impressment is not the real motive, and the other the pretext for it. But to place this argument of the British government on the strongest ground, let it be admitted that the entry was lawful, is it so to commit an act not warranted by the purpose for which the entry was made? There is a levity in this argument, which neither suits the parties nor the subject. The British government founds its right of impressment from our ships on that of allegiance, which is a permanent right, equally applicable to peace and war. The right of impressment, therefore, from the vessels of other powers must likewise be permanent, and equally applicable to peace and war. It would not, however, take this broad ground, lest the injustice and extravagance of the pretension might excite the astonishment and indignation of other powers, to whom it would be equally applicable. To claim it as a belligerent right would have been equally unjust and absurd, as no trace of it could be found in the belligerent code. The British government was, therefore, reduced to a very embarrassing dilemma. To acknowledge that it could not support the claim, on either principle, would be to relinquish it, and yet it could rely on neither. It endeavored to draw some aid from both. A state of war exists which brings the parties together, Great Britain, as a belligerent, and

the United States as a neutral power, British officers have now a right to board and search American vessels, but for what? Persons in the service of an enemy, contraband of war, or enemy's property? This would not accomplish the end. It is however, the utmost limit of the belligerent right. Allegiance, which is an attribute of sovereignty, comes to her aid, and communicates all the necessary power. The national character of the neutral vessel ceases. The complete right of sovereignty and jurisdiction over it is transferred to Great Britain. It is on this foundation that the British government has raised this monstrous superstructure. It is with this kind of argument that it attempts to justify its practice of impressment from our vessels.

The remark contained in the declaration of the prince regent, that in impressing British seamen from American vessels, Great Britain exercised no right which she was not willing to acknowledge as appertaining equally to the government of the United States, with respect to American seamen in British merchant ships, proves only that the British government is conscious of the injustice of the claim, and desirous of giving to it such aid as may be derived from a plausible argument. The semblance of equality, however, in this proposition, which strikes at first view, disappears on a fair examination. It is unfair, first, because it is impossible for the United States to take advantage of it. Impressment is not an American practice, but utterly repugnant to our constitution and laws. In offering to reciprocate it, nothing was offered, as the British government well knew. It is unfair, secondly, because if impressment was allowable, a reciprocation of the practice would be no equivalent to the United States. The exercise of a right in common, at sea, by two nations, each over the vessels of the other, the one powerful and the other comparatively weak, would be, to put the latter completely at the mercy of the former. Great Britain, with her vast navy, would soon be the only party which made impressment. The United States would be compelled to abstain from it, and either to submit to the British rule, with all the abuses incident to power, or to resist it. But, should the United States be permitted to make impressment from British vessels, the effect would be unequal. Great Britain has, perhaps, thirty ships of war at sea, to one of the United States, and would profit of the arrangement in that proportion. Besides, impressment is a practice incident to war, in which view, likewise, the inequality is not less glaring, she being at least thirty years at war, to one of the United States. Other considerations prove that the British government made this acknowledgement merely as a pretext to justify its practice of impressment, without intending that the right or practice should

ever be reciprocated. What would be the effect of its adoption by American ships of war, with British merchant vessels. An American officer boards a British merchant vessel and claims, as American citizens, whom he pleases. How many British seamen would disclaim a title which would take them to the United States and secure them there all the advantages of citizenship? The rule of evidence, as the ground of impressments in every instance, must likewise be reciprocated between the two governments. The acknowledgment of the men would surely be a better proof of their national character than the decision of a British officer who boarded an American vessel, however impartial he might be, and strong his power of discrimination, when opposed by the voluntary and solemn declaration of the party. In this way we might draw from the British service the greater part, if not all their seamen. I might further ask, why was this acknowledgment made at this late period, for the first time only, after the declaration of war, and when on that account it could produce no effect? In the various discussions of this subject, in many of which it has been demanded whether the British government would tolerate such a practice from American ships of war, no such intimation was ever given.

If Great Britain had found the employment of her seamen in our service injurious to her, and been disposed to respect our rights, the regular course of proceeding would have been for her government to have complained to the government of the United States of the injury, and to have proposed a remedy. Had this been done, and no reasonable remedy been adopted, sound in principle and reciprocal in its operation, the British government might have had some cause of complaint, and some plea for taking the remedy into its own hands. Such a procedure would at least, have given to its claim of impressment the greatest plausibility. We know that such complaint was never made, except in defence of the practice of impressment, and that in the mean time the practice has gone on, and grown into an usage, which with all its abuses, had resistance been longer delayed, might have become a law. The origin and progress of this usurpation afford strong illustrations of the British policy. The practice and the claim began together, soon after the close of our revolutionary war, and were applicable to deserters only. They extended next to all British seamen—then to all British subjects, including as in the case of emigrants from Ireland, persons who would not have been subject to impressment in British ports, not being seafaring men—and, finally, to Swedes, Danes and others, known to be not British subjects, and by their protections appearing to be naturalized citizens of the U. States.

Other views may be taken of the subject, to shew the unlawfulness and absurdity of the British claim. If British cruisers have a right to take British seamen from our vessels, without regarding the abuses inseparable from the practice, they may take from them, on the same principle, and with much greater reason, every species of property to which the British government has any kind of claim. Allegiance cannot give to a sovereign a better right to take his subjects than ownership to take his property. There would be no limit to this pretension or its consequences. All property forfeited by exportation, contrary to the laws of Great Britain, every article to which her sovereignty, jurisdiction or ownership would extend, in British vessels, would be liable to seizure in those of the United States. The laws of England would be executory in them. Instead of being a part of the American, they would become a part of the British territory.

It might naturally be expected that Great Britain would have given by her conduct, some support to her pretensions; that if she had not disclaimed altogether the principle of naturalization, she would at least have excluded from her service foreign seamen. Her conduct however has been altogether at variance with her precepts. She has given great facility to naturalization in all instances where it could advance her interest, and peculiar encouragement to that of foreign seamen. She naturalizes by special act of parliament. She naturalizes all persons who reside a certain term of years in British colonies, all those who are born of British subjects, in foreign dominions, and all seamen who have served a certain short term in the British service, and would doubtless protect all such as British subjects, if required by them so to do. Her governors of neighboring provinces are at this time compelling emigrants thither from the United States, to bear arms against the U States.

The mediation offered by Russia presents to Great Britain, as well as to the United States a fair opportunity of accommodating this controversy with honor. The interposition of so distinguished a power, friendly to both parties, could not be declined by either, on just ground, especially by Great Britain, between whom and Russia there exists at this time a very interesting relation. When the British ministers are made acquainted at St. Petersburg with the conditions on which you are authorised to adjust this difference, it seems as if it would be impossible for Great Britain to decline them. Should she do it, still adhering to her former pretensions, her motive could not be misunderstood. The cause of the United States would thenceforward become the common cause of nations. A concession by them would operate to the

disadvantage of every other power. They would all find in the conduct of Great Britain an unequivocal determination to destroy the rights of other flags, and to usurp the absolute dominion of the ocean. It is to be presumed that the British government will find it neither for the honor or interest of Great Britain, to push things to that extremity, but will have accepted this mediation, and have sent a minister or ministers to St. Petersburg with full powers to adjust the controversy on fair and just conditions.

Should improper impressions have been taken of the probable consequences of the war, you will have ample means to remove them. It is certain that from its prosecution Great Britain can promise to herself no advantage, while she exposes herself to great expenses, and to the danger of still greater losses. The people of the United States, accustomed to the indulgence of a long peace, roused by the causes and progress of the war, are rapidly acquiring military habits and becoming a military people. Our knowledge in naval tactics has increased, as has our maritime strength. The gallantry and success of our little navy have formed an epoch in naval history. The laurels which these brave men have gained, not for themselves alone, but for their country, from an enemy pre-eminent in naval exploits, for ages past, are among the proudest boasts of their grateful and affectionate fellow citizens. Our manufactures have taken an astonishing growth. In short, in every circumstance, in which the war is felt, its pressure tends evidently to unite our people, to draw out our resources, to invigorate our means, and to make us more truly an independent nation, and, as far as may be necessary, a great maritime power.

If the British government accepts the mediation of Russia, with a sincere desire to restore a good intelligence between the two countries, it may be presumed that a fair opportunity will be afforded for the arrangement of many other important interests, with advantage to both parties. The adjustment of the controversy relating to impressment only, though very important, would leave much unfinished. Almost every neutral right has been violated, and its violation persisted in to the moment that war was declared. The president sincerely desires, and it is doubtless for the interest of Great Britain, to prevent the like in future. The interposition of the emperor of Russia to promote an accommodation of those differences is deemed particularly auspicious.

A strong hope is, therefore, entertained, that full powers will be given to the British commissioners, to arrange all these grounds of controversy in a satisfactory manner. In entering on this interesting part of your duty, the first object which will claim your attention



is, that of blockade. The violation of our neutral rights by illegal blockades, carried to an enormous extent by orders in council, was a principal cause of the war. These orders, however, and with them the blockade of May 1806, and as is understood, all other illegal blockades, have been repealed, so that, that cause of war has been removed. All that is now expected is, that the British government will unite in a more precise definition of blockade, and in this no difficulty is anticipated; for having declared that no blockade would be legal, which was not supported by an adequate force, and that the blockades which it might institute should be supported by an adequate force, there appears to be, according to the just interpretation of these terms, no difference of opinion on the subject.

The British government has recently in two formal acts, given definitions of blockade, either of which would be satisfactory. The first is to be seen in a communication from Mr. Merry to this department, bearing date on the 12th of April, 1804. The following are the circumstances attending it. Commodore Hood, the commander of a British squadron in the West Indies in 1803, having declared the islands of Martinique and Guadaloupe in a state of blockade, without applying an adequate force to maintain it, the secretary of state remonstrated against the illegality of the measure, which remonstrance was laid before the lords commissioners of the admiralty in England, who replied, "that they had sent orders not to consider any blockade of those islands as existing unless in respect of particular ports, which might be actually invested, and then not to capture vessels bound to such ports, unless they shall previously have been warned not to enter them." The second definition is to be found in a convention between Great Britain and Russia in June, 1801, 4th sec. 3d art. which declares, "that in order to determine what characterises a blockaded port, that denomination is given only to a port where there is by the disposition of the power which attacks it, with ships stationary or sufficiently near, an evident danger in entering." The president is willing for you to adopt either of these definitions, but prefers the first as more precise and determinate; and when it is considered that it was made the criterion by so formal an act between the two governments, it cannot be presumed that the British government will object to the renewal of it. Nothing is more natural after the differences which have taken place between the two countries, on this and other subjects, and the departure from this criterion by Great Britain, for reasons which are admitted by her no longer to exist, than that they should on the restoration of a good understanding recur to it again. Such a recurrence would be the more satisfactory to the president, as it would

afford a proof of a disposition in the British government, not simply to compromise a difference, but to re-establish a sincere friendship between the two nations.

An interference with our commerce between enemy's colonies and their parent country was among the violations of our neutral rights committed by Great Britain in her own present war with France. It took place in 1805, did extensive injury and produced universal excitement. In securing us against a repetition of it, you will attend to an article of the convention between Russia and Great Britain entered into on the day of 1801, to the 11th article of the project of a treaty with Great Britain that was signed by Mr. Monroe and Mr. Pinkney on the 31st December, 1806, and to the instructions from this department relating to that article of the 20th of May, 1807. The capture by Great Britain of almost all the islands of her enemies, diminishes the importance of any regulation of this subject; but as they may be restored by a treaty of peace, it merits particular attention. It being understood, however, that unless such a trade can be obtained in a proper extent, and without a relinquishment of the principle contended for by the United States, it will be best that the treaty be silent on the subject.

A disposition has been shewn by the British government to extend this principle so far as to inhibit a trade to neutrals even between a power at peace with Great Britain and her enemy, as for example between China and France. The absurdity of this pretention may prevent its being hereafter advanced. It will not, however, be unworthy of your attention.

By an order of the British government in 1803, British cruizers were authorized to take neutral vessels laden with innocent articles, on their return from an enemy's port, on the pretence that they had carried to such port contraband of war. This order is directly repugnant to the Law of nations, as the circumstance of having contraband articles on board bound to an enemy's port, is the only legal ground of seizure. The claim was relinquished by the British government in the 9th article of the project above recited, you will endeavor in like manner to provide against it. It is the practice of British cruizers to compel the commanders of neutral vessels which they meet at sea, either to board them in person with their papers, or to send their papers on board in their boats by an officer. The injustice and irregularity of this procedure need not be mentioned. You will endeavor to suppress it in the manner proposed in the third article of a project communicated to Mr. Monroe at London in his instructions of the 5th January, 1804. You will endeavor likewise to restrict contraband of war, as much as in your power, to the list contained in the 4th article of that project.

The pretension of Great Britain to interdict the passage of neutral vessels with their cargoes from one port to another port of an enemy, is illegal and very injurious to the commerce of neutral powers. Still more unjustifiable is the attempt to interdict their passage from a port of one independent nation to that of another, on the pretence that they are both enemies. You will endeavor to obtain, in both instances, security for the neutral right.

Upon the whole subject I have to observe that your first duty will be to conclude a peace with G. Britain, and you are authorised to do it, in case you obtain a satisfactory stipulation against impressment, one which shall secure, under our flag, protection to the crew. The manner in which it may be done has been already stated, with the reciproc-

cal stipulations which you may enter into to secure Great Britain against the injury of which she complains. If this encroachment of Great Britain is not provided against, the United States have appealed to arms in vain. If your efforts to accomplish it should fail, all further negotiations will cease, and you will return home without delay. It is possible that some difficulty may occur in arranging this article respecting its duration. To obviate this the president is willing that it be limited to the present war in Europe. Resting, as the United States do, on the solid ground of right, it is not presumable that Great Britain, especially after the advantage she may derive from the arrangement proposed, would ever revive her pretension. In forming any stipulation on this subject, you will be careful not to impair by it the right of the United States, or to sacrifice the principle of the British claim.

It is deemed highly important, also, to obtain a definition of the neutral rights which I have brought to your view, especially of blockade, and the manner suggested, but it is not to be made an indispensable condition of peace. After the repeal of the orders in council, and other illegal blockades, and the explanations attending it, it is not presumable that Great Britain will revive them. Should she do it, the United States will always have a corresponding resort in their own hands. You will observe in every case, in which you may not be able to obtain a satisfactory definition of the neutral right, that you enter into none respecting it.

Indemnity for losses seems to be a fair claim on the part of the United States, and the British government, if desirous to strengthen the relations of friendship, may be willing to make it. In bringing the claim into view, you will not let it defeat the primary objects intrusted to you. It is not perceived on what ground Great Britain can resist this claim, at least in the cases in favor of which she stands pledged. Of these a note will be added.

You are at liberty to stipulate in the proposed treaty the same advantages in the ports of the United States, in favor of British ships of war, that may be allowed to those of the most favored nations. This stipulation must be reciprocal.

No difficulty can arise from the case of the non-importation act, which will doubtless be terminated in consequence of a pacification. Should any stipulation to that effect be required, or found advantageous, you are at liberty to enter into it. Should peace be made, you may, in fixing the periods at which it shall take effect, in different latitudes and distances, take for the basis the provisional articles of the treaty of peace with Great Britain in 1782, with such alterations as may appear to be just and reasonable.

In discharging the duties of the trust committed to you, the president desires that you will manifest the highest degree of respect for the emperor of Russia, and confidence in the integrity and impartiality of his views. In arranging the question of impressment and every question of neutral right, you will explain to his government without reserve, the claims of the United States, with the grounds on which they severally rest. It is not doubted that from a conduct so frank and honorable the most beneficial effects will result.

I shall conclude by remarking that a strong hope is entertained that this friendly mediation of the emperor Alexander will form an epoch in the relations between the United States and Russia, which will be extensively felt, and be long and eminently distinguished by the happy consequences attending it. Since 1780, Russia has been the pivot on which all questions of neutral right have essentially turned. Most of the wars which have disturbed the world in

modern times, have originated with Great Britain and France. These wars have affected distant countries, especially in their character as neutrals, and very materially the United States, who took no part in promoting them, and had no interest in the great objects of either power.

*Extract of a letter from the secretary of state to the commissioners of the United States, for treating of peace with Great Britain, dated*

Department of state, June 23, 1813.

"An opportunity offering, I avail myself of it to explain more fully the views of the president on certain subjects already treated on in your instructions, and to communicate his sentiments on some others, not adverted to in them.

"The British government having repealed the orders in council, and the blockade of May, 1806, and all other illegal blockades, and having declared that it would institute no blockade which should not be supported by an adequate force, it was thought better to leave that question on that ground, than to continue the war to obtain a more precise definition of blockade after the other essential cause of war, that of impressment, should be removed. But when it is considered that a stipulated definition of blockade will cost Great Britain nothing after having thus recognized the principle, and that such definition is calculated to give additional confidence, in the future security of our commerce, it is expected that she will agree to it. It is true, this cause of war being removed, the United States are under no obligation to continue it, for the want of such stipulated definition, more especially as they retain in their hands the remedy against any new violation of their rights, whenever made. The same remark is applicable to the case of impressment, for if the British government had issued orders to its cruisers not to impress seamen from our vessels and notified the same to this government, that cause of war would also have been removed. In making peace it is better for both nations, that the controversy respecting the blockade, should be arranged by treaty as well as that respecting impressment. The omission to arrange it may be productive of injury. Without a precise definition of blockade, improper pretensions might be set up on each side, respecting their rights, which might possibly hazard the future good understanding between the two countries.

"Should a restitution of territory be agreed on, it will be proper for you to make a provision for settling the boundary between the United States and Great Britain on the St. Lawrence and the lakes, from the point at which the line between them strikes the St. Lawrence, to the north western corner of the lake of the Woods, according to the principles of the treaty of peace. The settlement of this boundary is important from the circumstance that there are several islands in the river and lakes, of some extent and great value, the dominion over which is claimed by both parties. It may be an advisable course to appoint commissioners on each side, with full powers to adjust on fair and equitable considerations, this boundary. To enable you to adopt a suitable provision for the purpose it would be proper for you to recur to the instructions heretofore given on the subject, published in the documents in your possession."

*Mr. Monroe, secretary of state, to the plenipotentiaries of the United States, at St. Petersburg.*

Department of State, January 1st, 1814.

GENTLEMEN—I have not received a letter from you since your appointment to meet ministers from Great Britain at St. Petersburg, to negotiate a treaty of peace, under the mediation of the Emperor of Russia. This is doubtless owing to the miscarriage of your dispatches.

The message of the president, of which I have the honor to transmit to you a copy will make you acquainted with the progress of the war with Great Britain, to that period, and the other documents which are forwarded, will communicate what has since occurred.

Among the advantages attending our success in Upper Canada, was the important one of making capture of general Proctor's baggage, with all the public documents belonging to the British government in his possession. It is probable that these documents will be laid before congress, as they are of a nature highly interesting to the public. You will understand their true character by extracts of two letters from governor Cass, which are enclosed to you. By these it appears that the British government has exercised its influence over the Indian tribes within our limits, as well as elsewhere in peace, for hostile purposes towards the United States; and that the Indian barbarities, since the war, were, in many instances, known to, and sanctioned by the British government.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) JAMES MONROE.

*Mr. Monroe, secretary of state, to the plenipotentiaries of the United States, at St. Petersburg.*

Department of state, January 8th, 1814.

GENTLEMEN—I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of a letter from lord Castlereagh to this department and of a note from lord Castlereagh to the Russian government, with my reply to the communication.

The arrangement of a negotiation to be held at Gottenburg, directly between the United States and Great Britain, without the aid of the Russian mediation, makes it necessary that new commissions should be issued correspondent with it, and for this purpose that a new nomination should be made to the senate. The president instructs me to inform you, that you will both be included in it, and that he wishes you to repair immediately on the receipt of this, to the appointed rendezvous. It is probable the business may not be limited to yourselves on account of the great interest involved in the result. The commissions and instructions, will be duly forwarded to you, as soon as the arrangements shall be finally made.

In taking leave of the Russian government you will be careful to make known to it the sensibility of the president to the friendly disposition of the emperor, manifested by the offer of his mediation; the regret felt at its rejection by the British government, and a desire that, in future, the greatest confidence and cordiality, and the best understanding may prevail between the two governments.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MONROE.

*Mr. Monroe secretary of state, to the American plenipotentiaries at Gottenburg.*

Department of state, January 28th, 1814.

GENTLEMEN—The British government having declined the Russian mediation, and proposed to treat directly with the United States, the president has, on due consideration, thought proper to accept the overture. To give effect to this arrangement, it was necessary that a new commission should be formed, and for that purpose that a new nomination should be made to the senate, by whose advice and consent this important trust is committed to you.

You will consider the instructions given to the commission to treat under the mediation of Russia, as applicable to the negotiation with which you are now charged, except as they may be modified by this letter.

I shall call your attention to the most important grounds of the controversy with Great Britain only, and make such remarks on each, and on the whole subject, as have occurred since the date of the former instructions, and are deemed applicable to the present juncture, taking into view the negotiation in which you are about to engage.

On impressment, as to the right of the United States to be exempted from it, I have nothing new to add. The sentiments of the president have undergone no change on that important subject. This degrading practice must cease; our flag must protect the crew, or the United States cannot consider themselves an independent nation. To settle this difference amicably the president is willing, as you are already informed by the former instructions, to remove all pretexts for it, to the British government, by excluding all British seamen from our vessels, and even to extend the exclusion to all British subjects, if necessary excepting only the few already naturalized, and to stipulate likewise, the surrender of all British seamen deserting in our ports in future from British vessels, public or private. It was presumed by all dispassionate persons, that the law of congress relative to seamen would effectually accomplish the object. But the president is willing, as you find, to prevent a possibility of failure, to go further.

Should a treaty be made, it is proper, and would have a conciliatory effect, that all our impressed seamen who may be discharged under it, should be paid for their services by the British government, for the time of their detention, the wages which they might have obtained in the merchant service of their own country.

Blockade is the subject next in point of importance, which you will have to arrange. In the instructions bearing date on the 15th April, 1813, it was remarked, that as the British government had revoked its orders in council, and agreed that no blockade could be legal which was not supported by an adequate force, and that such adequate force should be applied to any blockade which it might hereafter institute, this cause of controversy seemed to be removed. Further reflection, however, has added great force to the expediency and importance of a precise definition of the public law on this subject. There is much cause to presume, that if the repeal of the orders in council had taken place in time to have been known here before the declaration of war, and had had the effect of preventing the declaration, not only that no provision would have been obtained against impressment, but that under the name of blockade the same extent of coast would have been covered by proclamation as had been covered by the orders in council. The war, which these abuses and impressment contributed so much to produce might possibly prevent that consequence. But it would be more satisfactory, if not more safe, to guard against it by a formal definition in the treaty. It is true, should the British government violate again the legitimate principles of blockade, in whatever terms, or under whatever pretext it might be done, the United States would have in their hands a correspondent resort; but a principal object in making peace is to prevent, by the justice and reciprocity of the conditions, a recurrence again to war, for the same cause. If the British government sincerely wishes to make a durable peace with the United States, it can have no reasonable objection to a just definition of blockade, especially as the two governments have agreed in their correspondence, in all its essential features. The instructions of the 15th of April, 1813, have stated in what manner the president is willing to arrange this difference.

On the other neutral rights, enumerated in the former instructions, I shall remark only, that the catalogue is limited in a manner to evince a spirit of accommodation; that the arrangement proposed in each instance is just in itself; that it corresponds with the general spirit of treaties between commercial powers, and that Great Britain has sanctioned it in many treaties, and gone beyond it in some.

On the claim to indemnity for spoiliations, I have only to refer you to what was said in the former instructions. I have to add, that should a treaty be formed, it is just in itself, and would have a happy effect on the future relations of the two countries, if indemnity should be stipulated on each side, for the destruction of all unfortified towns and other private property, contrary to the laws and usages of war. It is equally proper, that the negroes taken from the southern states should be returned to their owners, or paid for at their full value. It is known that a shameful traffic has been carried on in the West Indies, by the sale of those persons there, by those who professed to be their deliverers. Of this fact, the proof which has reached this department shall be furnished you. If these slaves are considered as non-combatants they ought to be restored: if as property, they ought to be paid for. The treaty of peace contains an article which recognizes this principle.

In the view which I have taken of the conditions on which you are to insist in the proposed negotiations, you will find, on a comparison of them with those stated in the former instructions, that there is no material difference between them, the two last mentioned claims to indemnity excepted, which have originated since the date of those instructions. The principal object of this review has been to show, that the sentiments of the president are the same in every instance and that the reasons for maintaining them have become more evident and strong, since the date of those instructions.

In accepting the overture of the British government to treat independently of the Russian mediation, the United States have acted on principles which governed them in every transaction relating to peace since the war. Had the British government accepted the Russian mediation, the United States would have treated for themselves, independently of any other power, and had Great Britain met them on such conditions, peace would have been the immediate result. Had she refused to accede to such conditions, and attempted to dictate others, a knowledge of the views of other powers on those points might have been useful to the United States. In agreeing to treat directly with Great Britain, not only is no concession contemplated on any point in controversy, but the same desire is cherished to preserve a good understanding with Russia, and the other Baltic powers, as if the negotiation had taken place under the mediation of Russia.

It is probable that the British government may have declined the Russian mediation, from the apprehension of an understanding between the United States and Russia, for very different purposes from those which have been contemplated, in the hope that a much better treaty might be obtained of the United States, in a direct negotiation, than could be obtained under the Russian mediation, and with a view to profit of the concessions which might thus be made by the United States in future negotiations with the Baltic powers. If this was the object of the British government, and it is not easy to conceive any other, it clearly proves the advantage to be derived in the proposed negotiation, from the aid of those powers, in securing from the British government such conditions as would be satisfactory

to all parties. It would be highly honorable as well as advantageous to the United States, if the negotiations with which you are charged, should terminate in such a treaty. I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) JAS. MONROE.

*Mr. Monroe, secretary of state, to the plenipotentiaries of the United States at Gottenburgh.*

Department of State, Jan. 30, 1814.

GENTLEMEN—In addition to the claims to indemnity, stated in your preceding instructions, I have to request your attention to the following, to which it is presumed there can be no objection.

On the declaration of war by the United States, there happened to be, in the ordinary course of commerce, several American vessels and cargoes in the ports of Great Britain, which were seized and condemned; and, in one instance, an American ship which fled from Algiers, in consequence of the declaration of war by the Day, to Gibraltar, with the American consul and some public stores on board, shared the same fate.

After the declaration of war, congress passed an act, allowing to British subjects six months from the date of the declaration, to remove their property out of the United States, in consequence of which many vessels were removed with their cargoes. I add, with confidence, that on a liberal construction of the spirit of the law, some vessels were permitted to depart even after the expiration of the term specified in the law. I will endeavor to put in your possession a list of these cases. A general reciprocal provision, however, will be best adapted to the object in view. I have the honor to be, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) JAS. MONROE.

*From the secretary of state to the commissioners of the United States for treating with Great Britain, dated*

Department of State, Feb. 10, 1814.

GENTLEMEN—Should you conclude a treaty and not obtain a satisfactory arrangement of neutral rights, it will be proper for you to provide that the United States shall have advantage of any stipulations more favorable to neutral nations, that may be established between Great Britain and other powers. A precedent for such a provision is found in a declaratory article between Great Britain and Russia, bearing date on the 8th October, 1801, explanatory of the 2d section, 3d article, of a convention concluded between them on the 5th June of the same year. I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MONROE.

*Extract of a letter from the secretary of state to the commissioners of the United States for treating with Great Britain, dated*

Department of State, Feb. 14, 1814.

"I received last night your letter of the 15th October, with extracts of letters from Mr. Adams and Mr. Harris of the 22d and 23d of November.

"It appears that you had no knowledge at the date, even of the last letter, of the answer of the British government, to the offer which had been made to it, a second time, of the Russian mediation. Hence it is to be inferred that the proposition made to this government by the Bramble was made not only without your knowledge, but without the sanction, if not without the knowledge of the emperor. Intelligence from other sources, strengthens this inference. If this view of the conduct of the British government is well founded, the motive for it cannot be mistaken. It may fairly be presumed that it was to prevent a good understanding and concert between the United States and Russia and Sweden, on the subject of neutral rights, in the hope that by drawing the negotiation to England, and depriving you of an opportunity of free communication with

these powers, a treaty less favorable to the United States might be obtained, which might afterwards be used with advantage by Great Britain in her negotiations with those powers.

By an article in the former instructions, you were authorised in making a treaty to prevent impressment from our vessels to stipulate, provided a certain specified term could not be agreed on, that it might continue in force for the present war in Europe only. At that time it seemed probable that the war might last many years. Recent appearances, however, indicate the contrary. Should peace be made in Europe, as the practical evil of which we complain in regard to impressment would cease, it is presumed that the British government would have less objection to a stipulation to forbear that practice for a specified term, than it would have, should the war continue. In concluding a peace with Great Britain, even in case of a previous general peace in Europe, it is important to the United States to obtain such a stipulation."

*Mr. Monroe, secretary of state, to the plenipotentiaries of the United States at Gottenburg.*

Department of State, 21st March, 1814.

GENTLEMEN—By the cartel Chaucey you will receive this, with duplicates of the commission to treat with Great Britain, and of the instructions and other documents that were forwarded by the John Adams. This vessel is sent to guard against any accident that might attend the other.

If a satisfactory arrangement can be concluded with Great Britain, the sooner it is accomplished the happier for both countries. If such an arrangement cannot be obtained, it is important for the United States to be acquainted with it without delay. I hope, therefore, to receive from you an account of the state of the negotiation and its prospects, as soon as you may be able to communicate any thing of an interesting nature respecting them.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed)

JAS. MONROE.

*Mr. Monroe to the envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary of the United States.*

Department of State, June 25, 1814.

GENTLEMEN—No communication has been received from the joint mission which was appointed to meet the commissioners of the British government, at Gottenburg. A letter from Mr. Bayard, at Amsterdam, of the 18th March, was the last from either of our commissioners. It was inferred, from that letter, and other communications, Mr. Bayard, Mr. Mr. Gallatin and Mr. Adams, would be in Gottenburg; and it has been understood from other sources, that Mr. Clay and Mr. Russell had arrived there about the 15th of April. It is therefore expected, that a meeting will have taken place in May, and that we shall soon be made acquainted with your sentiments of the probable result of the negotiation.

It is impossible, with the lights which have reached us, to ascertain the present disposition of the British government towards an accommodation with the United States. We think it probable that the late events in France may have had a tendency to increase its pretensions.

At war with Great Britain and injured by France, the United States have sustained the attitude founded on these relations. No reliance was placed on the good offices of France, in bringing the war with Great Britain to a satisfactory conclusion. Looking steadily to an honorable peace, and the ultimate attainment of justice from both powers, the president has endeavored, by a consistent and honorable policy, to take advantage of every circumstance that might

promote that result. He nevertheless, knew that France held a place in the political system of Europe and of the world, which as a check on England, could not fail to be useful to us. What effect the late events may have had, in these respects, is the important circumstance of which you are doubtless better informed than we can be.

The president accepted the mediation of Russia, from a respect for the character of the emperor, and a belief that our cause, in all the points in controversy, would gain strength by being made known to him. On the same principle, he preferred (in accepting the British overture, to treat independently of the Russian mediation) to open the negotiation on the continent, rather than at London.

It was inferred from the general policy of Russia, and the friendly sentiments and interposition of the emperor, that a respect for both would have much influence with the British cabinet in promoting a pacific policy towards us. The manner, however, in which it is understood that a general pacification is taking place; the influence Great Britain may have in modifying the arrangements involved in it; the resources she may be able to employ exclusively against the United States; and the uncertainty of the precise course which Russia may pursue in relation to the war between the United States and Great Britain, naturally claim attention, and raise the important question, in reference to the subject of impressment, on which it is presumed your negotiations will essentially turn, whether your powers ought not to be enlarged, so as to enable you to give to those circumstances all the weight to which they may be entitled. On full consideration, it has been decided, that in case no stipulation can be obtained from the British government at this moment, when its pretensions may have been much heightened by recent events, and the state of Europe be most favorable to them, either relinquishing the claim to impress from American vessels, or discontinuing the practice, even in consideration of the proposed exclusion from them of British seamen, you may concur in an article, stipulating, that the subjects of impressment, together with that of commerce, between the two countries, be referred to a separate negotiation, to be undertaken without delay, at such place as you may be able to agree on, preferring this city, if to be obtained. I annex at the close of this letter, a project of an article, expressing more distinctly, the idea which it is intended to communicate, not meaning thereby to restrain you in any respect as to form. Commerce and seamen, the objects of impressment, may, with great propriety, be arranged in the same instrument. By stipulating that commissioners shall be forthwith appointed for the purpose, and that all rights on this subject shall in the mean time be reserved, the faith of the British government will be pledged to a fair experiment in an amicable mode, and the honor and rights of the United States secured. The United States having resisted by war the practice of impressment, and continued the war until that practice had ceased by a peace in Europe, their object has been essentially obtained for the present. It may reasonably be expected, that the arrangement contemplated and provided for, will take effect before a new war in Europe shall furnish an occasion for reviving the practice. Should this arrangement, however, fail, and the practice be again revived, the United States will be again at liberty to repel it by war; and that they will do so cannot be doubted; for after the proof which they have already given of a firm resistance in that mode, persevered in until the practice had ceased, under circumstances the most unfavorable, it cannot be presumed that the practice will ever be

tolerated again. Certain it is, that every day will render it more ineligible in Great Britain to make the attempt.

In contemplating the appointment of commissioners, to be made after the ratification of the present treaty, to negotiate and conclude a treaty to regulate commerce and provide against impressment, it is meant only to show the extent to which you may go, in a spirit of accommodation, if necessary.—Should the British government be willing to take the subject up immediately with you, it would be much preferred, in which case the proposed article would, of course, be adapted to the purpose.

Information has been received from a quarter deserving attention, that the late events in France have produced such an effect on the British government, as to make it probable that a demand will be made at Gottenburg, to surrender our right to the fisheries, to abandon all trade beyond the Cape of Good Hope, and cede Louisiana to Spain. We cannot believe that such a demand will be made; should it be, you will of course treat it as it deserves. These rights must not be brought into discussion. If insisted on, your negotiations will cease.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

(Signed)

JAMES MONROE.

"Whereas by the peace in Europe, the essential causes of the war between the United States and Great Britain, and particularly the practice of impressment, have ceased, and a sincere desire exists to arrange, in a manner satisfactory to both parties, all questions concerning seamen; and it is also their desire and intention to arrange, in like satisfactory manner, the commerce between the two countries, it is therefore agreed, that commissioners shall forthwith be appointed on each side, to meet at \_\_\_\_\_, with full power to negotiate and conclude a treaty, as soon as it may be practicable, for the arrangement of those important interests. It is nevertheless understood, that until such treaty be formed, each party shall retain all its rights, and that all American citizens who have been impressed into the British service shall be forthwith discharged."

*Extract of a letter from the secretary of state to the commissioners of the United States for treating of peace with Great Britain, dated*

Department of State, June 27, 1814.

"The omission to send ministers to Gottenburg without a previous and official notification of the appointment and arrival there of those of the United States, a formality, which, if due from either party, might have been expected from that making the overture rather than that accepting it, is a proof of a dilatory policy, and would in other respects justify animadversions, if there was less disposition here to overlook circumstances of form, when interfering with more substantial objects.

"By my letter of the 25th inst. which goes with this, you will find that the subject had already been acted on under similar impressions with those which Mr. Bayard and Mr. Gallatin's letter could not fail to produce. The view however presented by them is much stronger, and entitled to much greater attention. The president has taken the subject into consideration again, and given to their suggestions all the weight to which they are justly entitled.

"On mature consideration it has been decided, that under all the circumstances above alluded to, incident to a prosecution of the war, you may omit any stipulation on the subject of impressment, if found indispensably necessary to terminate it. You will, of course not recur to this expedient until all your efforts to adjust the controversy in a more satisfactory manner have failed. As it is not the intention of the United States, in suffering the treaty

to be silent on the subject of impressment, to admit the British claim thereon, or to relinquish that of the United States, it is highly important that any such inference be entirely precluded by a declaration or protest in some form or other, that the omission is not to have any such effect or tendency. Any modification of the practice, to prevent abuses, being an acknowledgment of the right in Great Britain, is utterly inadmissible.

"Although Gottenburg was contemplated at the time your commission was made out, as the seat of the negotiation, yet your commission itself does not confine you to it. You are at liberty, therefore, to transfer the negotiation to any other place made more eligible by a change of circumstances. Amsterdam and the Hague readily present themselves as preferable to any place in England. If, however, you should be of opinion, that under all circumstances, the negotiation in that country will be attended with advantages, outweighing the objections to it, you are at liberty to transfer it there."

*Extract of a letter from the secretary of state, to the commissioners of the United States, for treating of peace with Great Britain, dated*

Department of state, August 11, 1814.

"I had the honor to receive on the third of this month a letter from Mr. Bayard and Mr. Gallatin, of the 23d of May, and one from Mr. Gallatin, of the 2d of June.

"The president approves the arrangement communicated by those gentlemen for transferring the negotiation with the British government from Gottenburg to Ghent. It is presumed from Mr. Gallatin's letter that the meeting took place towards the latter end of June, and that we shall soon hear from you what will be its probable result.

"By my letters of the 25th and 27th June, of which another copy is now forwarded, the sentiments of the president, as to the conditions, on which it will be proper for you to conclude a treaty of peace, are made known to you. It is presumed that either in the mode suggested in my letter of the 25th June, which is much preferred, or by permitting the treaty to be silent on the subject, as is authorised in the letter of the 27th June, the question of impressment may be so disposed of, as to form no obstacle to a pacification. This government can go no further, because it will make no sacrifice of the rights or honor of the nation.

"If Great Britain does not terminate the war on the conditions which you are authorised to adopt, she has other objects in it than those for which she has hitherto professed to contend. That such are entertained, there is much reason to presume.—These, whatever they may be, must and will be resisted by the United States. The conflict may be severe, but it will be borne with firmness, and, as we confidently believe, be attended with success."

## Pirates of Barrataria.

*Copy of a letter from John K. Smith, esquire, to the secretary of the navy, dated*

New-Orleans, September 23d, 1814.

SIR—Captain Patterson left this place on the 11th inst. with three barges, and was joined at the Balize by six gun boats and the schooner Carolina, from whence he proceeded against Barrataria. He has been completely successful in breaking up the nest of pirates at that place, and has taken nine vessels, some specie and a quantity of dry goods. The principal (Lafitte) escaped; but the second in command, Dominique, is taken. The number of prisoners taken is not known, nor are any of the particulars. A letter from that place states that capt-

Patterson would leave there on the 20th. He will therefore, no doubt, have the honor of giving you the result by the next mail.

The breaking up of this piratical establishment is of great importance to this country, it is ascertained that vessels clearing out from this port with passengers have been captured and every soul on board murdered; they took indiscriminately vessels of every nation, and the fact was perfectly known at Pensacola. The commanding British officer at that place recently made a communication in writing to Lafitte, requesting his aid in an attack upon New Orleans, which was refused. That correspondence which is in the hands of governor Claiborne no doubt has been communicated to the government.

In the gallant defence of Mobile Point the only two 24 pounders were injured and rendered useless.—general Jackson has since made a requisition upon captain Patterson for others to replace them, which have in his absence been furnished. I have the honor to be,  
J. K. SMITH, &c.

Hon. William Jones, secretary of the navy.

From the Louisiana Gazette Extra, of Sept. 22.

#### GOOD NEWS.

Extract of a letter from col. Ross, at Grandterre, to major Reynolds, dated 19th Sept. 1814.

I have just time to say that in addition to taking some of the ringleaders, we are in possession of all the flotilla except a sch'r that was burnt to the water's edge, that were here, say seven fine sch'rs and feluccas, armed and unarmed. We have this moment returned from taking a fine sch'r. outside of the island, of 150 tons, armed complete. Captain Henley lay off the bar, and out-manoeuvred her; she ran for us, getting between two fires—signal, a gun from the commodore; another strange sail in sight.

### Enemy repulsed at Mobile.

Copy of a letter from major-general Jackson, to the secretary of war, dated

H. Q. 7th military district.

Mobile, September 17.

SIR—With lively emotions of satisfaction, I communicate that success has crowned the gallant efforts of our brave soldiers, in resisting and repulsing a combined British naval and land force, which on the 15th inst. attacked Fort Bowyer, on the point of Mobile.

I enclose a copy of the official report of major Wm. Lawrence, of the 2d infantry, who commanded. In addition to the particulars communicated in his letter, I have learnt that the ship which was destroyed, was the *Hermes*, of from 24 to 28 guns, captain the hon. Wm. H. Percy, senior officer in the Gulf of Mexico; and the brig so considerably damaged is the *Sophie*, 18 guns, captain Wm. Lockyer. The other ship was the *Carron*, of from 24 to 28 guns, captain Spencer, son of earl Spencer; the other brig's name unknown.

On board the *Carron*, 85 men were killed and wounded; among whom was col. Nicoll, of the royal marines, who lost an eye by a splinter. The land force consisted of 110 marines, and 200 Creek Indians, under the command of captain Woodbine, of the marines, and about 20 artillerymen, with one four and an half inch howitzer, from which they dis-

charged shells and nine pound shot. They re-embarked the piece, and retreated by land towards Pensacola, whence they came.

By the morning report of the 16th, there were present in the fort, fit for duty, officers and men, 158.

The result of this engagement has stamped a character on the war in this quarter highly favorable to the American arms; it is an event from which may be drawn the most favorable augury.

An achievement so glorious in its consequences, should be appreciated by the government; and those concerned are entitled to, and will, doubtless, receive the most gratifying evidence of the approbation of their countrymen.

In the words of major Lawrence "where all behaved so well, it is unnecessary to discriminate." But all being meritorious, I beg leave to annex the names of the officers who were engaged and present; and hope they will, individually, be deemed worthy of distinction.

Major Wm. Lawrence, 2d inf. commanding; captain Walsh of the artillery, captains Chamberlain Brownlow and Bradley of the 2d inf. captain Sands, deputy commissary of ordnance, lieutenants Villard, Sturges, Conway, H. Sanders, T. R. Sanders, Brooks, Davis, and C. Sanders, all of the 2d infantry.

I am confident that your own feelings will lead you to participate in my wishes on the subject. Permit me to suggest the propriety and justice of allowing to this gallant little band the value of the vessel destroyed by them.

I remain, with great respect, your obedient servant,

A. JACKSON, maj. gen. com.

The hon. secretary of war.

Copy of a letter from major Lawrence to major general Jackson, dated

Fort Bowyer, Sept. 15—12 o'clock at night.

SIR—After writing the enclosed, I was prevented by the approach of the enemy from sending it by express. At meridian they were under full sail, with an easy and favorable breeze standing directly for the fort, and at 4, P. M. we opened our battery, which was returned from two ships and two brigs, as they approached. The action became general at about 20 minutes past 4, and was continued without intermission on either side until 7, when 1 ship and 2 brigs were compelled to retire. The leading ship, supposed to be the commodore's, mounting 23 thirty-two pound carronades, having anchored nearest our battery, was so much disabled, her cable being cut by our shot, that she drifted on shore, within 600 yards of the battery, and the other vessels having got out of our reach, we kept such a tremendous fire upon her that she was set on fire and abandoned by the few

of the crew who survived. At 10 P. M. we had the pleasure of witnessing the explosion of her magazine. The loss of lives on board must have been immense, as we are certain no boats left her except three, which had previously gone to her assistance, and one of these I believe was sunk; in fact, one of her boats was burned along side of her.

The brig that followed her I am certain was much damaged both in hull and rigging. The other two did not approach near enough to be so much injured, but I am confident they did not escape, as a well directed fire was kept on them during the whole time.

During the action a battery of a twelve pounder and a howitzer was opened on our rear without doing any execution, and was silenced by a few shot. Our loss is four privates killed and five wounded.

Towards the close of the action the flag-staff was shot away; but the flag was immediately hoisted on a sponge-staff over the parapet. While the flag was down the enemy kept up their most incessant and tremendous fire; the men were withdrawn from the curtains and N. E. bastion, as the enemy's own shot completely protected our rear, except the position they had chosen for their battery.

Where all behaved well it is unnecessary to discriminate. Suffice it to say, every officer and man did his duty; the whole behaved with that coolness and intrepidity which is characteristic of the true American, and which could scarcely have been expected from men most whom had never seen an enemy, and were now for the first time exposed for nearly three hours to a force of nearly or quite four guns to one.

We fired during the action between 4 and 500 guns, most of them double shotted, and after the first half hour but few missed an effect.

September 16th, 11 o'clock, A. M.

Upon an examination of our battery this morning, we find upwards of 300 shot and shot holes in the inside of the north and east curtains, and N. E. bastion, of all calibres, from musket ball to 32 pound shot. In the N. E. bastion there were three guns dismounted; one of which, a four pounder, was broken off near the trunnions by a 32 pound shot and another much battered. I regret to say that both the 24 pounders are cracked in such a manner as to render them unfit for service.

I am informed by two deserters from the land force, who have just arrived here, and whom I send for your disposal, that a reinforcement is expected, when they will doubtless endeavor to wipe off the stain of yesterday.

If you will send the Amelia down, we may probably save most or all of the ship's guns, as her wreck is lying in 6 or 7 feet water and some of them are just covered. They will not, however, answer for the fort, as they are too short.

By the deserters, we learn that the ship we have destroyed was the Hermes, but her commander's name they did not recollect. It was the commodore, and doubtless fell on his quarter deck, as we

had a raking fire upon it at about two hundred yards distance for some time.

To Capt. Sands, who will have the honor of handing you this despatch, I refer you for a more particular account of the movements of the enemy than may be contained in my letters; his services both before and during the action were of great importance, and I consider fully justify me in having detained him. Capt. Walsh and several men were much burned by the accidental explosion of two or three cartridges. They are not included in the list of wounded heretofore given.

The enemy's fleet this morning at day break were at anchor in the channel about four miles from the fort; shortly after it got under way and stood to sea; after passing the bar they hove too, and boats have been constantly passing between the disabled brig and the others. I presume the former is so much injured as to render it necessary to lighten her.

15 minutes after 1 P. M.—The whole fleet with this moment made sail and are standing to sea.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

WM. LAWRENCE.

Maj. gen. Andrew Jackson, com. 7th M. dist.

## Re-establishment of the Inquisition

OR,  
"SPANISH LIBERTY" CONSUMMATED.

One might think that the mere publication of the following decree of Ferdinand the ungrateful would of itself be sufficient at a time like this when we are so overrun with matter of great interest; but there is in the procedure so much of that real *kingcraft* and *priestcraft* which I have felt it my duty to say a good deal upon for these several years past, that I cannot permit its insertion without seriously and solemnly calling the attention of my youthful readers, particularly, to the many truths I have told them, over and over again, regarding unholily alliances between the church and the state; and of the burlesque fighting for "liberty" in Spain, &c. where a despotism now reigns more dreadful, because more likely to be permanent, than ever the brain of the "tyrant" Buonaparte contrived or thought of. Every remnant of freedom is destroyed. The real patriots of Spain, and many such there were,—men who fought for their country, in sincerity and truth, are meeting *secret death*, groaning in dungeons, laboring in the gallees, or proscribed and banished from the soil they preserved for a base king and villainous priesthood.—The "holy office," blasphemously so called, has already put its foul engines at work, and the king's minister "of justice and mercy" finishes and perfects the spirit of the monarchy by presstituting all claims to either.

There is no freedom of opinion in Spain—the press is fettered; nay, the very mind of man, if it be possible, is enchained. Every thing—every thought, word or deed, undergoes the *inquisition* of the partizans of the court—and every thing is condemned that does not come up to its standard of political and religious corruption. The editors of a journal at Madrid, Villamielva and Juan Joseph Lassennel, inserted a paragraph stating that "the officers of the third army had declared collectively that they would defend the constitution"—that constitution which Ferdinand had accepted: for this, the former was sent to the gallees stationed on the coast of Africa, for six years; and the latter condemned to pass that period in close confinement. It is for these things that the Spaniards relieved their country of Buonaparte!

It is worthy of remark with what gratitude Ferdinand treats his disappointed friends, the English. The second paragraph of the decree has some passages which I have marked in *italic*, that shews his opinion of the "bulwark of religion." To cap the whole, the king has levied a contribution of fifteen millions on his impoverished and exhausted people; and cut them off from receipts of banks and papers from other countries, especially prohibiting the introduction of British newspapers. "Rejoice Spain—the Bourbon is restored!" Your people "repose in the arms of their legitimate king!"

Supplement to the Madrid Gazette, July 23d, 1814.

The King our lord has been pleased to enact the following decree. The glorious title of Catholic, by which the kings of Spain are distinguished among the other christian princes, because they do not tolerate in their kingdom any one who professes another religion than the catholic, apostolic and roman, has powerfully excited my heart to employ all the means which God has placed in my hands, in order to make myself worthy of it.

The past troubles and war which afflicted all the provinces of the kingdom, during the space of six years; the residence therein during that time of foreign troops of different sects, almost all infected with *horror* and hatred to the catholic religion; and the disorder that these evils always bring with them, together with the little ease which was taken for some time in providing for what concerned the things of religion, gave to the wicked unlimited license to live after their



free will, and to introduce in this kingdom, and fix in many persons, pernicious opinions by the same means with which they had been propagated in other countries.

Desiring therefore to provide a remedy against so great an evil, and preserve in my dominions the holy religion of Jesus Christ, which my people love, and in which they have lived and do live happily, both by the duty which the fundamental laws of the kingdom impose on the prince which shall reign over it, and I have sworn to observe and fulfil, as likewise being the most proper means to preserve my subjects from intestine dissensions, and maintain them in peace and tranquility, I have thought it would be very convenient in the present circumstances, that the tribunal of the holy office should return to the exercise of its jurisdiction.

Upon which subject wise and virtuous prelates and many corporations and serious persons, both ecclesiastical and secular, have represented to me that it was owing to this tribunal that Spain was not exterminated in the 16th century, with the errors that caused so much affliction in other kingdoms, that nation flourishing, at that time, in all kinds of literature, in great men, in boldness and virtue. And that one of the principal means employed by the oppressor of Europe in order to sow corruption and discord, from which he derived so many advantages, was to destroy it under pretence that the light of the age could not bear its continuance any longer; and which, afterwards, the self-styled general cortes, with the same pretence, and that of the constitution, which they had tumultuously framed, annulled, to the great sorrow of the nation.

Wherefore, they have ardently requested me to re-establish that tribunal, and according to their requests, and the wishes of the people, who from love to the religion of their fathers, have restored of their own accord, some of the subaltern tribunals to their functions, I have resolved that the council of the inquisition and the other tribunals of the holy office, should be restored and continued in the exercise of their jurisdiction, both ecclesiastical, which, at the request of my august predecessors, the pontiffs, gave to it, and the royal, which the kings granted to it, observing in the exercises of both the ordinances by which they were governed in 1838, and the laws and regulations, which, to avoid certain abuses, and moderate some privileges, it was mete to take at different times.

As besides these provisions it may perhaps be suitable to others; and my intention being to improve this establishment that the greatest utility may arise to my subjects from it, I wish that as soon as the council of inquisition shall meet, two of its members, with two of my royal council, both of which I shall nominate, should examine the form and mode of proceeding in the causes appertaining to the holy office, and the method established for the censure and prohibition of books; and if there should be found any thing in it, contrary to the good of my subjects, and the upright administration of justice, or that ought to be altered, it shall be proposed to me, that I may determine what shall be proper. This is communicated for your information, and of whom it may concern.

Palace, 21st July, 1814.

THE KING.

To Don Pedro Maeanaz.

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

In the next paper, which will be published on Wednesday, to supply one of the numbers in arrear, we shall insert the usual notice of events. The present very brief account of the principal things that have happened may suffice till then.

It appears that the British fleet, their great ship in co. is out on Ontario—our's is at Sackett's harbor—where great preparations are made to receive the expected attack of the enemy.

The enemy appears to have taken that part of Massachusetts that lies east of the Penobscot as a permanent possession.

The bill before Congress to remove the seat of government has been rejected. A very important letter from the secretary of the treasury has been received—he recommends as a part of his system, the establishment of a national bank with a capital of 50 millions.

The enemy has chiefly left the Chesapeake bay. An attack on New York seems expected. Possibly, from the troops that are supposed to be coming out with lord Hill, who has not yet arrived, as we know of.

Gen M'Arthur with 700 mounted men, and 2 or 300 Indians, arrived at Detroit about the 10th inst. Gen. Brown, had received handsome reinforcements from the west.

GENERAL ORDERS. *Head quarters, Washington City, 16th, October, 1814.* Major-general Scott, who has been appointed to the 10th military district, enters on the duties of his command.

A morning state of the troops in service within the district, whether regulars, volunteers or militia, will be forwarded without delay to the office of the assistant adjutant general, Baltimore, at which place head-quarters will be established until further orders.

The major-general will have the pleasure of reviewing the troops in succession, in the course of the present week, of which intention, commandants of brigades and corps will be more particularly notified, in the mean time, it is confidently expected that no exertions will be spared to give to the troops the highest degree of efficiency, which the expectations of the country, and the fame of individual corps so imperiously demand.

(Signed)

W. SCOTT, *Maj. gen.*

By order,

R. G. HITE,

*Assist. adj. gen. 10th military district.*

*Head-quarters, town of Mobile September 17, 1814.*

*Inspector general's office, 7th military district.*

GENERAL ORDERS—Our companions in arms have triumphed over the enemy. At 4 o'clock P. M. on the 15th inst. fort Bowyer was attacked, by a superior British naval and land force, and the enemy was repulsed at all points. The naval force consisted of 2 ships from 24 to 28 guns, mounting 32 pound carronades, two brigs, from 16 to 18 guns, mounting 24 pound carronades, with three tenders, all under the command of commodore sir W. H. Percy. The land forces of the enemy consisted of one hundred marines, under the command of colonel Nicolls, 300 Indians under the command of captain Woodbine of the British army, and a battery of a 12 pounder and howitzer, under the direction of a British captain of the royal artillery. Our effective force opposed to the enemy was about 120 men, of whom not more than 90 were engaged.

The leading ship called the *Hermes*, commodore sir W. H. Percy, having approached within the reach of our guns, our battery opened upon her; the guns of which were fired in succession as they could be brought to bear; and at 20 minutes after 4 P. M. the engagement became general. About this time the enemy on shore with colonel Nicolls at the head of the marines, captain Woodbine at the head of their allies the Indians, and the captain of the British royal artillery, with his battery, were put to flight, by two discharges of grape and cannister from a nine pounder. At 5 P. M. the commodore's ship swung head on, to our battery, when we were enabled to rake her so effectually as to silence her guns. Having cut her cable by our shot, she drifted out and grounded stern on, within 600 yards, which again afforded us an opportunity of raking her, and we continued doing so while there was light enough to see that her colors were flying; just about sunset the other vessels cut their cables and stood off with a light breeze, under a tremendous fire from our battery. At a quarter past 7 we discovered the commander's ship to be on fire, and at 10 P. M. her magazine blew up.

We cannot ascertain the precise loss of the enemy, but from deserters, who came in the morning after the battle, we learn that the commander and only 20 men escaped from the *Hermes*—her crew being originally 170. That 85 were killed and wounded on board the *Charon*. The loss on board the brigs is unknown, but must have been very great, from the circumstance of one of them being infinitely more exposed than the *Charon*. Our loss was four privates killed and five wounded. During the hottest part of the action our flag staff being shot away, the flag was immediately regained under a heavy fire of grape and cannister, and hoisted on a sponge staff and planted on the parapet.

This achievement of our brothers in arms is dear

to us, and calls for, and will have the gratitude of a grateful country! Our arms have triumphed over the enemy. The brave officers, non-commissioned officers and privates under the command of the gallant major Lawrence, have done their duty, and in point of cool and determined courage their conduct cannot be surpassed. There was but one feeling pervading every grade and rank through the whole action, and that was who should be foremost in the race of glory. With them the post of danger was the post of honor.

By command of major general Jackson,

H. HAYNE.

*Insp. gen. and act. adj. gen.*

The WASHINGTON of 74 guns, built at Portsmouth, N. H. under the superintendance of captain Hull, was launched without the slightest accident or impediment, on the 1st inst. She, with the *Independence*, at Boston, are probably two of the finest vessels afloat; and will not decline a combat with any other two that swims—*three deckers* not excepted.

The famous American privateer Prince, of Neufchatel has recently sailed from Cherbourg on a cruise. She has since arrived at Boston, after a splendid cruise.

Twenty one sail of transports arrived in the St. Lawrence from *Cork*, on the 22nd September. The troops on board are not given.

The crew of the *Reindeer*, captured by the *Wasp*, have been sent to England from France.

The American prisoners sent to England in the *Benson* transport, made an unsuccessful attempt to recover their freedom, in which 4 of them were killed and 8 wounded.

London, August 5.—Accounts have been received at Lloyd's, since the first of last month of the capture of 7 vessels by the U. S. sloop of war *Wasp*, (put into *L'Orient* to refit); 2 by the U. S. sloop of war *Syren*; and 99 by different American privateers.

Two deserters arrived in town yesterday morning from the *Superb 74*, in Gardner's bry. They report themselves to be Americans, who have been detained seven years in the British service, and that they were sent on shore with a foraging party, when they made their escape. They state that the enemy is furnished almost daily with our different newspapers, by a *grey headed pilot*.—*New York paper*.

The British coasts are excessively vexed by a few of our *flying privateers*. A London paper says, that, the navigation of the Irish channel is unsafe!—One daring fellow lately burnt a large ship laden with brandy from Bordeaux in Dublin bay. The British growl excessively about the admission of our armed vessels into the ports of France—*three* were reported refitting at Rochelle!

Burlington, vt. Sept. 30. The British large ship taken by commodore Macdonough is repaired and painted. She is undoubtedly one

of the finest ships of her class in the British navy, mounting 28 long double fortified 24 pounders with locks, and carrying in the whole 39 guns, she is 160 feet in length, 40 feet in breadth; presenting a most formidable battery, and which if it had been managed with the skill of Macdonough, was sufficient of itself to have captured or destroyed the whole of our fleet.\*—Apprehending no danger from the enemy in this quarter we understand that the commodore intends in a few days to put his fleet up for winter quarters in the bay of Fiddlers Elbow, a place so called a little this side Schensboroug (White Hall).—From the situation of the adjacent rocks and mountains, being almost perpendicular, a small battery will in all human probability defend our fleet from any force which the enemy may bring against it.

*Slave trade*—A Spanish ship with 523, and a schooner with 130 SLAVES, lately arrived at Havana from Africa.

The following numerical calculation of the emigrations from France, between the 14th July, 1798, was published at Paris by order of the directory, in the year 1798: Total number 124,000, of whom 9,000 women, and 16,920 men, were of the nobility; 28,000 priests, 404 belonging to the parlements, 8,492 nobles in the military profession, 9,933 landed proprietors, 2,867 lawyers, 220 bankers, 7,890 merchants, 324 notaries, 528 physicians, 540 surgeons, 3,268 farmers, 2,000 nobles in the naval service, 22,729 artisans, 2,860 servants, 3,000 wives of the artisans, 3,033 children of both sexes, 4,428 nuns (religieuses.)

London, May 30. In a letter from Christiansand, dated the 13th inst. it is stated that the Norwegians had taken several Swedish privateers, and carried them into Norway, and that four or five Norwegian privateers were out from Christiansand.

While Ferdinand from Sicily is issuing declarations of his right to the kingdom of Naples, and his firm resolve to support his claims, Murat is progressively strengthening himself on the throne by alliance with the great confederates of Europe, and with the other powers of the Mediterranean. A truce has been concluded for twelve months between him and the dey of Tunis.

Christiana, April 24.—The following is the result of the deliberations of the diet at Edswold, up to the 19th of this month.

“Norway shall be an hereditary limited monarchy, the kingdom free and indivisible: the regent king.”

“The Lutheran is the established religion of the state, but the professors of every other religion preserve their liberty and privileges.”

“The king has the right of making war and peace, and the right of pardoning.”

“The people exercise, by their representatives, the legislative authority, and the rights of levying the taxes.”

“The judicial power is always to remain distinct from other branches of government.”

“Henceforward no hereditary privileges shall be allowed either to persons or corporations.”

“Industry and civil occupations shall not be subject to any new restriction.”

“The press shall be free from all restraints.”

\*Most of our guns were short pieces.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

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BALTIMORE, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 163.]

*Hec olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann

## Legislature of New York.

IV. ASSEMBLY—Sept. 30, 1814.

### MESSAGE,

*From his Excellency the governor, with accompanying documents.*

Gentlemen—Conformably to the declaration made in my public communication, I now do myself the honor of detailing the measures of defence which have been pursued in the recess of the legislature.

Learning that general Brown's army had retrograded to Erie, and was jeopardized, and that he had called on maj. general Hall for a small militia force, I dispatched col. John B. Yates, one of my aids, to that frontier with authority and directions to consult with the principal officers and characters there, and to make a further call for such force as might be deemed necessary. His report is herewith communicated. Part of the militia called out by that order, have crossed to Erie, and conducted like patriots and brave men, as will appear by the official letter of major general Brown, which accompanies this letter.

Taking it for granted that Sackett's harbor would occasionally be drained of regular troops during the campaign, and that the commanding officer there would of course be under the necessity of asking for temporary reinforcements of militia, the major general and brigadier generals of the surrounding districts of country were severally instructed to comply promptly with any call for militia, without waiting to consult me; and I engaged to confirm, as far as depended on me, their official acts in such cases. Accordingly, bodies of militia have, at different times, repaired to the defence of the harbor, and a considerable number are now in service there.

The success of the enemy at Washington, spread a momentary panic on the sea board. The corporation of the city of New York, had previously made an arrangement with the general government for the advance, in the first instance, of the funds necessary to pay three thousand militia, to be called into service at New York. Upon receiving a requisition for that number of militia, it was immediately put in service. Soon after the disasters at Washington, a requisition was made by the commanding officer of the third military district, for a large additional number of militia for the defence of New-York. This call was also promptly complied with and numbers rather exceeding the amount of the requisition, are now in the service of the United States, at New York.

The Champlain frontier was at that time considered by me, perfectly secure, and I was confirmed in this opinion by a communication from major general Mooers, of the militia, a copy whereof, marked C. accompanies this communication—but after I had made a call upon the militia of the interior counties to make up the number required for New York, a communication, acquainting me with the withdrawal of a principal part of the northern army from the frontier, and with general Izard's call upon maj. gen. Mooers, for a militia detachment, was received by me at New-York, and contained the first intimation I had of that movement.

An express was instantly dispatched with orders for general Mooers to comply with general Izard's demand immediately. General Mooers, however, had anticipated my orders, by calling out the militia of Clinton, Essex and Franklin; and upon the receipt of my instructions made a further levy for militia of Saratoga, Montgomery and Schoharie counties, detached and organized as a part of our quota of 13,500 men, required by the president's order of the 4th of July last, and upon the Rensselaer, Washington and Warren brigades en masse; and I directed that part of the detachment of 13,500 men, made from Rensselaer county, to repair to Plattsburg with general Eddy's brigade. A few of these troops had arrived, and the residue were on their way when the glorious triumph of our naval and land forces at Plattsburg was announced.

In addition to the militia in service at New York I thought it my duty, with the advice of the city authorities, to organize, for the defence of New York, a body of seamen. Accordingly I have formed corps of sea fencibles, upon the principles contained in the act of congress relative to that description of troops. But they are liable to disbandment if the legislature should disapprove of their employment. About one thousand of this description of troops have been raised, and are stationed in the block houses, water batteries and other places in the harbor, where they can be most serviceable. The corporation have been so liberal as to advance the funds for paying them, in confidence that the same will be assumed and retuned by the state. As the time for which the sea fencibles have been paid in advance will soon expire, an immediate expression of the intention of the legislature, with respect to their continuance, is desirable, to the end, that they may be disbanded without further expenses, in case the employment of them should not be sanctioned.

It is with regret, I notice that the militia generally have appeared without arms or equipments; and that too, where it was well ascertained that they were provided with them at home. There is no law which enables the officers to punish such delinquency. There was no alternative left, therefore, but to assume the responsibility of purchasing an additional supply of arms to equip them, or to leave the city of New York unprotected. I did not hesitate to purchase arms with funds advanced by the corporation of New York, under an expectation that they would be reimbursed by the state. The sum advanced by the corporation to the commissary of this state, for providing muskets, equipments, ammunition and camp equipage, and the sums advanced by them to the principal paymaster for raising, paying and equipping about one thousand sea fencibles, will be stated in a communication as soon as I may receive the return from those officers, which they have been directed to make.

In addition to these sums, five thousand dollars were advanced, at my request, to one of the assistant deputy and quarter master generals of militia at New York, for the purpose of meeting some expenses indispensable for the comfortable accommodation of the militia, the deputy quarter master general of the district not being in funds to give the

requisite assistance; but part only of the last mentioned advance has been expended, the account vouchers for which, with the balance in hand, will be transferred to the deputy quarter-master general, and the state be thereby exonerated from it.

The paymasters and quarter-masters of the militia of New York have executed bonds with satisfactory securities, and in large penalties, for the performance of their respective duties, and for rendering accurate and faithful vouchers and accounts for all monies which come to their hands.

The state troops now in service in New York, may be estimated, and are stationed as follows:

One division under major gen. Ebenezer Stevens of the militia,	5,700
One brigade commanded by brigadier gen. Samuel Hays, stationed at Brooklyn,	1,800
One brigade commanded by brig. general Jeremiah Johnson, stationed at Brooklyn,	1,75
One brigade under the command of brigadier general John Swartwout, stationed at Staten Island,	2,150
One brigade, at Great Neck Island, under the command of brig. gen. Van Orden,	1,500
One brigade at the Harlem Heights commanded by brig. gen. Heermante,	1,600
One brigade stationed at Greenwich, under the command of brig. gen. Peter Cortisius,	1,750
A squadron of cavalry, commanded by licut. col. James Warner,	400
Sea-fencibles, raised for the emergency, and stationed in the Rockaway and Gray's Landing lockhouse, and in forts Gates, Diamond, Stevens, &c. supposed to be in the whole, by this time,	1,000
	17,650

These troops, with the regulars, commodore DeCATUR's force, the United States' Sea Fencibles and the militia of New Jersey, do, in my opinion place the city of New-York in a respectable state of defence.

All the services which were rendered by my aids de camp since the commencement of the war, and which at times have been very arduous, were rendered gratuitously until the first day of September, inst. when the pressure of business was such as to call for their constant attendance and employment at my office; and I then ordered them into actual service, deeming it unreasonable any longer to require of them, as gratuitous, such arduous services as were needed, and for the want of which it would have been impossible for me, without destroying my health, to get along with the accumulated military business of my office.

I pray the legislature to confirm this proceeding and to make some provision which may hereafter relieve me from embarrassment in similar cases.

Experience has, I believe, satisfied all reflecting persons that the expence, public inconvenience, waste and destruction of military stores, and interruption of agricultural pursuits, arising from calls on the ordinary militia, as now organized and regulated, are totally disproportioned to their efficiency in service, and that therefore a resort to some other measure to repel invasion and to meet emergencies, is indispensable.

I have had the honor to suggest the propriety of organizing and having in constant readiness as an advance corps, at least twenty thousand men uniformed, armed and equipped. These may be raised by classification or otherwise, as may best suit the views of the legislature. Camp equipage, cannon and arms, for the equipment of that number of men, might be provided and be kept in readiness in accessible depots, and the ordinary militia might be excused from service except in a dernier resort, when the exercise of more summary authority than is now granted by law will be necessary to compel attendance and enforce prompt subordination. The organization of staff departments for the state, for

districts and for corps, as nearly conformable to the staff of the army as may be practicable, is highly necessary. Should an advance corps of about 20,000 men be raised, uniformed and equipped for service, it might be organized, proportioned and held in readiness, as follows:

#### FOR THE NORTHERN FRONTIER.

TWO DIVISIONS.	
One regiment artillery, including company officers,	1080
One brigade of sea-fencibles,	2100
One battalion of rifle-men,	540
One squadron horse-artillery, to act also as cavalry,	510
Two brigades of infantry,	4320
	8640

#### FOR THE CHAMPLAIN FRONTIER.

ONE DIVISION.	
A regiment of rifle-men,	1780
One brigade of infantry,	2160
A squadron of cavalry,	540
A battalion of artillery,	216
Two companies of mounted rifle-men,	216
	4336

#### For the Frontier of Niagara, and on Lake Ontario.

TWO DIVISIONS.	
One regiment of rifle-men,	1680
One regiment of artillery,	1080
Two brigades of infantry,	4320
One battalion of sea-fencibles,	510
	7680

The ignorance of discipline of some of the officers of the militia, render it proper that the militia institutions should be kept up in time of war, as nurseries for officers. A liberal gentleman in New York has offered to uniform a corps of cadets if I would organize them, and permission has been given by the war department for three of the members of the military academy of the United States to take charge and instruct and discipline them. I should be happy, with the approbation of the legislature, to organize three companies of cadets, and to have them instructed and disciplined for militia officers. One company for New York, one for the Eastern and one for the Western District.

It is probable that no one establishment would be of more importance to the United States, and in particular to this state, than a cannon foundry upon the Hudson above the Highlands. If the Legislature will take measures separately or in concert with individuals to erect an extensive foundry on the Hudson, I am satisfied that they will thereby greatly advance the public interests. The purchase money of a site and other expenses of an extensive foundry, will probably amount to 70,000 dollars. The establishment may, with industry, be put in operation in two months.

The power to organize the militia is vested in Congress. As that body is now in session, it is respectfully submitted whether it would not be advisable to authorize a re-organization of the militia of this state in the recess of the Legislature, so as to conform in any new organization which congress may prescribe during their present session.

DANIEL D. TOMPKINS.

Albany, Sept. 30th, 1814.

#### DOCUMENTS.

(A.)

BUFFALO, Sept. 3, 1814.

Dear Sir—The militia are collecting at this place very rapidly—there is the greatest probability that more will turn out than were required by the order. Every thing has been done to rouse the feelings of the community, and the exertions for that purpose have been apparently attended with very great success. Brig. general Davis, of Genessee county, has ordered out his whole brigade, without any requisition or authority. Yet, as it was thought they might

be usefully employed, it was thought proper not to discourage him. If he were regularly ordered out, he would take the command from general Porter.

By a proper disposition and use of the means which now are, or in a few days will be, in the power of gen. Brown, the enemy's force now cannonading Fort Erie, will be obliged to retire. There is every appearance of a disposition on the part of the militia to cross the Niagara; and if they do not, the disappointment will be very great indeed—but I cannot for a moment doubt it. If they do the enemy must retreat or submit. The disproportion of force will be too great for them to resist.

There has been a very great difficulty in procuring a sufficient quantity of arms. I wrote to Mr. Carpenter, at Whitesboro', from whom I have not yet heard. I have also written to Mr. Hopper at Onondaga.

The arms at Canandaigua and Batavia have been taken for the use of the detachment—men have been sent out also to collect such as may be in the hands of individuals, and have not been returned; these together with such United States arms as can be procured, and British arms taken from the enemy, will probably be sufficient to arm the men.

With the greatest respect, I am,

Your excellency's very obed<sup>t</sup>. serv<sup>t</sup>.

(Signed) J. B. YATES.

(B)

Head-quarters, Fort Erie, Sept. 20 1814.

MY DEAR SIR—Your excellency is no doubt aware how much the army under my command has suffered from the fire of the enemy's batteries, of which the first and second were not more than 500 yards distant. Soon after my arrival, I ascertained they were night and day employed in erecting a third, to the right of the others, which would rake obliquely our whole encampment. About the 12th, this new work was nearly completed, and in it were mounted some long 24 pounders. Being very impatient under the fire of the old, and knowing that our difficulties would increase from the opening of a new battery, I determined to hazard a sortie, with a view of carrying them, and destroying the cannon. On the 17th inst. an order was given to this effect, and executed in the most gallant style.

The batteries were carried, the principal work blown up, and the cannon effectually destroyed. It was a desperate conflict. The loss of the enemy cannot be less than 800 men. Our own is severe, in officers particularly. The militia of New York have redeemed their character—they behaved gallantly. Gen. Davis was killed, and general Porter slightly wounded in the hand.

Of the militia that were called out by the last requisition, fifteen hundred men have crossed. This reinforcement has been of immense importance to us; it doubled our effective strength, and their good conduct can but have the happiest effect upon the nation. The brave men deserve well of their country; and I flatter myself that the legislature about to convene, will notice them as becomes the representatives of a generous people.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAC. BROWN.

His excellency Gov. Tompkins.

(C.)

Extract of a letter from major-general Mooers.

Plattsburg, Aug. 14, 1814.

SIR—Inclosed is a copy of my note to gen. Izard, and of his to me. In place of a few companies, as the general's letter indicates, I consider several

thousand of the militia necessary to the maintenance of this frontier. I shall do what is in my power to aid the regular troops whenever necessary.

I am, &c. BENJAMIN MOOERS.

His excellency gov. Tompkins."

Copy of a letter from major-general Mooers, of the militia, to major-general Izard, of the army.

SIR—Report says, we are invaded by the enemy's flotilla, &c. or in imminent danger of being invaded by a formidable force. Should it be necessary to call out the militia on this occasion, your requisition will be immediately attended to. I am, &c.

BENJAMIN MOOERS.

Major-general Izard, 12th Aug. 1814.

Copy of general Izard's answer.

Camp near Chazy, Aug. 13, 1814.

Maj. gen. Mooers, N. Y. militia.

SIR—Your note of yesterday was delivered to me last evening, by major Rees. There has occurred nothing on this frontier to justify the alarm which appears to prevail at Plattsburg. It is not improbable that an engagement will take place soon on the lines; but I see no cause for apprehending the result. I have received no instructions to call out the militia; it will be well, however, to order such companies as are nearest to the scene of operations, to hold themselves in readiness to assemble in arms at the shortest notice. When you shall have determined the place of rendezvous, I will thank you to give me notice of it, and of the number of men whom you be counted upon.

I am, sir, your most obed<sup>t</sup> humble serv<sup>t</sup>,

GEORGE IZARD.

Copy of a letter from general Izard.

Northern Army—Head-quarters, near Chazy, August 25th, 1814.

His excellency gov. Tompkins,

SIR—Having received on the 23d inst. authority from the department of war to make a requisition on the governor of New York, for such detachments of militia as in my opinion, may be necessary, I called upon major-general Mooers as commanding officer of the militia in this part of the state, for one regiment of infantry, and one troop of light dragoons, armed and equipped according to law, to assemble as speedily as possible at the village of Chazy.

I last evening was honored with major-general Mooers's answer, by which I am informed, that "he has not received any instructions to call into service the militia, or any part of it, except what is given by law in case of invasion, &c."

As I am ordered to move with the greater part of my force from lake Champlain, I am apprehensive that serious evil may result from the delay in acting upon the requisition. I hasten to communicate the circumstance to you, in the wish that a remedy may be applied in season. The fortifications erected by my direction at Plattsburgh and Cumberland Head, will, I trust, suffice for the protection of captain Macdonough's squadron, and the stores which I leave behind me. But they will require the whole of the force, amounting to between two and three thousand men of United States' troops, under brigadier-general Macomb, to whom I intrust their defence. The country north and west of these points, from Plattsburgh to Champlain and Chateaugay, will remain exposed to the enemy.

I am, with great respect, sir, your excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. IZARD.

Copy of a letter to major-general Mooers.

New-York, September 2, 1814.

DEAR SIR—I received, sometime since, a letter from you, containing a notice of an offer by you to general Izard, to order out militia, and a copy of his declension to call upon militia at that time.—

Your conduct in that respect met my decided approbation—I was therefore surprized at the receipt of a letter from gen. Izard, informing me that you doubted your authority, or hesitated with respect to a compliance with his request. You will perceive by reference to the act of congress, passed 23d February, 1795, that the requisition of the president may be made on any officer of the militia, who is bound to obey it; and that it is not indispensable, nor will the public emergencies generally admit, that it should be made through the commander in chief of the state. I send this by express, and pray you, if you have not already done it, to comply with general Izard's requisition immediately. You may order one battalion from Saratoga, under the command of lieut. col. John Prior, and a major to be selected by yourself or him, and one regiment from Washington and Warren counties. If the detached regiments of Van Schaick and Green, organized by general orders of the 29th July last, are not to be collected so readily, order out some of the regiments of Washington and Warren counties en masse. All details not comprehended in this letter, you are authorised to direct.

I am, dear sir, your obedient servant,

DANIEL D. TOMPKINS.

Major-general Mooers.

### Gen. Brown's splendid action.

Copy of a letter major general Brown to the secretary of war, dated

Head-quarters, camp fort Erie, September 29th, 1814.

SIR—In my letter of the 18th inst. I briefly informed you of the fortunate issue of the sortie which took place the day preceding. But it is due to the gallant officers and men, to whose bravery we are indebted for our success on this occasion, that I should give you a more circumstantial and detailed account of this affair.

The enemy's camp I had ascertained to be situated in a field surrounded by woods nearly two miles distant from their batteries and entrenchments, the object of which was to keep the parts of the force which was not upon duty, out of the range of our fire from fort Erie and Black-rock. Their infantry was formed into three brigades estimated at 12 or 15 hundred men each. One of these brigades, with a detail from their artillery, was stationed at their works, (these being about 500 yards distant from old fort Erie and the right of our line.) We had already suffered much from the fire of two of their batteries, and were aware that a third was about to open upon us. Under these circumstances, I resolved to storm the batteries, destroy the cannon and resolutely handle the brigade upon duty before those in reserve could be brought into action.

On the morning of the 17th, the infantry and rifle men, regulars and militia, were ordered to be paraded and put in readiness to march precisely at 12 o'clock. General Porter with the volunteers, colonel Gibson with the rifle men, and major Brooks with the 23d and 1st infantry, and a few dragoons acting as infantry, were ordered to move from the extreme left of our position upon the enemy's right, by a passage opened through the woods for the occasion. General Miller was directed to station his command in the ravine which lies between fort Erie and the enemy's batteries, by passing them by detachments through the skirts of the wood—and the 21st infantry under general Ripley was posted as a corps of reserve between the new bastions of fort Erie; all under cover, and out of the view of the enemy.

About 20 minutes before 3 P. M. I found the left

columns, under the command of general Porter, which were destined to turn the enemy's right, within a few rods of the British entrenchments. They were ordered to advance and commence the action. Passing down the ravine, I judged from the report of musquetry that the action had commenced on our left; I now hastened to general Miller and directed him to seize the moment and pierce the enemy's entrenchment between batteries No. 2 and 3. My orders were promptly and ably executed. Within 30 minutes after the first gun was fired, batteries No. 3 and 2, the enemy's line of entrenchments, and his two block houses, were in our possession. Soon after battery No. 1 was abandoned by the British. The guns in each were spiked by us, or otherwise destroyed, and the magazine of No. 3 was blown up.

A few minutes before the explosion, I had ordered up the reserve under general Ripley. As he passed me at the head of his column, I desired him as he would be the senior in advance, to ascertain as near as possible, the situation of the troops in general, and to have a care that not more was hazarded than the occasion required; that the object of the sortie effected, the troops would retire in good order, &c. General Ripley passed rapidly on—soon after, I became alarmed for general Miller, and sent an order for the 21st to hasten to his support towards battery No. 1. Colonel Upham received the order, and advanced to the aid of general Miller. General Ripley had inclined to the left, where major Brooks' command was engaged, with a view of making some necessary enquiries of that officer, and in the act of doing so was unfortunately wounded. By this time the object of the sortie was accomplished beyond my most sanguine expectations. General Miller had consequently ordered the troops on the right to fall back—observing this movement, I sent my staff along the line to call in the other corps. Within a few minutes they retired from the ravine, and from thence to camp.

Thus one thousand regulars and an equal portion of militia, in one hour of close action, blasted the hopes of the enemy, destroyed the fruits of fifty days labor, and diminished his effective force 1000 men at least. I am at a loss to express my satisfaction at the gallant conduct of the officers and men of this division, whose valor has shone superior to every trial. General Porter in his official report herein inclosed, has very properly noticed those patriotic citizens who have done so much honor to themselves, by freely and voluntarily tendering their services at a dangerous and critical period.

As the scene of action was in the wood in advance of the position I had chosen for directing the movements of the whole, the several reports of the commandants of corps must guide me in noticing individuals.

General Miller mentions lieutenant colonel Aspinwall, lieutenant colonel Beedie, major Trimble, captain Hull, captain Ingersoll, lieutenant Crawford, lieutenant Lee, and particularly ensign O'Fling as entitled to distinction.

Lieutenant colonel McDonald, upon whom the command of the rifle corps devolved, upon the fall of the brave and generous Gibson, names adjutants Shortridge of the 1st, and Ballard of the 4th regiment, as deserving the highest applause for their promptness and gallantry in communicating orders. Of the other officers of the corps, he reports generally, that the bravery and good conduct of all was so conspicuous, as to render it impossible to discriminate.

Major Brooks, to whom much credit is due for the distinguished manner in which he executed the orders he received, speaks in high terms of lieutenants Goodell, Ingersoll, Livingston, and ensign Brant and

O'Fling of the 23d—particularly of the latter. Also of captain Simms, lieutenants Bissel, Shore and Brinot of the 1st infantry, and lieutenant Watts of the dragoons.

Lieutenant colonel Upham, who took command of the reserve after general Ripley was disabled, bestows great praise upon major Chambers of the 4th regiment of riflemen, attached to the 21st infantry, as also upon captain Bradford and lieutenant Hocking of that regiment.

My staff, colonel Snelling, colonel Gardner, major Jones, and my aid-de-camp, major Austin and lieutenant Armstrong were, as usual, zealous, intelligent and active—they performed every duty required of them to my entire satisfaction.

Major Hall, assistant inspector general, led a battalion of militia, and conducted with skill and gallantry. Lieutenant Kirby, aid-de-camp to general Ripley, was extremely active and useful during the time he was in the action.

Lieutenants Fraser and Riddle were in general Potter's staff; their bravery was conspicuous, and no officers of their grade were more useful.

The corps of artillery commanded by major Hindman, which has been so eminently distinguished throughout this campaign had no opportunity of taking a part in the sortie. The 25th infantry under colonel Jessup, was stationed in fort Erie to hold the key of our position.

Colonel Brady, on whose firmness and good conduct every reliance could be placed, was on command at Buffalo with the remains of the 22d infantry. Lieutenant colonel M'Bee and lieutenant colonel Wood of the corps of engineers, having rendered to this army services the most important, I must seize the opportunity of again mentioning them particularly. On every trying occasion I have reaped much benefit from their sound and excellent advice. No two officers of their grade could have contributed more to the safety and honor of this army. Wood, brave, generous and enterprising, died as he had lived without a feeling but for the honor of his country and the glory of her arms. His name and example will live to guide the soldier in the path of duty so long as true heroism is held in estimation. M'Bee lives to enjoy the approbation of every virtuous and generous mind, and to receive the reward due to his services and high military talents.

It is proper here to notice that although but one third of the enemy's force was on duty when his works were carried, the whole were brought into action while we were employed in destroying his cannon. We secured prisoners from seven of his regiments, and know that the 6th and 82d suffered severely in killed and wounded, yet these regiments were not upon duty.

Lieutenant general Drummond broke up his camp during the night of the 2d and retired to his entrenchments behind the Chippewa. A party of our men came up with the rear of his army at Frenchman's creek; the enemy destroyed part of their stores by setting fire to the buildings from which they were employed in conveying them. We found in and about their camp a considerable quantity of cannon ball, and upwards of one hundred stand of arms.

I send you enclosed herein a return of our loss. The return of prisoners inclosed does not include the stragglers that came in after the action.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient humble servant,

JACOB BROWN.

*Honorable secretary of War.*

*Copy of a letter from brigadier general Porter, to major general Brown.*

Fort Erie, September 22, 1814.

SIR—In executing the duty you have imposed upon me, of reporting the conduct of the officers and men composing the left column, which you was pleased to place under my command, in the sortie of the 17th inst. the pleasure I derive in representing to you the admirable conduct of the whole, is deeply chastened by sorrow for the loss of many brave and distinguished men.

Being obliged from the nature of the ground, to act on foot, it was impossible that my personal observation should reach to every officer. Some part of this report must therefore rest upon the information of others.

It is the business of this communication to speak of the conduct of individuals; yet you will permit me to premise, although well known to yourself already, that the object of the left column was to penetrate, by a circuitous route, between the enemy's batteries where one-third of his force was always kept on duty, and his main camp, and that it was subdivided into three divisions—the advance of 200 riflemen, and a few Indians, commanded by colonel Gibson, and two columns moving parallel to, and 30 yards distant from each other. The right column was commanded by lieutenant colonel Wood, headed by 400 infantry, under major Brook of the 23d, and followed by 500 volunteers and militia, being parts of lieutenant colonel Dobbin's, McBarney's and Fleming's regiments, and was intended to attack the batteries. The left column of 500 militia was commanded by brigadier general Davis, and comprised the commands of lieutenant colonels Hopkins, Churchill and Crosby; and was intended to hold in check any reinforcements from the enemy's camp; or both columns (circumstances requiring it, which frequently happened) to co-operate in the same object.

After carrying by storm in the handsomest style, a strong block-house in rear of the third battery, making its garrison prisoners, destroying the three 24 pounders and their carriages in the third battery, and blowing up the enemy's magazine, and after co-operating with general Miller in taking the second battery, the gallant leaders of the three divisions all fell nearly at the same time; colonel Gibson, at the second battery, and general Davis and lieutenant colonel Wood, in an assault upon the first.

Brig. general Davis, although a militia officer of little experience, conducted on this occasion with all the coolness and bravery of a veteran, and fell while advancing upon the enemy's entrenchments; his loss as a citizen, as well as a soldier, will be severely felt in the patriotic county of Genessee. Col. Gibson fully sustained the high military reputation, which he had before so justly acquired. You know how exalted an opinion I have always entertained of lieut. col. Wood of the engineers. His conduct, on this day, was, what it uniformly has been, on every similar occasion, an exhibition of military skill, acute judgment, and heroic valor. Of the other regular officers, lieut. col. Macdonald and major Brook, senior in command, will report to you in relation to their respective divisions. Permit me, however, to say of these two officers, that, much as was left to them by the fall of their distinguished leaders, they were able to sustain their parts in the most admirable manner, and they richly deserve the notice of the government.

Of the militia, I regret that the limits of a report will not permit me even to name all those, who on this occasion established claims to the gratitude of their fellow citizens; much less to particularize individual merit. Lieut. cols. Hopkins, McBarney,

Churchill and Crosby, and majors Lee, Marcell, Wilson, Lawrence, Burr, Dunham, Kellogg, and Gannon, are entitled to the highest praise for their gallant conduct, their steady and persevering exertion. Lieut. col. Dobbin being prevented by severe indisposition from taking the field, major Hall, assistant inspector general, volunteered his services to join major Lee in the command of the volunteer regiment; and maj. Lee and every other officer speaks in the highest terms of the gallant and good conduct of this young officer.

Capt. Fleming, who commanded the Indians, was, as he always is, in the front of the battle. There is not a more intrepid soldier in the army. I should be ungrateful, were I to omit the names of captains Knapp and Hull of the volunteers, and capt. Parker and lieut. Chestfield of the militia, by whose intrepidity I was, during the action, extricated from the most unpleasant situation. Capts. Richardson, Buel, and Kennedy, lieuts. Parkhurst and Brown, and adjuts. Dobbin, Bates, and Robinson, particularly distinguished themselves. The patriotic conduct of capt. Elliott with 20 young gentlemen, who volunteered from Batavia, and of maj. Hubbard with 14 men exempted by age from military duty, should not be omitted. They were conspicuous during the action.

You will excuse me, if I shall seem partial, in speaking of my own family, consisting of my brigade major Frazer, my volunteer aid de camp Riddle, (both 1st. lieutenants in the 15th infantry,) capt. Bigger of the Canadian volunteers, messrs. Williams and Despiere, volunteer aids for the day, all of whom except Mr. Williams were wounded.

Lieuts. Frazier and Riddle were engaged for most of the preceding day with fatigue parties, cutting roads for the advance of the column through the swamp, and felling timber to the rear, and within 150 yards of the enemy's right: which service they executed with so much address as to avoid discovery; and on the succeeding day they conducted the two columns to the attack. Frazer was severely wounded by a musket ball whilst spiking a gun on the second battery. Riddle, after the first battery was carried, descended into the enemy's magazine, and after securing (with the assistance of quartermaster Green of the Volunteers, whose good conduct deserves much praise) a quantity of fixed ammunition, blew up the magazine and suffered severely by the explosion. I must solicit, through you sir, the attention of the general government to these meritorious young men. Captain Bigger is an excellent officer, and rendered me much assistance, but was dangerously wounded. The other young gentlemen are citizens, and deserve much credit for their activity, and for having voluntarily encountered danger. My aid de camp, major Dox, was confined at Buffalo by sickness.

On the whole, sir, I can say of the regular troops attached to the left column, and of the veteran volunteers of lieut. col. Dobbin's regiment, that every man did his duty, and their conduct on this occasion reflects a new lustre on their former brilliant achievements. To the militia, the compliment is justly due, and I could pay them no greater one, than to say, that they were not surpassed by the heroes of Chippawa and Niagara in steadiness and bravery.

The studied intricacy of the enemy's defences, consisting not only of the breast works connecting their batteries, but of successive lines of entrenchments for a hundred yards in the rear, covering the batteries and enfilading each other, and the whole obstructed by abatis, brush and felled timber, was calculated to produce confusion among the assail-

ants, and led to several contests at the point of the bayonet. But by our double columns any temporary irregularity in the one was always corrected by the other. Our success would probably have been more complete, but for the rain which unfortunately set in soon after we commenced our march, which rendered the fire of many of our muskets useless, and by obscuring the sun, led to several unlucky mistakes. As an instance of this, a body of 50 prisoners who had surrendered, were ordered to the fort in charge of a subaltern and 14 volunteers; the officer mistaking the direction, conducted them towards the British camp in the route by which we had advanced, and they were retaken with the whole of the guard, excepting the officer and one man who fought their way back. Several of our stragglers were made prisoners by the same mistake. But, sir, notwithstanding these accidents, we have reason to rejoice, at our signal success in inflicting a vastly disproportionate injury on the enemy, and in wholly defeating all his plans of operation against this army.

I have the honor to be, with very great respect, your obedient servant,

P. B. PORTER, *Brig. Gen.*

*Com'g. Volunteers and Militia.*

Maj. gen. Brown, Com'g. &c.

*Report of the killed, wounded and missing of the left division of the army at Fort Erie, commanded by major-general Brown, in the sortie against the enemy's batteries, on the 17th Sept. 1814.*

**TOTAL OF REGULARS.**

Killed, 1 lieut. colonel, 3 captains, 5 sergeants, 7 corporals, 44 privates.

Wounded, 1 brig. general, 1 brigade major, 1 colonel, 1 lieut. colonel, 1 major, 2 captains, 11 subalterns, 1 principal musician, 12 sergeants, 11 corporals, 94 privates.

Missing, 1 adjutant, 1 sergeant, 4 corporals, 1 musician, 36 privates.

**TOTAL OF MILITIA, &c.**

Killed, 1 brig. gen. 1 capt. 3 subalterns, 1 sergt. 1 corporal, 12 privates.

Wounded, 1 maj. gen. 2 aids de camp, 1 brig. maj. 2 capts. 2 subalterns, 4 sergts. 3 corporals, 65 privates.

Missing 1 lieut. col. 1 maj. 1 qr. master, 2 capts. 4 subalterns, 9 sergts. 13 corporals, 6 musicians, 136 privates.

**GRAND TOTAL.**

Killed, 1 brig. gen. 1 lieut. col. 4 capts. 3 subalts. 6 sergts. 8 corps. 56 privates.

Wounded, 1 maj. gen. 1 brig. gen. 2 aids de camp, 2 br. majors, 1 col. 1 lieut. colonel, 1 major, 4 captains, 13 subalts. 1 principal musician, 16 sergts. 14 corporals, 150 privates.

Missing, 1 lieut. col. 1 major, 1 adjutant, 1 qr. master, 2 capts. 4 subalterns, 10 sergts. 17 corporals, 7 musicians 172 privates.

*Aggregate—Officers 15; non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates 466. Total 511.*

**NAMES AND RANK OF OFFICERS.**

Killed—Lieut. col. E. D. Wood, captain and brevet lieut. col. of engineers.

Capt. J. Bradford, 21st infantry.

Capt. H. Hale, 11th infantry.

Capt. E. G. A. Armistead, 1st rifleman.

Wounded—Staff, brig gen. Ripley, 2d brigade, dangerously, shot through the neck.

1st. Lieut. Crawford, 11th inf. brig maj. 1st brigade, slightly, shot in the arm.

6th inf.—Lieut. col. Aspinwall, severely, left arm amputated.

Capt. Ingersoll, slightly, in the head.

1st. Lieut. E. Childs, severely, bayonet wound through the thigh.

11th infantry—1st. lieut. W. F. Hale, dangerously, shot in the body.

2d lieut. J. Clark, severely, in the body.

3d. lieut. Stevenson, severely, through the thigh.

19th lieut. Davis, dangerously, through the body.

19th infantry—major Trimble, dangerously, shot through the body.

En. Neely, slightly, shot in the thigh.

21st. inf.—En. Cummings, severely, in the arm.

23d. inf.—1st. lieut. Brown, slightly, in the arm.

En. O'Fing, mortally, since dead.

1st Rifleman—capt. Ramsey, severely, in the groin.

3d lieut. Cobb, severely, in the body.

4th Rifleman—colonel James Gibson, mortally, died the 19th instant.

1st. lieut. Gant, severe wounds in the arm and side.

**MISSING.**

1st. lieut. Ballard, adjutant 4th rifleman, prisoner.

**OF THE MILITIA.**

Killed—Brig. gen. Davis, of volunteer brigade.

Capt. Buel, of lieut. col. Crosby's regt.

Lieut. Brown, of lieut. col. McBurney's regt.

Lieut. W. Belknap, of lieut. col. Fleming's regt.



Ensign Blakesley, of lieutenant col. M'Hurney's regt.  
Wounded—Staff, major general P. B. Porter, sword wound in the hand.

1st. lieutenant Fraser, 13th infantry, brigade major, severely, in the leg.  
1st. lieutenant Riddle, 15th infantry, acting aid de camp, slight contusion.

Capt. Bigger, N. Y. volunteers, acting aid, severely through the breast and shoulder.

Lieut. col. Dobbin's regt.—capt. Knapp, in the hip.

Lieut. Baily, in the side.

Lieut. colonel M'Burney's regiment—capt. Haic, wounded and prisoner.

Lt. col. Hopkins' regt.—lieutenant Gillet, thro' the thigh.

Missing—Lieutenant colonel W. L. Churchill, maj. E. Wilson, quartermaster O. Wilcox, capt. Crouch, capt. Case, lieutenant Case, ensigns Chambers, Clark, Church, prisoners.

C. K. GARDNER, Adj. Gen.

Return of prisoners taken in the sortie from Fort Erie, on the 17th of September 1814.

Regt. of Watteville—2 majors, 3 capt. 3 lieuts. 1 assistant surgeon, 4 staff sergeants, 7 sergeants, 7 corporals, 1 drummer, and 234 privates. Total 337.

Royal artillery—9 privates.

1st regt. Royal Scot—2 sergeants, 16 privates.

6th regt.—1 sergt. 4 privates.

8th or King's regt.—1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 ensign, 8 sergeants, 9 corporals, 66 privates.

8d regt.—9 privates.

8th regt.—1 sergt. 1 corporal, 19 privates—Total 71.

Grand total—2 majors, 2 captains, 2 lieuts. 1 ensign. 1 assistant surgeon, 4 staff sergeants, 19 sergeants, 17 corporals, 1 drummer, 337 privates.

Aggregate—385.

J. SNELLING, Inspector General.

THE BRITISH "OFFICIAL"

[The following is a *pure* "official." Though Brown accomplished every thing he designed gaining every battery he aimed at, general Drummond makes out a kind of negative victory. He is careful not to mention his loss; yet permits it unofficially to be said that he had but 190 taken prisoners, though about 320 captured in the splendid affair, are now at Greenbush.]

DISTRICT GENERAL ORDER.

Head-quarters, Camp before fort Erie, 18th September.

Lieutenant general Drummond, having received the reports of the general officer in the immediate direction of the troops engaged yesterday, begs to offer his best acknowledgements for their very gallant conduct in repulsing the attack made by the enemy on our batteries, with his whole force, represented to consist of not less than five thousand men, including militia. The brilliant style in which the battery No. 2, was recovered, and the enemy driven beyond our entrenchments by seven companies of the 82d regiment under major Proctor, and three companies of the 6th regiment detached under major Taylor, excited lieutenant general Drummond's admiration, and entitled those troops to his particular thanks. On the right the enemy's advance was checked by the 1st battalion of the royal Scots, supported by the 89th under the direction of lieutenant colonel Gordon of the royals; and in the centre he was driven back by the Glengary light infantry, under lieutenant colonel Battersby, and directed by lieutenant colonel Pearson, inspecting field officer. To these troops the lieutenant general's best thanks are due, as also to the remainder of the reserve under lieutenant colonel Campbell consisting of the remaining companies of the 6th regiment, the flank companies of the 41st,

and the incorporated militia, which supported the troops engaged.

The lieutenant general deeply laments the unfortunate circumstances of weather which enabled the enemy to approach unperceived close to the right of the position, and to capture a considerable number of the regiment De Watteville stationed at the point. The severe loss in killed and wounded which the 8th or King's and De Watteville's regiment have suffered, affords incontestible proof that No. 2 battery was not gained without a vigorous resistance; it is equally obvious that the block-house on the right was well defended by the party of the king's regiment stationed in it.

Lieutenant general Drummond feels greatly indebted to major general De Watteville for his judicious arrangement; and he also desires to offer his thanks to the respective command-officers of brigades and corps, and the officers and men of the royal artillery and engineers, for their exertions. To major general Stovin, who joined the army a short time before the attack, the lieutenant general is indebted for his assistance, and also to the officers of the general of his personal staff.

Lieutenant general Drummond greatly regrets the wounds which have deprived the army for the present of the services of colonel Fisher, lieutenant colonels Pearson and Gordon.

Lieutenant colonels Fisher, Pearson, and Gordon, have permission to proceed to the rear for the recovery of their wounds.

(Signed) J. HARVEY,  
Lieutenant colonel deputy adjt. gen.

[Private letters say 270 Americans were taken prisoners, that 190 of our troops were taken, and 14 of our officers wounded.]

GENERAL ORDER.

Head-quarters, Mantua, 29th September 1814.

His excellency the commander of the forces having received the official report of lieutenant general Drummond, of an affair which took place at fort Erie, on the 17th instant in which very superior numbers of the enemy were repulsed with loss, entirely coincides with the lieutenant general in the just tribute of praise he bestows on the intrepid valor and determined discipline evinced by the troops under his command, as detailed in the district general order of the 18th inst. which his excellency is pleased to order to be published for the general information of the troops under his command. (Signed) EDW. DAYNES,

Adjt. gen. N. A.

Copy of a letter from major-general Brown, to the secretary of war, dated

Head-Quarters, camp Fort Erie, Oct. 1st, 1814.

Sir—Looking over my official account of the battle of the 17th ult. I find that the names of the regiments which composed general Miller's command, have not been given. As I believe it even more important to distinguish corps than individuals, I am anxious to correct the mistake. General Miller on that day commanded the remains of the 9th and 11th

infantry, and a detachment of the 19th. Of three field officers who were attached to them, two were severely wounded; lieutenant-colonel Aspinwall, of the 9th, gallantly leading his men to the attack upon the enemy's entrenchments; and major Trimble of the 19th, who was shot within their works, conducting with great skill and bravery. A detachment of the 17th regiment was attached to the 21st.

Very respectfully, your most obdt serv't.

JACOB BROWN.

*Hon. secretary of war.*

## Treasury Report.

*Copy of a letter from the chairman of the committee of Ways and Means to the secretary of the treasury, dated*

Washington, October 14, 1814.

SIR—The committee of Ways and Means have had under their consideration the support of public credit by a system of taxation more extended than the one heretofore adopted. They have determined to suspend proceeding on their report at present before the house of representatives, with a view to afford you an opportunity of suggesting any other, or such additional provisions as may be necessary to revive and maintain unimpaired the public credit.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient,

JOHN W. EPPES.

*Honorable Mr. Dallas, secretary of the treasury.*

THE ANSWER.

*Treasury department October 17, 1814*

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 14th instant, and aware of the necessity for an early interposition of congress on the subject to which it relates, I proceed, at the moment of entering upon the duties of office, to offer to the consideration of the committee of Ways and Means, an answer on the several points of their enquiry.

Contemplating the present state of the finances, it is obvious, that a deficiency in the revenue, and a depreciation in the public credit, exist from causes which cannot in any degree be ascribed, either to the want of resources, or to the want of integrity in the nation. Different minds will conceive different opinions in relation to some of those causes; but it will be agreed on all sides, that the most operative have been the inadequacy of our system of taxation to form a foundation for public credit; and the absence even from that system of the means which are best adapted to anticipate, collect and distribute the public revenue.

The wealth of the nation, in the value and products of its soil, in all the acquisitions of personal property, and in all the varieties of industry, remains almost untouched by the hand of government; for, the national faith, and not the national wealth, has hitherto been the principal instrument of finance. It was reasonable, however, to expect, that a period must occur in the course of a protracted war, when confidence in the accumulating public engagements could only be secured by an active demonstration, both of the capacity and the disposition to perform them. In the present state of the treasury, therefore, it is a just consolation to reflect, that a prompt and resolute application of the resources of the country will effectually relieve from every pecuniary embarrassment and vindicate the fiscal honor of the government.

But it would be vain to attempt to disguise, and it would be pernicious to palliate the difficulties which are now to be overcome. The exigencies of the government require a supply of treasure for the

prosecution of the war, beyond any amount which it would be politic, even if it were practicable, to raise by an immediate and constant imposition of taxes. There must, therefore, be a resort to credit, for a considerable portion of the supply. But the public credit is at this juncture so depressed, that no hope of adequate succor, on moderate terms, can safely rest upon it. Hence it becomes the object first and last in every practical scheme of finance, to re-animate the confidence of the citizens; and to impress, on the mind of every man, who, for the public account, renders services, furnishes supplies, or advances money, a conviction of the punctuality as well as of the security of the government. It is no to be regarded, indeed, as the case of preserving a credit which has never been impaired, but rather as the case of rescuing from reproach a credit over which doubt and apprehension (not the less injurious, perhaps, because they are visionary) have cast an inauspicious shade. In the former case, the ordinary means of raising and appropriating the revenue, will always be sufficient; but in the latter case, no exertion can be competent to attain the object, which does not quiet, in every mind, every fear of future loss or disappointment in consequence of trusting to the pledges of the public faith.

The condition of the circulating medium of the country presents another copious source of mischief and embarrassment. The recent exportations of specie have considerably diminished the fund of gold and silver coin; and another considerable portion of that fund has been drawn, by the timid and the wary, from the use of the community, into the private coffers of individuals. On the other hand, the multiplication of banks in the several states has so increased the quantity of paper currency, that it would be difficult to calculate its amount; and still more difficult to ascertain its value, with reference to the capital on which it has been issued. But the benefit of even this paper currency is in a great measure lost, as the suspension of payments in specie at most of the banks has suddenly broken the chain of accommodation, that previously extended the credit and the circulation of the notes which were emitted in one state into every state in the union. It may in general be affirmed, therefore, that there exists at this time no adequate circulating medium common to the citizens of the United States. The monied transactions of private life are at a stand; and the fiscal operations of government labor with extreme inconvenience. It is impossible that such a state of things should be long endured; but let it be fairly added, that with legislative aid it is not necessary that the endurance should be long. Under favorable circumstances, and to a limited extent, an emission of treasury notes would, probably, afford relief; but treasury notes are an expensive and precarious substitute, either for coin or for bank notes, charged as they are with a growing interest, productive of no countervailing profit, or emolument, and exposed to every breath of popular prejudice or alarm. The establishment of a national institution, operating upon credit combined with capital, and regulated by prudence and good faith, is, after all, the only efficient remedy for the disordered condition of our circulating medium. While accomplishing that object, too, there will be found, under the auspices of such an institution, a safe depository for the public treasure, and a constant auxiliary to the public credit. But whether the issues of a paper currency proceed from the national treasury or a national bank, the acceptance of the paper in a course of payments and receipts must be forever optional with the citizens. The extremity of that day cannot be anticipated, when a

honest and enlightened statesman will again venture upon the desperate expedient of a tender law.

From this painful, but necessary development of existing evils, we pass with hope and confidence, to a more specific consideration of the measures from which relief may be certainly and speedily derived. Remembering always, that the objects of the government are to place the public credit upon a solid and durable foundation; to provide a revenue commensurate with the demands of a war expenditure, and to remove from the treasury an immediate pressure, the following propositions are submitted to the committee, with every sentiment of deference and respect.

PROPOSITIONS.

I. It is proposed, that during the war, and until the claims contemplated by the proposition are completely satisfied, or extinct, there shall be annually raised by taxes, duties, imports and excises, a fund for these purposes.

1. For the support of government, dolls. 1,500,000
2. For the principal and interest of the public debt, existing before the declaration of war, and payable according to the contract, 3,500,000
3. For the interest of the public debt contracted, and to be contracted, by loans, or otherwise, from the commencement to the termination of the war calculated upon an annual principal of 72 millions of dollars. 4,320,000
4. For the payment of treasury notes, with the accruing interest, 7,400,000
5. For the payment of debentures to be issued (as is hereafter proposed) for liquidated balances, due to individuals, on account of services or supplies, authorised by law, but either not embraced by a specific appropriation, or exceeding the sum appropriated, 230,000
6. For a current addition to the sums raised by loan, or issues of treasury notes, towards defraying the general expenses of the war, 2,000,000
7. For the gradual establishment of a sinking fund, to extinguish the debt incurred during the war, 500,000
8. For a contingent fund, to meet sudden and occasional demands upon the treasury, 1,500,000

dolls. 21,000,000

II. It is proposed, that during the war, and until the claims contemplated by the preceding proposition are completely satisfied, or rather adequate funds shall be provided and substituted by law, there shall be annually raised, by the means here specified, the following sums:

1. By the customs (which cannot be safely estimated, during the war, at a higher product) 4,000,000
2. By the existing internal duties, 2,700,000
3. By the existing direct tax, 2,500,000
4. By the sales of public lands (which cannot be safely estimated, during the war, at a higher product) 300,000
5. By an addition to the existing direct tax of 100 per cent, 2,500,000
6. By an addition of 100 per cent on the present auction duties, 150,000
7. By an addition of 100 per cent on the existing duties upon carriages, 200,000
8. By an addition of 50 per cent on the existing duties on licenses to retail wines, spirituous liquors and foreign merchandises, 300,000
9. By an addition of 100 per cent on the existing rate of postage 500,000
10. By the proceeds of the new duties specified in the annexed schedule, marked A, making in the aggregate, 7,000,000

dolls. 21,000,000

III. It is proposed, that a national bank shall be incorporated for a term of twenty years, to be established at Philadelphia, with a power to erect offices of discount and deposit elsewhere, upon the following principles:

1. That the capital of the bank shall be fifty millions of dollars, to be divided into 100,000 shares of five hundred dollars each. Three fifths of the capital, being 60,000 shares, amounting to 30,000,000 of dollars, to be subscribed by corporations, companies or individuals: and two fifths of the capital, being 40,000 shares, amounting to 20,000,000 of dollars, to be subscribed by the U. States.
2. That the subscriptions of corporations, companies and individuals, shall be paid for in the following manner: One fifth part, or 6,000,000, in gold or silver coin. Four-fifth parts, or 24,000,000, in gold or silver coin, or in six

- per cent stock issued since the declaration of war, and treasury notes, in the proportion of one-fifth in treasury notes, and three fifths in six per cent stock.
3. That the subscriptions of corporations, companies and individuals, shall be paid at the following periods:
 

20 dollars on each share, to be paid at the time of subscribing, in gold or silver coin,	1,200,000
40 dollars on each share, to be paid in gold or silver coin, one month after the subscription,	2,400,000
40 dollars on each share, in two months after the subscription, in gold or silver coin,	2,400,000
  - 100 dollars, specie 6,000,000
  - 100 dollars on each share, in gold or silver coin, or in six per cent stock, or in treasury notes, according to the preceding appointments to be paid at the time of subscribing 6,000,000
  - 150 dollars on each share, to be paid in like manner, in two months after subscribing 9,000,000
  - 150 dollars on each share, to be paid in like manner, in three months after subscribing 9,000,000

500 30,000,000

4. That the subscription of the United States shall be paid in six per cent stock, at the same periods and in the same proportions as the payments of private subscriptions, in stock and treasury notes.
5. That the United States may substitute six per cent stock, for the amount of the treasury notes subscribed by corporations, companies and individuals, as the notes respectively become due and payable.
6. That the bank shall loan to the United States 30,000,000, at an interest of six per cent, at such periods, and in such sums, as shall be found mutually convenient.
7. That no part of the public stock, constituting a portion of the capital of the bank, shall be sold during the war; nor at any subsequent time, for less than par nor at any time to an amount exceeding one million, without the consent of congress.
8. That provision shall be made for procuring the bank notes from forgery; for limiting the issue of bank notes; and for receiving them in all payments to the United States.
9. That the capital of the bank, its notes, deposits, dividends, or profits (its real estate only excepted) shall not be subject to taxation by the U. States or by any individual state.
10. That no other bank shall be established by congress, during the term for which the national bank is incorporated.
11. That the national bank shall be governed by fifteen directors, being resident citizens of the United States and stockholders. The president of the United States shall annually name five directors, and designate one of the five to be the president of the bank. The other directors shall be annually chosen by the qualified stockholders, in person or by proxy, if resident within the United States, voting upon a scale graduated according to the number of shares which they respectively hold. The cashier and other officers of the bank to be appointed as is usual in similar institutions.
12. That the directors of the national bank shall appoint seven persons, one of whom to preside, as the managers of each office of discount and deposit, and one person to be the cashier.
13. That the general powers, privileges, and regulations of the bank, shall be the same as are usual in similar institutions; but with this special provision, that the general accounts shall be subject to the inspection of the secretary of the treasury.

IV. It is proposed, that, after having thus provided for the punctual payment of the interest upon every denomination of public debt; for raising annually a portion of the annual expense, by taxes; for establishing a sinking fund, in relation to the new debt, as well as in relation to the old debt; and for securing to the public the efficient agency of a national bank; the only remaining object of supply shall be accomplished by annual loans, and issues of treasury notes, if, unexpectedly, such issues should continue to be necessary or expedient.

1. The amount of annual expenditure during the war, exceeding the sums provided for, does not admit of a prospective estimate beyond the year 1815; but for that year it may be estimated with sufficient accuracy for the general purposes of the present communication, at dolls. 28,000,000
3. Then for the year 1815, an additional provision must be made, authorising a loan and the issue of treasury notes, to an equal amount dolls. 28,000,000

V. It is proposed that accounts for authorised expenses be duly stated and settled, a certificate or debenture shall issue to the accountant specifying the balance; and that in all cases where there has been no specific appropriation, or the claim exceeds the amount of the sum appropriated, the balance shall bear an interest of 3 per cent, until provision is made by law for paying the amount.

VI. And finally, it is proposed to relieve the trea-

surely from an immediate pressure, upon the principles of the following statement:

1. The amount of demands upon the treasury (exclusive of balances of appropriations for former years unsatisfied) was stated in the report of the late secretary of the treasury, of the 22d of September, 1814, to be on the 30th of June, 27,576,391 19
2. The accounts of the third quarter of 1814, are not yet made up, and the precise sums paid during that quarter cannot now be ascertained; but they amount to nearly, 8,400,000

Leaving to be paid in the fourth quarter of 1814. dls. 19,176,391 19

3. This balance, payable during the 4th quarter of 1814, consists of the following items:
 

Civil, diplomatic and miscellaneous expenses, about	353,291 99
Military, about	3,792,6 8
Naval, about	2,381,010 97
Public debt, about	7,681,19 3
	dolls. 19,176,391 19

4. The existing provisions by law for the payment of this balance of dols. 19,176,391 19, may be stated as follows:
 

The act of the 24th of March, 1814, authorised a loan for	25,000,0 0
The act of the 4th of March, 1814, authorised an issue of treasury notes for	5,000,000
	dolls. 30,000,000

Under these authorities there have been borrowed on loan, about	10,395,000
There has been sent to Europe in 6 per cent stock	6,000,000
There has been issued in treasury notes	3,504,000
	26,309,000
	dolls. 9,601,000

There remains therefore an unexercised authority to borrow	8,105,000
To issue treasury notes	1,496,000
	9,601,000

The demands of the fourth quarter being then	19,176,391 19
There may be applied to meet them, the revenue accruing during the quarter from all sources, about	2,900,000
Also payments to be made on account of loans already contracted for, according to the authority above stated, about	2,500,000
	5,400,000

Leaving a balance to be provided for dolls. 13,776,391 19

By the authority remaining to borrow	8,105,000
By the authority remaining to issue treasury notes	1,496,000
By an additional authority to be granted by law to borrow, and to issue treasury notes	4,175,391 19
	dolls. 13,776,391 19

These estimates, however, it will be observed, are made with a view, simply, to the appropriations by law for the expenses of the year 1814; and do not embrace a provision to satisfy balances of appropriations made for the expenses of preceding years which have not been called for at the treasury. But it will, probably, be deemed expedient to make such provision by extending the new authority to borrow from the above balance, to 6,000,000. If the 6 per cent stock which has been sent to Europe should be there disposed of, it will form an item in the estimates of the ensuing year.

As a portion of the amount to be provided during the present quarter, consists of treasury notes which will soon be due, it will be advisable to make them receivable in subscriptions to the loan.

It is proper to accompany these propositions with a few explanatory remarks.

1. The first proposition contemplates a permanent system; but the estimate of the particular items of

claims and demands upon the public, must be regarded as immediately applying to the year 1815. In every subsequent year there will necessarily be some variation: as, for instance, the item of interest on the old debt will annually sink, while the item of interest on the new debt will annually rise during the continuance of the war.

The items for annually raising a portion of the public expenses by taxes, and for applying to the new debt a sinking fund (gradually increasing, until it becomes commensurate to its object) are essential features in the plan suggested, with a view to the revival and maintenance of public credit. The extinguishment of the old debt is already in rapid operation by the wise precaution of a similar institution.

2. The second proposition will, doubtless, generate many and very various objections. The endeavor has been however, to spread the general amount of the taxes over a wide surface with a hand as light and equal as is consistent with convenience in the process, and certainty in the result.

All the opportunities of observation, and all the means of information that have been possessed leave no doubt upon the disposition of the people to contribute generously for relieving the necessities of their country; and it has been thought unworthy of that patriotic disposition to dwell upon scanty means of supply, or short-lived expedients. Whenever the war shall be happily terminated in an honorable peace, and the treasury shall be again replenished by the tributary streams of commerce, it will be at once a duty and a pleasure to recommend an alleviation, if not an entire exoneration of the burthens which necessarily fall at present upon the agriculture and manufactures of the nation.

3. In making a proposition for the establishment of a national bank, I cannot be insensible to the high authority of the names which have appeared in opposition to that measure upon constitutional grounds.

It would be presumptuous to conjecture that the sentiments which actuated the opposition have passed away; and yet it would be denying to experience a great practical advantage, were we to suppose that a difference of times and circumstances would not produce a corresponding difference in the opinions of the wisest, as well as of the purest men. But in the present case, a change of private opinion is not material to the success of the proposition for establishing a national bank. In the administration of human affairs, there must be a period when discussion shall cease and decision shall become absolute. A diversity of opinion may honorably survive the contest; but, upon the genuine principles of a representative government, the opinion of the majority can alone be carried into action. The judge who dissents from the majority of the bench, changes not his opinion, but performs his duty, when he enforces the judgment of the court, although it is contrary to his own convictions. An oath to support the constitution and the laws, is not, therefore, an oath to support them under all circumstances, according to the opinion of the individual who takes it, but it is, emphatically, an oath to support them according to the interpretation of the legitimate authorities. For the erroneous decisions of a court of law, there is the redress of a censorial, as well as of an appellate jurisdiction: over an act, founded upon an exposition of the constitution, made by the legislative department of the government, but alleged to be incorrect, we have seen the judicial department exercise a remedial power. And even if all the departments, legislative, executive, and judicial, should concur in the exercise of a power, which is either thought to transcend the constitutional trust, or to operate injuriously upon the community, the case is still within the reach

of a competent control, through the medium of an amendment to the constitution, upon the proposition, not only of congress, but of the several states. When, therefore, we have marked the existence of a national bank for a period of twenty years, with all the sanctions of the legislative, executive, and judicial authorities; when we have seen the dissolution of one institution, and heard a loud and continued call for the establishment of another; when under these circumstances, neither congress, nor the several states, have resorted to the power of amendment; can it be deemed a violation of the right of private opinion, to consider the constitutionality of a national bank, as a question forever settled and at rest?

But, after all, I should not merit the confidence, which it will be my ambition to acquire, if I were to suppress the declaration of an opinion, that, in these times, the establishment of a national bank will not only be useful in promoting the general welfare, but that it is necessary and proper for carrying into execution some of the most important powers constitutionally vested in the government.

Upon the principles and regulations of the national bank, it may be sufficient to remark, that they will be best unfolded in the form of a bill, which shall be immediately prepared. A compound capital is suggested, with a design equally to accommodate the subscribers, and to aid the general measures, for the revival of public credit; but the proportions of specie and stock may be varied, if the scarcity of coin should render it expedient; yet not in so great a degree, as to prevent an early commencement of the money operations of the institution.

4. The estimates of receipts, from the established sources of revenue, and from the proposed new duties; and the estimates of expenditures, on all the objects contemplated in the present communication; have been made upon a call so sudden, and upon materials so scattered, that it is not intended to claim a perfect reliance on their accuracy. They are, however, believed to be sufficiently accurate to illustrate and support the general plan, for the revival of the public credit, the establishment of a permanent system of revenue, and the removal of the immediate pressure on the treasury.

Upon the whole, sir, I have freely and openly assumed the responsibility of the station in which I have the honor to be placed. But conscious of the imperfections of the judgment that dictates the answer to the important enquiries of the committee of ways and means, I derive the highest satisfaction from reflecting, that the honor and safety of the nation, for war, or for peace, depend on the wisdom, patriotism, and fortitude of congress, during times which imperiously demand a display of those qualities in the exercise of the legislative authority.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

A. J. DALLAS.

J. W. Epes, Esq. chairman of the committee of ways and means.

A.

*Schedule of new taxes referred to in the letters of the treasury to the chairman of the committee of Ways and Means, in which the taxes proposed in the report of the committee to the House of Representatives on the 10th inst. principally adopted.*

1. On spirits distilled from domestic or foreign materials 25 cents per gallon, computed on 24,000,000 gallons; provided the present tax on the capacity of the still should be continued. If it is thought best to lay the tax entirely on liquor, then the tax on the capacity of

the stills to be taken off, and 30 cents per gallon to be laid on the liquor. For the present estimate, it is taken at 25 cents per gallon	\$6,000,000
2. On porter, ale and strong beer, 2 cents per gallon, computed on 6,000,000 gallons	120,000
3. On manufactured tobacco and snuff, averaged at 5 cents per pound, and computed on ten million pounds	500,000
4. On leather of various kinds, averaged at 3 cents per pound, and computed on twenty million pounds	600,000
5. On pig-iron at \$1 50 per ton computed on 300,000 tons	450,000
6. On paper, at various rates, averaging 7 per cent on the value of the article, computed on the annual manufacture of the value of 2,000,000 dollars	175,000
7. On playing cards, at 25 cents per pack computed on 400,000 packs	100,000
8. On counsellors and attorneys at law, process in suits at law and equity, proceedings in admiralty, arbitrations and references, and other legal proceedings in the courts of the U. States	300,000
9. On conveyances, mortgages and other contracts relating to real estate	250,000
	\$8,495,000
The sum to be raised by new taxes, according to the estimates of the secretary's letter, is	7,000,000

Leaving a surplus for the expenses of collection and errors in the estimate of 1,495,000

## Congress of the United States.

IN SENATE.

October 21. Mr. German submitted for consideration a motion, that it would be expedient to divide the whole militia of the United States into classes from No. 1 to 10, to be liable to be called into service at particular periods, &c.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Thursday, October 13. The committee appointed for the purpose, reported a bill for a temporary removal of the seat of government. Which being read, was after debate ordered to lie on the table.

The house then took up the resolutions tributary to the merits of general Brown and others—ordered to be engrossed for a third reading—(they passed the next day unanimously.)

The resolutions from the senate expressive of the sense of congress of the decisive victory obtained by com. Macdonough, on lake Champlain, were taken up, and also passed unanimously.

[ These two sets of resolutions shall be preserved in the Register.]

Friday, October 14. Some minor business being done, the house received a message from the president—the doors were closed and opened again at half past two o'clock, when it appeared that the message embraced the instructions to our ministers in Europe, which, with the exception of a few passages, were ordered to be printed. (See last No.)

The bill for a temporary removal of the seat of government was laid over for the next day.

Saturday, October 15. After some business—Mr. Grosvenor, of N. Y. said it would be recollected the president, in his message to congress at the commencement of the last session, informed the House that the commanding general of the Cana-

das had selected a number of American prisoners of war, and sent them over to England in close confinement; and that on that act a system of retaliation had been commenced. It would be recollected, also, that towards the close of the session, in consequence of a resolution passed by the senate, a statement was given of the situation of the prisoners sent to England, and of those who as hostages had been confined on either side. Many publications since made in the public prints tended to shew that the difficulty on this head had been settled—how, was not known. He deemed it all important that the public should know on what principles it had been settled. With that view he offered the following resolution.

*Resolved*, That the president of the United States, he requested to lay before the house, if in his opinion it will not be inconsistent with the public welfare, all communications to or from the government of England or her agents not heretofore communicated, relative to the commencement and progress of the acts of retaliation founded on or produced by the conduct of the British commander in Canada in selecting and sending to Great Britain for trial a number of individuals taken prisoners of war from the American army; also any information he may have in his possession relative to the present condition of such individuals.

The resolution was agreed to without debate or opposition, and a committee ordered to be appointed to present the same to the president of the United States.

A report was received from the commissioner of the revenue, in compliance with a resolution passed the House, on the 16th inst. embracing the amount of assessments and collections of direct tax, and of internal duties collected.

The bill to remove the seat of government was then taken up, the question being put, "shall the bill be engrossed and read the third time?" and decided as follows:

**YEAS**.—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Baylies, of Mass. Bigelow, Boyd, Bagburly, Bradley, Brigham, Brown, Butler, Caldwell, Champion, Cibley, Clark, Condict, Conard, Cooper, Cox, of N. J. Crighton, Croch, Davenport, Davis, of Penn. Demoyelles, Destia, Duval, Ely, Fisk, of N. Y. Geddes, of N. Y. Gourdin, Grosvenor, Hasbrouck, Harburt, Jagersoll, Irwin, Jackson, of R. I. Keut of N. Y. King of Mass. Lav, Lovett, Miller, Moffitt, Moseley, Markell, Oakley, Ormsby, Pickering, Piper, Pitkin, Post, Potter, John Reed, Rea of Penn. Rich, Ruggies, Schurendin, Seybert, Sharp, Sherwood, Shippley, Skinner, Smith, of N. Y. Stockton, Sturges, Taggart, Taylor, Thompson, of N. Y. Udree, Vose, Ward, of Mass. Ward of N. J. Webster, Wheaton, Wilcox of N. H. and Winter—74.

**NAYS**.—Messrs. Archer, Avery, Barbour, Baril, Barnett, Bayly of Vir. Bowen, Burwell, Cannon, Chappell, Clopton, Comstock, Crawford, Culpepper, Cuthbert, Dana, Earl, Eppes, Evans, Farrow, Findley, Fisk of Vt. Farney, Forsythe, Franklin, Gaston, Gholson, Glasgow, Goldsborough, Goodwyn, Griffin, Hall, Hanson, Harris, Hawes, Hawkins, Hopkins, of N. Y. Hubbard, of Mass. Hinchey, Huntington, Irving, Jackson of Virg. Johnson, of Virg. Johnson of Ky. Keay, Kent, of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, King, of N. C. Lefferts, Lewis, Lowndes, Lyle, Macon, McCoy, McKee, McKim, McLan, Montgonery, Moore, Nelson, Newton, Parker, Person, Pickens, Pleasants, Rhea, of Ten. Ringgold, Roane, Robertson, Sage, Sevier, Smith of Virg. Stanford, Strong, Stuart, Tamm, Tall, Telfair, Troup, White, Wilson of Penn. Wright and Yancy.—83.

[Yea 74, Nays 83. Absent on this vote, Mr. Anderson in indisposition; Messrs Caperton, Ingham, Murfree on leave; Messrs. Breckenridge, Calhoun, Davis of Mass. Hale, Hopkins, of N. Y. Howell, Kilbourn, Reed, Ridgely, Sheffey, Smith of Penn. Tallmadge, Williams, Wilson of Mass. and Wood, who have not attended at the present session.]

So the House determined that the bill should not be engrossed for a third reading; in other words, that it should be rejected. Adjourned.

*Monday, October 17.* Mr. Jackson, of Va. made a motion to print two thousand additional copies of the instructions to our ministers to treat of peace in Europe.

Mr. Grosvenor, of N. Y. moved to amend the said motion so as to print these instructions entire, as received from the president, (that is, including the few passages not deemed proper for publication.)

The *Speaker* feeling a difficulty in receiving this motion under present circumstances—

Mr. Grosvenor required the galleries to be cleared, and strangers were excluded accordingly.

The doors remained closed for two hours; when it appeared that the motion of Mr. Grosvenor was rejected, and that of Mr. Jackson was agreed to.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill from the Senate authorising the purchase of Mr. Jefferson's library; but rose without making a decision.

*Tuesday, October 18.* Mr. Lewis, of Va. presented the memorial of a number of inhabitants of Alexandria, stating their indignant surprize at the slanders in circulation respecting that city, and praying a full and fair examination by congress of their conduct during the last visit of the enemy to that town. The memorial was read and referred.

After much talking and debate, which at one time was so animated as to be checked by the speaker, the resolution to purchase Mr. Jefferson's library, (with an amendment requiring that the agreement to purchase should be ratified by congress before it should be binding) was agreed to, and ordered to a third reading.

A letter was this day received from Mr. Dallas (the new secretary of the treasury) that excited great attention. The following brief outline of its contents is copied from the *National Intelligencer*—the entire letter is inserted in page 104, *et seq.*

"The present wants of the nation, the inadequacy of its present means of defraying them, and the depreciation of the public credit, are frankly exposed; the necessity for a prompt application of a remedy is stated, the extensive resources of the nation developed, and the remedy which he approves is presented in strong lines. The two principal features are, 1. A considerable increase of the present direct and internal taxes, and the imposition of additional internal taxes calculated to produce seven or eight millions a year, in order with the proceeds of the present revenue to establish a solid basis which will support the public faith in unbroken strength. 2. A bold recommendation of the establishment (at Philadelphia) of a national bank, of a capital of fifty millions of dollars, two thirds of the capital to be subscribed by individuals, the remainder by the U. States—payments on the stock to be made partly in specie, partly in stock of the United States at 6 per cent, &c.—the bank to be obliged by law to loan to the United States, when required, at an interest of six per cent. any sum not exceeding thirty millions of dollars. Such are the most prominent features of this important report."

*Wednesday, October 19.* The resolution respecting the purchase of Mr. Jefferson's library was passed. Another, presenting the thanks of congress to capt. Warrington, &c. of the Peacock, for the capture of the *Epervier*, was passed unanimously. Progress was made in other business which shall be noticed as it comes to maturity.

*Thursday, October 20.* A committee was raised for the purpose of enquiring into the expediency of repairing or rebuilding, the capitol, president's house, &c. burnt by the Gothic invaders.

In committee of the whole a bill was agreed to for the relief of the officers and seamen of Barney's flotilla—to indemnify them for the loss of their clothes, &c. by the destruction of the barges in the Patuxent. On this bill considerable discussion took place in the house, and it was laid on the table.

Friday, Oct. 21.—The house on motion of Mr. Eppes of Va. resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Nelson in the chair, on the report of the committee of ways and means, and the subsequent letter from Mr. Secretary Dallas.

Mr. Eppes stated that since the receipt of the secretary's letter, the committee had revised their report, and had determined to recommend its modification so as to correspond, in so far as they believed consistent with the public good, with the last report from the treasury department.

The report of the committee having been read over, the first resolution having been read, which proposes to continue the direct tax, and to increase the same 100 per cent. Which was agreed to, though opposed by Mr. Oakley, who proposed to increase it 150 per cent.

The additional tax on Whiskey next came under consideration—Mr. Eppes proposed to add to the duty on the capacity of the still, fifteen cents *per gal* on the quantity distilled—Mr. Fisk of N. Y. moved 25—after discussion, the subject was laid over for further consideration, but previous to the rising of the committee

Mr. Eppes laid upon the table resolutions embracing the further amendments which the committee of ways and means proposed to make to their report, viz: a combination of a tax on paper and an increase on the carriage tax to produce double the present amount of the carriage tax; a classification of the licences to retailers, and an increased duty thereon; and the establishment of a national bank.

Saturday, Oct. 22.—Mr. Eppes reported a bill to authorise a loan not exceeding \_\_\_\_\_ dollars.

The house went into committee of the whole on the report of the committee of ways and means—the increase of the tax on whiskey being under consideration. After debate, (which chiefly hinged on the question whether the duty on the capacity of the still should be retained, which was agreed to, as greatly facilitating the collection of the tax) it was resolved to levy 15 cents on each gallon distilled—ayes 69, nays 62; and the committee rose—25 and 20 cents had been severally proposed, and lost.—A general disposition prevails to vote the necessary supplies; though differences of opinion will exist as to the best means of furnishing them.

Monday October 24. After other business, the report of the committee of Ways and Means was taken up in committee of the whole. The third resolution "to add 100 per cent. to the duty on auctions," was agreed to, after debate. The 4th was amended so as to lay 100 per cent. on the postage of letters, and agreed to without debate. The next for increasing the carriage tax was also agreed to; as was also that for classing the retailers of wines, spirituous liquors and foreign merchandise and imposing on them an additional duty of 50 per cent.

The next, enumerating a variety of articles (see page 77) such as manufactured tobacco, cotton yarn, &c. being under consideration—Mr. Eppes moved that "cotton yarn" be stricken out, which was agreed to—76 to 46, as was also the article "shoes;" the tax on paper was changed so as to make it chargeable with a duty of 5 per cent. a motion to strike out *lotteries* was negatived without debate. Mr. Goldsborough moved to strike out *furniture*, and his motion was supported by several gentlemen, but finally rejected,—51 to 69—so the tax was retained.—Mr. Oakley then moved to strike out *candles*—negatived. Mr. Bigelow proposed to strike out *leather*—negatived, only 30 rising in favor of it. The next and last resolution was in the following words:

"Resolved, That it is expedient to establish a national bank, with branches in the several states,"

which was agreed to without debate; for it 66, against it 40.

The committee rose and reported the several resolutions, as amended—

The first to increase the direct tax 100 per cent. instead of 50 as originally proposed, was agreed to, 100 to 38. Mr. Oakley proposed to increase it 150 per cent. For his motion, ayes 20. The resolution being now on its passage, Mr. Webster explained at considerable length the motives and feelings with which he should vote, &c.

Tuesday October 25. The house resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of Ways and Means, as decided in committee of the whole.

The first resolution to double the present direct tax was taken up. Mr. Rhea, of Tennessee, spoke in favor of the resolution; and in reply to some of Mr. Webster's remarks. It was eloquently followed by Mr. Calhoun on the same side. Mr. Webster briefly explained. Mr. Fisk, of Vermont, spoke in a spirited manner in favor of the tax, and Mr. Shipperd warmly against it. The main question, to continue the direct tax with an increase of 100 per cent. was carried by the great majority of 89 to 38. [Yeas and nays hereafter.]

The next, to increase the tax on whiskey, coming up, Mr. Fisk of Vermont, renewed his motion to levy 25 instead of 15 cents on the gallon. Adjourned without a decision.

## Events of the War.

### HEADS OF NEWS.

General *Arthur* appears to have arrived at Detroit in good season. The red allies were numerous in the immediate neighborhood of the place, and had committed many murders. They will, probably, soon be chastised for their crimes. His force is respectable and would be immediately increased.

In the *Chesapeake*, the small force that remains under command of commodore Barrie, is distinguishing itself by its depredations on the Eastern shore of Maryland—performing the part of *mere robbers*. They lately carried off an unarmed citizen, and Barrie is said to have said, that he would make prisoners of all he could—and also, that he daily expected lord Hill in the *Chesapeake*, to attack Baltimore. If the latter be true (though we believe it will not be realized) his lordship will not catch us napping. Our commander *Scott* is all vigilance and activity. *Perry* is also here to aid and assist.

*Lake Huron*. There is every reason to believe, by statements in the Montreal papers, that the two schooners left in lake *Huron*, to blockade Michillimaciac by commodore *Sinclair*, have been surprised and captured by the enemy, in boats and canoes. A letter from a William *McCay* is published, dated at *La Cloche* Sept. 17, in which he says he is there on his way to Montreal with the prisoners taken in those vessels.

*Pensacola*. There are many reasons to believe that general Jackson has attacked and we trust carried the nest of mischief in the south, before now. It is notoriously the rallying point of the enemy; and has long since lost all pretensions to the character of a neutral place. Powerful reinforcements from Tennessee must have joined him—2,000 mounted volunteers, under general Coffee, marched from Fayetteville on the 3d instant: He has with him 1,000 Indians.

*The Niagara frontier and Ontario*. Our accounts from this frontier are not so distinct as we could wish them. *Izard*, with a handsome force, had crossed at *Buffalo*, to pursue *Drummond*. A battle was

expected. Our army was in the best order to beat the enemy. *Chauncey* was in Sackett's Harbor with his fleet—it is not absolutely certain that the British fleet is yet on the lake. Our adv. ces are to the 19th.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**MASSACHUSETTS.**—The legislature of Massachusetts has had its extraordinary session. The governor's speech will be inserted in our next, but the documents accompanying the same, and the proceedings and resolves of the legislature must lay over for some time and give way to other objects more important, though very interesting to record. Among other things done, they have appointed a committee of twelve persons to meet such others as may be appointed by the New-England states, at Hartford, (Conn.) on the 15th day of December next, to confer respecting the public grievances, &c. They have also authorised the governor to borrow money—and directed the raising of 10,000 infantry and artillery to serve for one year or during the war, to receive the same pay as the troops of the United States, and the officers to be appointed by the governor with the advice of council.

**NEW-YORK.**—The extraordinary session of the legislature of New-York is about to close. Their proceedings have been extensively patriotic, and are worthy of that great and wealthy state. Governor *Tompkins* was expected to leave Albany the beginning of this week to take command at New York, and he had ordered all officers on parole to their stations.

**FEMALE PATRIOTISM.**—About 200 ladies at Charleston South Carolina, after presenting an elegant standard, with Fame sounding the trumpet; on one side this motto:—"God for us, and we for God and our country." On the other—"Let Fame the deed proclaim to future ages," went to work on the fortifications and labored manfully. They concluded the day's service by offering to make 100 suits of clothes for the soldiers to be brought to the defence of the city.

**SPANISH.** While Mr. *Keene*, an agent from our consul appointed to *Tunis*, was at Algiers, to effect the release of some American captives there, four impressed American seamen were put on shore there from a British frigate, having obstinately refused "to do duty." He fortunately heard of this before it was known in the city, and had them smuggled to Gibraltar, where, doubtless, they will be retained as prisoners! The name of the captain of this frigate ought to be given to detestation, and the hate even of *Winebaggoes*. Algiers is at war with the United States, and it was the design of the wretch that our people should have been made slaves to the other dey. Perhaps, however, their condition might have been bettered by the change. Slavery at Algiers is not more severe than on board a British vessel of war, and less hazardous.

Mr. *Keene* failed in his mission, though he was authorised to give \$3000 each for our citizens. The number is not stated, but is presumed not large.—The dey said he would not let them go, as he wished to add to his American captives.

The old *Algerine* war had its origin in "British influence"—and the present, doubtless, grows out of the same fruitful source of misery and distress to mankind.

**EXCHANGE.**—Com. *Barney* went down to the British fleet some days ago and effected an exchange for all the prisoners taken at *Bladensburg* or *Baltimore*, by either party—the balance against the British government to be carried to the general account.

THE CARTEL ANALOSTAN, Smith, has arrived at Providence, R. I. She carried about 100 prisoners from Savannah to Halifax, but brought back only a few prisoners—6 or 8. She was ordered from Halifax

in a hurry (Sept. 28) and could not obtain any papers of the place. Indeed, they were refused. The British, it is stated, will not exchange any more prisoners at present. Though the balance is in our favor, many had been sent to England and others were expected to go. Thus, by all possible means, does it appear that the enemy is determined to give barbarity to the war. About 900 Americans remained at Halifax.

The *Analostan* was boarded from a frigate, whose captain said to capt. Smith, "your countrymen have given us a h—l of a drubbing" on *Champlain*.

Irish papers had been received at Halifax giving some account of the proceedings of the *Peacock*.—She has certainly sunk a sloop of war, after a very short action, and every soul perishing, supposed to be the *Columbine*. It is further reported that she had destroyed "at least one hundred British vessels on the coasts of Great Britain!"

**GOTHIC.**—Among the few persons who returned in the *Analostan* cartel from Halifax, was a person fifty-three years old, who had been captured in one of *Cockburn's* plundering and burning expeditions on the *Yeocomico* river. They had gallantly made him (unarmed) a prisoner, set his house in flames, and sent him to Halifax. But getting ashamed of the business, (and it is pleasant to observe the enemy has some sense of shame) he was released and sent home, without exchange.

**NEW-YORK.**—The committee of defence inform the citizens that they have reason to believe that that "city is in great danger of an attack from the enemy," and invite the people to a renewal of their labor in adding strength to the works.

**COCKBURN.**—The military character of this "Great *Randall*" has, we suspect, been overrated. With a fine field for genius and enterprize, he has yet distinguished himself for nothing but pitiful pilfering of the country people, and savage burnings of their houses and property. It would be a pity that a wretch so lost to honor and humanity should have the reputation of a brave man. He appears to be a ruffian or bully.

**LAW OF NEW-YORK.**—Who would have thought it necessary that a law like the following should be passed? Who would have believed that our country sustained wretches so venal, so base and unprincipled as to return to the enemy the materials with which he would have desolated our country? Yet such knaves there are. The extinction of this devotion to the *Goths* would itself repay the inconveniences of many years war; and of the good that may be expected to result from it, this is, perhaps, among the most important things I hope for.

Be it enacted by the people of the state of New-York, repressed in senate and assembly, That if any person or persons within this state shall apprehend, arrest or detain, or assist, aid or abet, in the apprehension, arrest or detention, of any British deserter or deserters, knowing him or them to be such, and with intent to return him or them to the enemy, such person or persons, on being thereof convicted, shall be deemed guilty of felony and shall be sentenced to imprisonment in the state prison for the term of ten years.—Passed, October 11, 1814.

**CASTINE.**—Letters have been received in Newburyport from *Castine*, stating that a British collector had opened the custom house; that all vessels which belonged there previous to its surrender, were restored to their original owners, and allowed a clearance to and free intercourse with New-Brunswick, and all the British provinces.

THE NEW TERRITORY!—"General Order.—*Endymion at Sea*, Sept. 15, 1814.—The territory lying between the bay of Passamaquoddy and the Penob-



scot river having been taken possession of by H. M.'s forces: All vessels clearing out from any port of H. M.'s North American provinces, for any port or place within the territory, including the port of Castine, and the ports and places situated on the east side of the Penobscot river, are to pass free and unmolested, to bring back return cargoes of lumber and provisions; also any vessels being from the port of Castine with a license from the commanding officers of H. M.'s land and naval forces at Castine.

EDW. GRIFFITH.

**GENERAL HAMPTON**—James M. Connel (says a Boston paper) has lately recovered before the circuit court of the United States now sitting at Albany, of major-general Wade Hampton, a verdict of \$5000 damages, for abusive treatment under color of military authority, while he was in command of the army of the north, last summer.

From *Halifax* we learn that admiral *Cochrane* left it apparently in a great hurry on the 12th inst. supposed for the Chesapeake, taking with him a quantity of light artillery, but unaccompanied by any other ship than his own. The papers intimate that he came there with a view of drawing off all the regular troops, and to have the forts garrisoned by militia, but that sir J. Sherbrooke would not accommodate him. The opinion prevailed that the admiral had a new expedition in view, and left Halifax to meet a force at some particular place to execute it.

#### MILITARY.

The president has conferred the brevet rank of major-general on brigadier-general *Macomb*, for the brilliant defence of Plattsburg against the powerful force of the enemy under the governor-general of the Canadas.

Assistant-adjutant-general *Roger Jones*, captain in the corps of artillery, is brevetted a major, to rank from the 15th of August, and major *J. Hymans*, of the same corps, has been brevetted a lieutenant colonel, to rank from the 15th of August also.

The president has conferred a second brevet on that uniformly distinguished officer, captain *Nathan Townsen*, of the corps of artillery. He is now a lieutenant colonel, to rank from the 15th August.

Such men will establish a precedent for promotion according to merit, without regard to seniority.

It is stated that major-general *Lewis*, of U. S. A. has been directed by the secretary of war, to give up the command of the state of New-York to gov. *Tompkins*. This arrangement, we presume, will be very satisfactory to the people at large, exceedingly interested in repulsing the enemy at New-York, if he shall attack that most important city.

Private letters say that the captures made by captain *Patterson*, at Barrataria, are worth \$500,000.

The army on the *Niagara*, under general *Brown*, has, since it crossed at Buffalo, killed, wounded or taken of the enemy, or caused to desert from his standard, twice and one half of the number it has wholly consisted of. This is true and perhaps unparalleled. *Leard's* troops are equal to like splendid exploits, and we look with confidence to their movements.

Major-general *Smith*, of the Maryland militia, has resigned his commission.

A fine body of Virginians under general *Madison*, have arrived in the neighborhood of Baltimore. We understand that 5000 men from that state, under major-general *Pegram*, are collected to act together for the defence of Baltimore and Washington.

The governor of this state has been called upon by the secretary of war to furnish 4000 men for the service of the United States, to rendezvous in a direction towards Baltimore. They will be drawn from the 5th and 9th divisions. Corps of infantry

and riflemen from the 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th divisions, are invited to tender their services.

*Penn. Repub.*

When the militia of Washington and Warra counties (N. Y.) were ordered to march *en masse* to the northern frontier, there appeared under arms 250 men more than had ever mustered at an inspection or review. The surplus was made up of exempts and volunteers.

Extract of a letter from major Peter Dudley, to his excellency governor Shelby, dated

*Head-Quarters, Urbana, September 21.*

"I have the honor of informing you, that since my arrival at this place, a different result has been given the expedition recently abandoned by general M<sup>r</sup>Arthur. I am now engaged in organizing and equipping the Kentucky corps under my command for immediate service, which, when united with the Ohio volunteers and friendly indians, will compose a considerable force, to be employed on an expedition which military propriety forbids my divulging, but which I presume will be disclosed to you by general M<sup>r</sup>Arthur.

**GENERAL ORDERS.** *Head-Quarters Philadelphia, October 7, 1814.* Major-general *Gaines* takes command of the fourth military district.

The troops will remain in the positions which they at present occupy, until circumstances shall require a change—and will be reviewed by the major-general on their respective parades, between 10 and 2 o'clock on the following day, viz:

At Fort Mifflin, on the 9th.

At Marcus Hook, on the 12th.

At Brandywine camp, on the 13th.

At New-Castle, on the 14th—and

Billingsport, on the 15th.

The major-general feels much satisfaction in announcing to the army he has the honor to command, that he has received from the committee of defence, representing the citizens of Philadelphia, the most cordial assurance of co-operation and support in whatever measures may be necessary for the destruction of the enemy, should his temerity drive him hither—and it is confidently expected that every officer and every man will hold himself ready to meet and *resolved to beat* the invading foe.

EDMUND P. GAINES, maj. gen. by brevet.

*Plattsburg, Oct. 1.*—When the enemy first took possession of this part of the village, they broke open the goal and let out two persons confined for murder, one for stabbing with intent to murder, one for counterfeiting, and four for larceny and other offences.

Much injury has been done to the buildings on the north side of the river by the shots from our forts and block-houses. Scarce a house has escaped, and many are completely riddled. The enemy's batteries and the buildings in their rear evince the skill and judgment of captain *Alexander Brooks*, commanding officer of the artillery, and of the excellent corps under his command. The enemy declared we had French artillerymen. Nine dwelling houses, 13 stores and shops, and two barns, together with the court-house and jail, were burned—some of them on account of their covering the enemy's advance, and others by accidental shots.

*Erie, Oct. 14.* On Sunday the *Lawrence*, *Lady Prevost* and *Porcupine* sailed for Portage river. They will transport about 1000 prisoners (those taken by *Perry* and *Harrison* last fall) from that place to Canada.

BRITISH ACCOUNT OF THE ATTACK ON BALTIMORE.

*Halifax September 28.*

This morning arrived his majesty's ships *Tonnant*,

vice-admiral sir A. Cochrane; Surprise and Diomedea from the Chesapeake.

An officer of one of the ships has obligingly favored us with the following interesting account of an attack made by the British forces upon Baltimore.

Sir Alexander Cochrane and major general Ross, having resolved upon making a demonstration on the city of Baltimore, which might if circumstances justified it; be converted into a real attack—on the 11th inst. the fleet entered the Patapsco, and the frigates, smaller ships of war, and transports, proceeded up the river, to an advantageous situation for landing the troops, &c. Early on the morning of the 12th the disembarkation took place, without opposition, of the army, 600 seamen, the 2d battalion marines, and those of the squadron—the whole under the command of general Ross, who was accompanied by rear-admiral Cockburn—soon after the landing was effected, sir A. Cochrane shifted his flag from the *Tonnant* to the *Surprise*, and followed by the bombs, rocket ships, &c. passed up the river, with the view of co-operating with the troops. At day-light on the 14th the melancholy intelligence of the death of general Ross was announced on board the *Surprise*, he received his fatal wound from a musket ball, while engaged with a small party, in reconnoitering the positions of the enemy, and closed his valuable life before he could be brought off to the ship. Colonel Brook succeeded to the command, and immediately pushed on to within five miles of Baltimore, where the enemy (about 6 or 7000) had taken up an advanced and strong position; here the enemy was attacked with an impetuosity that obliged him to give way, and retreat rapidly in every direction, leaving on the field of battle a considerable number of killed and wounded and two pieces of cannon.

At the dawn of the next day, the bomb vessels having taken their stations, supported by the *Surprise* and the other frigates, opened a heavy fire (within shell range) upon the fort that defended the entrance of the harbor of Baltimore, which had the effect of shewing the strength and fortifications of the enemy; on the land side the town was defended by a *chain of redoubts connected by a breastwork, a large train of artillery, and a force apparently of from 15 to 20,000 men*; the entrance of the harbor was obstructed by a barrier of sunken vessels, defended by gun-boats, and flanked by powerful batteries.

These circumstances preventing any effectual co-operation from his majesty's ships, and it being considered that without it there was too great a disparity of force to justify an attack by the army upon the above positions of the enemy—and as a primary object of the expedition had been accomplished—it was thought proper to withdraw the troops—and the next morning they embarked without the least annoyance from the enemy.

The result of the demonstration has been the defeat of the army of the enemy—the destruction by themselves of a quantity of shipping; of an extensive rope-walk, and other public erections—harrassing the armed inhabitants of the surrounding country, and drawing off their attention from other important points.

Our loss on the occasion we are happy to learn, did not exceed, in killed and wounded 250 men.

[A letter from Washington says general Ross was killed by a shot from a boy behind a tree.]

About 250 American prisoners had been lately sent to England. Several hundred negroes arrived in the last vessels from the Chesapeake.

The preceding is what admiral *Cochrane's* seamen will call a "*tough yarn*," and is essentially false in many of its particulars. But it is useless to point them out—we have already given a full and faithful

account of the affair, and the curious may compare the one with the other. The thing is expressly calculated to throw a veil over the matter, and *John Bull* (who believes any thing) will swallow it as the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth—though it is neither of the three.

The following amount of property was taken from on board the enemy's fleet recently captured by com. Macdonough on lake Champlain—

11,200 wt. of powder, exclusive of fixed ammunition.

Between 80 and 90,000 wt. of balls.

6000 muskets.

600 suits sailors clothing.

And the winter clothing of the whole of the land army.

These are glorious and important spoils.

NEW BEDFORD—From the *New Bedford Mercury*—“MR. LINNEX is requested by one of his subscribers to insert in his paper, that the doctor of the private *Saratoga* (now fitting for a cruise at Fairhaven) applied some days since, to several apothecaries of this place for a *medicine chest*; all of whom peremptorily refused supplying him with that article, or with any drugs or medicines for the use of the privateer.”

We think the gentlemen did themselves much credit; and we hope their example will be followed by the citizens of this place generally. Let it be distinctly understood, that privateers cannot obtain supplies of any kind at this place, and we shall no longer be infested with those nuisances. Let them fit and refit from that sink of corruption, that *Sodom* of our country, called *Baltimore*, and not by seeking refuge here, put in jeopardy our shipping and our town, and necessitate our yeomanry at this busy season to leave their farms uncultivated to defend our harbor, which were it not a place of refuge for what has been emphatically denominated “licensed pirates,” would not need a soldier to insure its safety.

#### A SHIP OWNER.

The enemy himself, (as indeed do all civilized people) so far respects the character of a *surgeon* as to give up his person, without exchange. But Americans to Americans refuse even medicines for the sick!—These folks profane the name of *Washington*—let us hear what he said on such things—“The very idea of ‘the power and the right of the people to establish government (said president Washington) pre-supposes the duty of every individual to obey the established government. All obstructions to the execution of the laws—all combinations and associations, under whatever plausible character, with the real design ‘to direct, controul, counteract, or awe, the regular ‘liberation and action of the constituted authorities, are destructive of this fundamental principle ‘and of fatal tendency.”

A Paris paper of May 13, says—The king has named mons. D'Ambray, Chancellor of France, all the members of the provisional council of state, as well as the chancellor and M. Ferrand, ministers of state; M. the prince of Benevento, minister and secretary of state for foreign affairs; M. the abbe Montesquieu, minister and secretary of state for the interior; general count Dupont, minister and secretary of state for the war department; the baron Louis, minister and secretary of state for the Finances; baron Malouet, minister and secretary of state for the Marine; count Bengot, director general of the Police; M. Ferrand, director general of the Posts; M. Berenger, director general of Indirect Imposts.

A number of French fishermen have reached the banks of *Newfoundland*.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 8 OF VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 164.]

*Hec olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

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## Legislature of Massachusetts.

### GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

*Gentlemen of the senate, and gentlemen of the house of representatives*—Since our late adjournment, such important changes have taken place in the state of our public affairs, and the war in which we have been unhappily involved, has assumed an aspect so threatening and destructive, that the council unanimously concurred with me in their opinion that an extraordinary meeting of the legislature was indispensable.

At different times, and for short periods some of the troops of the United States, had been stationed within this commonwealth; but most of them having been withdrawn for the purpose of aiding in the operations against Canada, it was found necessary in the course of the last session of the general court, and afterwards, to call out a number of the militia for the protection of the most exposed places of our maritime frontier, and to furnish their inhabitants with such other means of defence as the circumstances of the state would authorize.

Brigadier general Cushing, while he was superintendent of this military district, informed me that he expected an order from the president of the United States to request a detachment from the militia of this commonwealth for the defence of the sea-coast, and particularly of this town; and stated that the number of the United States' troops in the two forts in this harbor was not more than sufficient to man one of them. He proposed that one of the forts should be occupied by the militia, and agreed that when called out they should be subject to the command of no officers of the United States' army, except the superintendent of this military district. Though it was supposed that in ordinary cases the militia were not liable by the constitution to do garrison duty in the forts of the United States, yet as the defence of this town was a primary object with the government of the state, and we possessed no other means of strengthening the forts at the entrance of the harbor, I agreed that the proposed detachment should be made upon the terms before mentioned.

After I had left Boston, I received a letter from major general Dearborn, who had succeeded general Cushing as superintendent of this military district, dated on the 8th of July, in which, by order of the president, he request-

ed me to detach eleven hundred of the militia to occupy the forts in the harbor of Boston and other points on the sea-coast of the state. I immediately wrote to the adjutant general requesting him, if he could make such arrangements with general Dearborn as had been proposed by general Cushing, to issue the necessary orders for making the detachments. A general order was accordingly issued for that purpose on the 18th July.

On the 4th of September I received a letter of that date from general Dearborn, stating that he had received information of the enemy's having taken possession of Castine with a formidable force, and that it was not improbable his views might extend to our principal towns on the sea coast, and requesting me to order out for the service of the United States, two thousand infantry and two hundred artillery of the militia of this state exclusive of the town of Boston, for the defence of this harbor, town and vicinity, and the same numbers for the defence of Portland and its vicinity and the sea-board between Kennebeck and the Penobscot rivers; and two hundred infantry and fifty artillery from Kittery, Berwick and York to aid in the defence of the harbor and the public ships in the harbor of Portsmouth. But such objections and complaints had arisen in executing the general order of the 18th of July, and the whole number proposed to be called out, was so great that the council, whose attention was requested to this subject, unanimously advised me to issue the general order of the 6th of September, and to place the detachment made by virtue of it, under the immediate command of a major general of the militia. The alacrity with which this and other similar orders were obeyed, has been highly honorable to the militia of the state. Measures were also taken to call out for the protection of the towns on the sea-coast in the district of Maine a part of the militia of that district. I immediately addressed a letter to Mr. Monroe, the acting secretary of war, inclosing the last mentioned general order, and requesting to be informed whether the expense thus necessarily incurred for our protection would be ultimately reimbursed to this state by the United States. A copy of this letter, and the secretary's answer to it, and of the general order of September 6th, with such official information as I have received concerning the capture of Eastport and Castine, and other hostile events which have taken place in the

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Though this paper bears date of Saturday, October 29, for the sake of uniformity, it was not really published until November 23

eastern parts of the state since the capture of Eastport, and also a letter from the governor of Rhode-Island and the reply to it will be laid before you by the secretary.

In the defensive measures which have been adopted, and which for the most part have been under the immediate direction of the commissioners for the defence of the sea-coast, we have been solicitous to avoid unnecessary expense. But the apprehensions of an attack in every part of our coast, and the pressing calls for the means of defence from the exposed towns through an extent of five or six hundred miles, have made it necessary to call out a greater number of our militia than have been in service at any former period. It is an obvious reflection, that the limited sources of revenue which the state has retained in its own power, bear no proportion to the expenses hereby incurred, and if those efforts are much longer required, the state will find it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to provide even in the first instance for the requisite expenditures.

By a law of congress, passed at their last session, it is enacted, that in addition to the officers of the militia which had before been provided for, there shall be in each division one division inspector, and one division quartermaster, to each brigade, one aid-de camp. But no provision has been made directing the manner in which those officers shall be appointed.

The situation of this state is peculiarly dangerous and perplexing. We have been led by the terms of the constitution to rely on the government of the Union to provide for our defence. We have resigned to that government the revenues of the state, with the expectation that this object would not be neglected. But the government has declared war against the most powerful maritime nation, whose fleets can approach every section of our extended sea-coasts and we are disappointed in our expectations of national defence. But though we may be convinced that the war in its commencement was unnecessary and unjust, and has been prosecuted without any useful or practicable object with the inhabitants of Canada, while our sea-coast has been left almost defenceless; and though in a war thus commenced we may have declined to afford our voluntary aid to offensive operations, yet I presume there will be no doubt of our right to defend our dwellings and possessions against any hostile attack by which their destruction is menaced. Let us then, relying on the support and direction of Providence, unite in such measures for our safety, as the times demand, and the principles of justice and the law of self-preservation will justify. To your wisdom and patriotism the interests of the state are confided, and the more valuable those interests are, the more solicitous you will be to guard and preserve them. **CALEB STRONG.**  
October 5, 1814.

## Cruise of the Wasp.

*Copy of a letter from captain Johnson Blakeley to the secretary of the navy.*

U. S. S. Wasp, L'Orient, 8th July, 1814.

SIR—On Tuesday the 28th ult. being then in lat. 48, 36, N. and long. 11, 15, W. we fell in with, engaged, and after an action of 19 minutes captured his Britannic majesty's sloop of war the Reindeer, William Manners, esq. commander. Annexed are the minutes of our proceeding on that day, prior to and during the continuance of the action.

Where all did their duty and each appeared anxious to excel, it is very difficult to discriminate. It is, however, only rendering them their merited due, when it is declared of lieuts. Kelly and Bury, 1st and 3d of this vessel, and whose names will be among those of the conquerors of the Guerrier and the Java; and of Mr. Tillinghast, 2nd lieutenant, who was greatly instrumental in the capture of the Boxer; that their conduct and courage on this occasion fulfilled the highest expectation and gratified every wish. Sailing-master Carr is also entitled to great credit for the zeal and ability with which he discharged his various duties.

The cool and patient conduct of every officer and man while exposed to the fire of the shifting gun of the enemy and without an opportunity of returning it, could only be equalled by the animation and ardor exhibited when actually engaged, or by the promptitude and firmness with which every attempt of the enemy to board was met and successfully repelled. Such conduct may be seen, but cannot well be described.

The Reindeer mounted sixteen 24 lb. carronades, two long six or nine pounders, and a shifting 12 pound carronade, with a compliment on board of one hundred and eighteen men. Her crew were said to be the pride of Plymouth.

Our loss in men has been severe, owing in part to the proximity of the two vessels and the extreme smoothness of the sea, but chiefly in repelling boarders. That of the enemy, however, was infinitely more so as will be seen by the list of killed and wounded on both sides.

Six round shot struck our hull, and many grape which did not penetrate far. The foremast received a 24lb shot, which passed through its centre, and our rigging and sails were a good deal injured.

The Reindeer was literally cut to pieces in a line with her ports; her upperworks, boats and spare spars were one complete wreck.—A breeze springing up next afternoon her foremast went by the board.

Having received all the prisoners on board, which from the number of wounded occupied much time, together with their baggage, the Reindeer was on the evening of the 29th set on fire and in a few hours blew up.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,  
your most obedient servant,

J. BLAKELEY.

Hon. William Jones,  
Secretary of the navy.

Minutes of the action between the United States' S. Wasp, and H. B. M. S. Reindeer, on the 28th June, 1814, lat. 48, 36, N. long. 11, 15, W.

At 4 A. M. light breezes and cloudy; at 4-4 after 4 discovered two points before the lee beam, kept away in chase, shortly after discovered one sail, on the weather beam; altered the course and hauled by in chase of the sail to windward. At 8 sail to windward bore E. N. E. wind very light; at 10 the stranger sail bearing E. by N. hoisted an English ensign and pendent, and displayed a signal at the main (blue and yellow diagonally). Meridian light airs and clouds, at half past 12, P. M. the enemy showed a blue and white flag, diagonally, at the fore, and fired a gun, 1 h. 15 m.—called all hands to quarters and prepared for action, 1 h. 22 m.—believing we could weather the enemy, tacked ship and stood for him, 1 h. 30 m.—the enemy tacked ship and stood from us, 1 h. 56 m.—hoisted our colors and fired a gun to windward, which was answered by the enemy with another to windward, 2 h. 30 m.—the enemy still standing from us—set the royals, 2 h. 25 m.—set the flying jib, 2 h. 29 m.—set the upper staysails, 2 h. 32 m.—the enemy having tacked for us, took in the staysails, 2 h. 7 m. furled the royals, 2 h. 51 m. seeing that the enemy would be able to weather us, tacked ship, 3 h. 3 m.—the enemy hoisted his flying jib; brailed up our mizen, 3 h. 15 m.—the enemy on our weather quarter, distant about 60 yards, fired his shifving gun, a 12 pound caronade at us, loaded with round and grape shot from his top-gallant fore-castle, 3 h. 17 m.—fired the same gun a second time, 3 h. 19 m.—fired it a third time, 3 h. 21 m.—fired it a fourth time, 3 h. 24 m.—a fifth shot, all from the same gun.—Firing the enemy did not get sufficiently on the beam to enable us to bring our guns to bear, put the helm a-lee, and at 25 minutes after 3, commenced the action with the after caronade on the starboard side, and fired in succession 3 h. 4 m.—hauled up the mainsail, 3 h. 40 m. the enemy having his larboard bow in contact with our larboard quarter endeavored to board us, but was repulsed in every attempt—at 3 h. 44 m. orders were given to board in turn, which were promptly executed, when all resistance immediately ceased, and at 3 h. 45 m. the enemy hauled down his flag.

J. BLAKELEY.

List of killed and wounded on board the United States' sloop of war the Wasp, Johnston Blakeley, esquire, commander, in action with his Britannic majesty's sloop of war the Reindeer, on the 28th June, 1814.

Killed—Timothy Stevens, Thomas R. Peck, seaman; Joseph Vorse, Thomas Knight, John Brown, 2d. o. seaman.

Wounded—Henry S. Langdon, maddisipian, dangerously; Frank Teseau, do. do.; John Swett, master's mate, slightly; William Thompson, boatswain's mate, severely; John Dick, gr. master, do.; Nathl. Scammon, seaman, do.; Joshua Perkins, do. dangerously (since dead); William Preston, do. slightly; Charles Green, do. dangerously (since dead); Charles Clinton, do. slightly; Andrew Passenger, do. severely; John Rowe, do. slightly; Joseph Atkins, do. dangerously (since dead); Robert Lowther, do. slightly; Morrel Roberts, do. do. Robert Jarvis, o. seaman, severely; Henry Herbert, do. dang. rously; Simon Cassels, do. severely; John C. Thirston, do. dang. rously; Caleb Wheeod, do. severely; John Ball, boy, dangerously (since dead).

Recapitulation on.

Killed 5

Wounded 21

List of killed and wounded on board his Britannic majesty's sloop of war the Reindeer, in action with the United States' sloop of war the Wasp, on the 28 June, 1814.

Killed—William Mannors, esq. commander; John Thos. Parcon, and 23 petty officers and seamen.

Wounded—Cass. Chambers, 1st lieutenant; Richard Jones, master and forty petty officers and seamen.

Recapitulation.

Killed 23

Dang. rously 10

Severely 17

Slightly 15

Whole number wounded, 42

N. B. More than half the wounded were, in consequence of the severity and extent of their wounds, put on board a Portuguese brig called the Lisbon Packet, on the third day after the action, to wit, 1st July, bound to Plymouth, England.

Copy of a letter from capt. J. Blakeley to the secretary of the navy

U. S. S. Wasp, L'Orient, 8th July, 1814.

Sir—I have the honor to announce to you the arrival of this ship to-day at this place.—By the pilot who carried us out of Portsmouth N. H. I had the satisfaction to make you acquainted with our having left that place, and again had the pleasure of addressing you by

the French national brig Olive, and which was the first vessel we had spoken since our departure from the United States. From the time of our sailing I continued to follow the route pointed out in your instructions, until our arrival at this place, during which we have been so fortunate as to make several captures; a list of which will accompany this.—These with their cargoes were wholly destroyed, with one exception. This was the Galliot Henrietta, which was permitted to return with the prisoners, thirty-eight in number, after throwing overboard the greater part of her cargo, leaving only a sufficient to ballast her. When arrived on our cruising ground I found it impossible to maintain any thing like a station, and was led, in chase, farther up the English channel than was intended. After arriving on soundings, the number of neutrals which are now passing kept us almost constantly in pursuit. It gives me much pleasure to state to you the very healthy condition of the crew of the Wasp during the cruise. Sometimes without one on the sick list and at no time any who remained there more than a few days. Great praise is due to Dr. Clark for his skill and attention at all times; but particularly after the action with the Reindeer, his unwearied assiduity to the necessities of the wounded was highly conspicuous.

The ship is at present under quarantine, but we expect to be released from it to-morrow, when the wounded will be sent to the hospital, and every exertion made to prepare the Wasp for sea.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,  
your most obedient servant,

J. BLAKELEY.

The honorable Wm. Jones,  
Secretary of the navy, Washington.

A list of British vessels captured by the United States' Sloop Wasp J. Blakeley, Esq. commander, between 1st May and 6th July 1814.

June 2d, Bark Neptune, John Menfrew master, John Derryhouse, Gilbert Henderson, John Whiting and major Dawson officers, 13 men, 367 tons, laden with sundries, belonging to Liverpool, and bound from Cork to Halifax, 12 days out—burnt.

June 13th, Brig William, Daniel Rankin master, William James and Daniel Rankin owners, 6 men, 91 tons, laden with barley, belonging to Dumbarton, and bound from Limerick to Lisbon six days out—burnt.

June 18th, Brig Pallus, D. L. Cargill master, D. L. Cargill owner, 8 men, 151 tons, 2 long six pounders, laden with skins, almonds &c. belonging to Arbroath, and bound from Magadore to London 16 days out—scuttled.

June 23d, Galliot Henrietta, John Thompson master, Robert Montgomery and Robert Greenlaw owners, 11 men, 171 tons, laden with provisions, belonging to Belfast, and bound from B. Blast to Guadalope, 6 days out—given up to prisoners.

June 26th, Ship Orange Haven, Stephen Redden master, William Banks, Thomas Thatcher and William A. Moore owners, 17 men, 325 tons, 3 long nine pounders and 6 six's, laden with sugar and coffee, belonging to Bermuda, and bound from Bermuda to London, 29 days out—scuttled.

June 28th, Brig Reindeer, Wm. Mannors, Esq. H. B. Majesty's owner, 118 men, 392 tons, 2 long six pounders, 16 24 pound carronades, 1 12 pound caronade, 2 brass 4 pounders, bound from Plymouth on a cruise, 6 days out—burnt.

July 4th, Brig Regulator, Robert Fildes master, John Anderson and James Rossion owners, 8 men, 13 tons, laden with pig wire, belonging to Liverpool, and bound from Oporto to London, 12 days out—burnt.

July 6th, Schooner Jenny, Thos. Spearpoint master, Thos. Spearpoint owner, 16 men, 151 tons, laden with sweet oil, bound from Plymouth, and bound from L. Ghorn to St. Peter's Bay, 35 days out—scuttled.

Copy of a letter from capt. Blakely to the secretary of the navy.

U. S. S. Wasp, L'Orient, 10th July, 1814.

SIR—After the capture of his Britannic majesty's sloop of war the Reindeer, it was my wish to have continued the cruise as directed by you. I was however necessitated to relinquish this desire after a few days, from a consideration of the wounded of our crew, whose wounds had at this season become offensive, and aggravated by the number of prisoners on board at the time, being seventy-seven in number. Fearing, from the crowded state of the Wasp, that some valuable lives might be lost if retained on board, I was compelled though with reluctance to make the first neutral port. Those belonging to the Reindeer, who were dangerously wounded, were put on board a Portuguese brig bound to England three days after the action, and from the winds which prevailed arrived probably in two or three days after their departure. Their surgeon, the captain's clerk, with the captains and officers servants, and the crew of the Orange Boven, were put on board the same vessel to attend upon them. Since our arrival at this place we have experienced every civility from the public authorities, our quarantine was only for a few hours, and our wounded, fourteen in number, were carried yesterday to the hospital where they were comfortably situated. Our foremast although badly wounded can be repaired, and will be taken on shore as soon as possible. All the other damages sustained can be repaired by ourselves.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. BLAKELEY.

Hon. Wm. Jones, secretary of the navy.

## Mr. Jefferson's Library.

MR. JEFFERSON'S OFFER OF CONGRESS OF HIS LIBRARY.  
*Abolivello, September 21, 1814.*

DEAR SIR—I learn from the newspapers that the vandalism of our enemies has triumphed at Washington over science as well as the arts, by the destruction of the public library, with the noble edifice in which it was deposited. Of this transaction, as of that of Copenhagen, the world will entertain but one sentiment. They will see a nation suddenly withdraw from a great war, full armed and full handed, taking advantage of another whom they had recently forced into it, unarmed and unprepared to indulge themselves in acts of barbarism which do not belong to a civilized age. When Van Quent destroyed their shipping at Chatham, and De Ruyter rode triumphantly up the Thames, he might, in like manner, by the acknowledgment of their own historians, have forced all their ships up to London bridge, and there have burnt them, the tower, and city, had these examples been then set. London, when thus menaced, was near a thousand years old; Washington but in its teens.

I presume it will be among the early objects of congress to recommence their collection. This will be difficult while the war continues, and intercourse with so much risk. You know my collection, its condition and extent. I have been 50 years making it, and have spared no pains, opportunity, or expense to make it as is. While residing in Paris I devoted every afternoon I was disengaged for a summer or two, in examining all the principal book-stores turning over every book with my own hands, and putting by every thing which related to America, and indeed whatever was rare and valuable in every science; besides this, I had standing orders, during the whole time I was in Europe in its principal book-marts,

particularly Amsterdam, Frankfort, Madrid and London, for such works relating to America as could not be found in Paris. So that, in that department particularly, such a collection was made as probably can never again be effected; because it is hardly probable that the same opportunities, the same time, industry, and perseverance and expense with some knowledge of the bibliography of the subject would again happen in concurrence. During the same period, and after my return to America I was led to procure also whatever related to the duties of those in the highest concerns of the nation, so that the collection, which I suppose is of between 9 and 10,000 volumes, while it includes what is chiefly valuable in science and literature generally, extends more particularly to whatever belongs to the American statesman; in the diplomatic and parliamentary branches, it is particularly full. It is long since I have been sensible it ought not to continue private property, and had provided at my death, congress should have the refusal of it, at their own price; but the loss they have now incurred makes the present, the proper moment for their accommodation without regard to the small remnant of time, and the barren use of my enjoying it. I ask of your friendship, therefore, to make for me the tender of it to the library committee of congress, not knowing myself, of whom the committee consists; I enclose you a catalogue, which will enable them to judge of its contents, nearly the whole are well bound, abundance of them elegantly, and of the choicest editions. They may be valued by persons named by themselves, and the payment made convenient to the public; it may be for instance, in such annual instalments as the law of congress has left at their disposal, or in stock of any of their late loans, or of any loan they may institute at this session so as to spare the present calls of our country, and await its days of peace and prosperity. They may enter nevertheless, into immediate use of it, as 18 or 20 waggons would place it in Washington in a single trip of a fortnight. I should be willing, indeed, to retain a few of the books to amuse the time I have yet to pass, which might be valued with the rest, but not included in the sum of valuation until they should be restored at my death, which I would carefully provide for, so that the whole library, as it stands in the catalogue at this moment, should be theirs, without any gabbling. Those I should like to retain would be chiefly classical and mathematical, some few in other branches, and particularly one of the five Encyclopedias in the catalogue; but this, if not acceptable, would not be urged. I must add, that I have not revised the library since I came home to live, so that it is probable some of the books may be missing, except in the chapters of law and divinity, which have been revised, and stand exactly as in the catalogue which will of course be needed, whether the tender be accepted or not. I do not know that it contains any branch of science which congress would wish to exclude from their collection. There is in fact no subject to which a member of congress may not have occasion to refer. But such a wish would not correspond with my views of preventing its dismemberment. My design is either to place it in their hands entire, or preserve it so here. I am engaged in making an Alphabetical Index of the authors' names to be annexed to the catalogue, in order to facilitate the finding their works in the catalogue, which I will forward to you as soon as completed. Any agreement you shall be so good as to take the trouble of entering into with the committee, I hereby confirm. Accept the assurance of my great esteem and respect.

(Signed)

TH. JEFFERSON.

Lawrence H. Smith, copy.

## The new British Dominion!

GOVERNOR SHELBROOKE'S PROCLAMATION.

From the Halifax Royal Gazette of Sept. 24.

By Lieutenant general Sir John Coape Sherbrooke, knight of the most honorable order of the Bath, lieutenant governor and commander in chief in and over his majesty's provinces of Nova Scotia, commanding a division of his Britannic majesty's forces; and by Edward Griffith, esquire, rear admiral of the white, commanding a squadron of his Majesty's ships of war, employed in taking possession of the eastern side of Penobscot river, and all the country lying between the same river and the boundary line of the the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c.

## A PROCLAMATION

Whereas we have taken formal possession, for his majesty, of all the eastern side of the Penobscot river, and all the country lying between the same river and the boundary line of the Province of New-Brunswick, including Long-Island, and all the other Islands near and contiguous to the shores thereof:

And whereas it is expedient and necessary that a provisional government be established in that country until his majesty's pleasure shall be known—we do therefore order and command, for the present, and until further orders to the contrary, all judges, justices of the peace, and other officers duly commissioned and appointed to keep the peace, and administer justice and who were acting under the authority of the government within that country, still to continue in authority until his majesty's pleasure shall be further known, and to administer justice and preserve peace and good order within the same country, and every part thereof, agreeably to the laws, usage and customs in force at the time we took possession of that country; subject, however, to such future orders and alterations as may be expedient. And we have appointed Gerard Gosselin, esq. major-general in his majesty's service, or whoever may succeed to the military command in case of his death or departure, to command and govern that country, until his majesty's pleasure shall be further known, or until the commander in chief of his majesty's forces shall make other order to the contrary. And we strictly enjoin and command all persons of every description, dwelling and residing within the limits of the before described country, to pay obedience to this Proclamation, and to the said Gerard Gosselin, or to the senior officer commanding that country for time being, and to conduce themselves peaceably and quietly. And if any person or persons, residing or inhabiting within the country before described, shall hereafter be found in arms against his majesty, or aiding or assisting his majesty's enemies in any other shape, either by conveying intelligence, or otherwise, such person or persons shall be immediately brought before a court martial, and on conviction, shall be punished agreeably to military law. And all collectors and receivers of the public revenue of that country, are enjoined and commanded immediately to render to the proper officer of his majesty's customs, appointed for that purpose at Castine, a true and exact account of all and every sum or sums of public money in their hands at the time possession was taken of that country for his majesty, and to pay over the same to the said officer of the customs: and all such collectors and receivers are to account for, and pay over in the same manner all monies by them collected or received since possession of that country was taken by us as aforesaid. And all persons inhabiting within the said country and islands are required to appear, before the proper officers appointed for that purpose, as speedily as possible after the publication

hereof, and to take an oath to behave peaceably and quietly, and while inhabiting and residing within that country, not to carry arms, or in any respect act hostile against his majesty, or any of his subjects. And such inhabitants, taking such oath shall be protected in their persons and properties, until his majesty's pleasure shall be known; nothing however, herein contained, is to extend to any property seized and taken as prize previous to the publication hereof, or to the security of the persons or property of those who refuse to take the oath before mentioned. And all and every person or persons not being an inhabitant or inhabitants of that country, at the time it was taken possession of by his majesty's forces, whether such person be a British subject or otherwise, who shall be found sojourning in that country, within the said limits, or passing or re-passing within the same without a proper pass, and licence granted, either by the governor in chief of British North America; or by the admiral commanding in chief his majesty's ships on the coast of North America, or by the lieutenant-governors, or commanders in chief for the time being, of the provinces of Nova Scotia, or New-Brunswick, or by the admiral commanding for the time being at Halifax, or from the said Gerard Gosselin, or whoever may succeed him as senior officer commanding within the said country, shall be immediately apprehended and brought to trial before a court martial, and punished as for a breach of orders, according to military law; and full power and authority is hereby granted to the said Gerard Gosselin, or whoever may hereafter be commander in that country, until his majesty's pleasure be known, to compel any person or persons, who may hereafter be guilty of any hostile, disorderly, or disobedient conduct, or who refuse to take the oath before directed, to be removed from that country, and to punish such person or persons, who may return to the same, after such removal, according to military law, as for a breach of orders. And all persons inhabiting or residing within that country, being owner or owners of any ship or ships, vessel or vessels, and who shall have taken the oath of allegiance to his majesty, shall be entitled to receive from the officer of the customs appointed at Castine, a certificate, and coasting licence, countersigned by the military officer commanding in that country for the time being, which shall protect such ships or vessels respectively, in fishing or coasting from one harbor or river to the other, within the limits of the country aforesaid; and it shall be lawful for such vessels when furnished with coasting clearances, and permits from the proper officer of the customs at Castine aforesaid, to carry without molestation, from one harbor to another within said district, the produce of that country, or any goods, wares or merchandize, lawfully imported into Castine. Provided always that if any ship or vessel so licensed for fishing or coasting shall be found at the distance of ten leagues from the shore of said country, or to the southward, or westward of the eastern side of Monhegan island, or shall be found to the northward or eastward of the line of the province of New-Brunswick, the licence of such vessel or vessels, shall be null and void, and it shall be lawful to seize and make prize of such vessel or vessels, the same as if owned by the enemy.

And it shall and may be lawful, until his majesty's pleasure shall be known, for any British subject, or person inhabiting within the said country, who shall be admitted to the privilege of a British subject, to import and bring from the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or any of the colonies or plantations thereto belonging into the port of Castine, and no other port or place within the said district, in British ships, owned and navigated according to

law, all goods, wares and merchandize, which can be lawfully exported from Great Britain and Ireland, to the British colonies; and all goods, wares and merchandize, which can be lawfully imported from one British colony to another; and to export in like manner, in British ships only, from the port of Castine, any goods, wares or merchandize, the produce of the said country, or goods condemned as prize, and to carry the same to Great Britain or Ireland, or any of the British colonies. Provided always, that any British ship, entering or attempting to enter, any other port, harbor or place, within the limits of the said country, save said port of Castine, shall be liable to be seized as prize, and condemned as a British ship trading with the enemy; and provided also that nothing herein contained shall authorise British subjects, or persons trading to that country under the authority of this proclamation, to take up a residence in said country unless specially licensed for that purpose, as aforesaid.

And all goods imported, and exported, into, or from, the said port of Castine, or carried coastwise or otherwise, shall be subject to all the duties, rules, orders and regulations, which the laws of trade and navigation, and the British acts of parliament regulating the trade and fisheries of the British colonies appoint: and which duties shall be collected, and laws of trade, rules and regulations executed, after the same manner as at the custom-house in Halifax, in the province of Nova Scotia.

And we do assure, and promise the inhabitants of the country taken possession of by us as aforesaid, that so long as they shall conform to this proclamation, and behave themselves peaceably and quietly, and shall take and subscribe either the oath of allegiance to his majesty, or the oath by this proclamation appointed, they shall be protected both in person and property, until his majesty's pleasure shall be known; and as far as possible, shall have the laws which were in force at the time we took possession of that country, carried into execution by the judges, magistrates and peace officers who were in authority at the time we took possession of said country: subject, however, to such alteration and ordinances, as the officer commanding for the time being, may deem necessary and expedient to enable him to support and maintain the power and authority of his majesty, in and over that country, and subject to the authority of that summary and military course of proceeding which the defence of the country may render necessary, and which the laws of war among civilized nations authorise. And we hope that the peaceable demeanor, and behavior of the inhabitants, under present circumstances, will be such as will enable the officer commanding for the time being, to carry into effect every measure necessary to promote their present security and happiness; but nothing contained in this proclamation is to extend, or be construed to extend, to the establishment of any form of government that shall exist longer than until his majesty's pleasure shall be known, and subject to all such orders and regulations as the prince regent of the united kingdom, acting in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, may think expedient to appoint and establish for the permanent government of that country; until which period we promise to carry into effect this proclamation, in every way that will best conduce to the safety and prosperity of the inhabitants of the country, provided they contribute by their peaceable demeanor to the measures necessary and expedient to be taken to hold possession of the country against his majesty's enemies, to which object the officer commanding in that country, for the time being, is to employ his whole force, and any opposition from the inhabi-

tants of that country to the measures necessary to accomplish that object, will render this proclamation null and void.

Given under our hands and seals at arms at Halifax, this 21st day of September, in the 54th year of his majesty's reign, Annoque Domini 1814.

JOHN COAPE SHERBROOKE,  
Lieutenant-general commanding.  
EDWARD GRIFFITH, rear-admiral.

## American Prizes.

CONTINUED [FROM SEPTEMBER 10, to OCTOBER 28, 1814]—PAGE 16.

The winds and seas are Britain's wide domain,  
And not a sail, but by permission spreads!"

*British Naval Register.*

1149. Schooner *Mary*, with dry goods, valued at £8000 sterling, from Jamaica for St. Domingo, sent into New-Orleans, by the *Shark*, of New-York

1150. Brig *Hunter*, 10 guns and 20 men, with fish, captured by the U. S. corvette *Adams* and destroyed.

1151. Brig *Mary*, from France for Newfoundland, captured by the same and ditto.

1152. Schooner *Favorite*, laded with salt, captured by ditto.

1153. Ship *Paris*, with a cargo of lumber and skins, captured by do. and do. The skins, worth \$20,000, taken out.

1154. Schooner *Maria*, with a cargo of lumber, captured by do. and do.

1155. Brig *Maria Wirman*, from Havanna for Scotland, with 15 or 1600 boxes of sugar, sent into Hyannis, by the the *Yankee* of Bristol. This vessel is called a *Swede*.

1156. Cutter *Wasp*, captured by the *Rattlesnake* (privateer) off the British coast and burnt.

1157. Brig *Dover*, of London, captured by the same and ditto.

1158. Brig *Pickle*, captured by the *Pike* of Baltimore and burnt.

1159. Schooner ———, from St. Johns, divested of her valuable articles, by the same, and made a cartel of.

1160. Schooner *Industrious Bee*, captured by the same and burnt.

1161. Schooner *Venus*, captured by ditto and do.

1162. Schooner *Lord Nelson*, captured by ditto and ditto.

1163. Schooner *Hope*, captured by ditto and ditto.

1164. Brig *Jane*, with provisions and dry goods, divested of part of her cargo, by the same, and made a cartel of.

1165. Brig *Orient*, from Portsmouth, (Eng.) for Teneriffe, with some dry goods, captured by the same, divested and scuttled.

1166. Brig *John*, from London for Teneriffe, captured by the same and burnt within gun shot of a British man of war brig.

☞ The *Pike* captured several other vessels which she released, or made cartels of—two or three valuable prizes are yet to be heard of—but the privateer ran ashore on the southern coast, and was taken possession of by some of the enemy vessels. A part of the crew escaped—43 were made prisoners. She parolled 250 prisoners during her cruise.

1167. Brig *Kingston Packet*, with oil and fish, sent into Portland, by the *Fox* of Portsmouth.

1168, 1169, a brig and a schooner sent into Ocracock, laden with fish, by the *Herald* of New-York.

1170. Ship *Samuel Cummings*, 400 tons, laden with sugar and coffee—captured by the *Pike* of Baltimore, but wrecked on the southern coast—part of the cargo saved.

1171. Ship *Five Sisters*, captured by the letter of



marque schooner Dash, divested of 200 puncheons of Jamaica rum, and permitted to proceed.

1172, 1173, 1174, 1175, 1176, 1177, 1178—seven vessels, viz. 1. bark Neptune, 207 tons, from Cork for Halifax, with a cargo of sundries; 2. brig William, laden with barley, from Limerick for Lisbon; 3. brig Pallas, 2 guns, 131 tons, from Mogadore, for London, richly laden with skins, &c. 4. galliot Henr etta, from Belfast for Guadaloupe, laden with provisions; 5. ship Orange Boven, 8 guns, 325 tons, full of sugar and coffee, from Bermuda to London; 6. brig Regulator, 112 tons, laden with port wine, from Oporto to London; 7. schr. Jenny, 151 tons, with a cargo of sweet oil, from Leghorn to London—all captured by the U. S. sloop of war Wasop, on the British coasts, and burnt or scuttled, except the Henrietta made a cartel of.

1179. "His majesty's" sloop of war RENDEER, 21 guns, 118 men, from Plymouth on a cruise, captured by the same, after a short but sharp action, and burnt. See official account.

1180. Schooner ———, captured by the Leach of Salem, and ransomed.

1181. Brig ———, of 200 tons, with a cargo of rum, sugar, molasses, lime-juice and lignum-vita, estimated to be worth \$30,000, sent into Newbern, by the Hero of that place.

1182. Brig Mars, from Mogadore, captured by the David Porter, of Boston, (the Whig of Baltimore in company) divested of a considerable part of her cargo and ordered in.

1183. Brig Cornwallis, captured as above, divested and made a cartel of. She was laden with Barilla.

1184. Ship Vester, from Rio Janeiro for England, 6 guns, captured by the David Porter, divested of her least bulky and most valuable articles and ordered into port.

1185. Brig Horatia, from the same for the same, captured by the same, and ransomed for a bill of \$20,000—cargo, hides and tallow.

☞ The D. P. has several fine prizes yet to be heard of.

1186. Ship Liddle, from Liverpool for Maramichi, captured by the Amelia of Baltimore, divested and given up to release her prisoners.

1187. Ship Jesse, from London for Newfoundland, captured by the same and burnt.

1188. Schooner Mink, laden with flour, a new vessel built on lake Superior, and captured on lake Huron, by the squadron under com. Sinclair, and sent to Erie.

1189. Schooner Perseverance, also laden with provisions, captured on lake Superior by the same and destroyed in attempting to get her down the Falls of St. Mary's.

1190. "His majesty's" schooner Nancy, 3 guns, a fine vessel, richly laden with valuable stores, destroyed by the same at Nautuasaga, on Lake Huron.

☞ There is now no vessel beyond the size of a batteaux belonging to the enemy on the upper lakes, Huron, Michigan and Superior.

1191. Brig Endeavor, a transport vessel, laden with sails, anchors, army stores and coal, captured by the Surprise, of Baltimore, and destroyed on Rockaway beach, near New-York, by the British. Cargo, &c. partially saved.

1192. Cutter Jubilee, from Teneriffe with wine, captured by the Whig of Baltimore, divested of part of her cargo and made a cartel of.

1193. Schooner Alexandria, in ballast, captured by the same and burnt.

1194. Brig Irish Miner, with coal, captured by the same and made a cartel of.

1195. Brig Princess Mary, from Ireland for London, with government provisions, captured by the same and destroyed.

1196. Brig Eliza, from the same to the same, with stores, captured by the same—cargo thrown overboard and vessel made a cartel of.

1197. Schooner Esperance from Chalon Bay for Corunna, captured by the same and destroyed.

1198. Ship London, from Maramichi for Liverpool, with timber, captured by the same and burnt.

1199. Ship Postethwell, from Cork for Maramichi, in ballast, captured by the same and burnt.

The Whig, made several prizes yet to be heard of, and has arrived at New-York, with some goods and 23 prisoners; she also made some prizes in co. with the David Porter, mentioned above.

1200. Brig Nancy, from Liverpool, for Halifax, laden with dry goods, captured by the Portsmouth, of Portsmouth, divested of 313 bales and packages of goods invoiced at £27,000 sterling, and ordered in. This is a great prize, well accounted for, as the privateer with her rich spoils has safely arrived.

1201. A sloop from Halifax, captured by the same, divested of her valuable goods, and given up to the prisoners.

1202. Schooner Columbia, from Halifax for Barbadoes, with fish and lumber, worth \$4,000 captured and sent into Newburyport, by the same.

1203. Brig Fire Fly, from Smyrna for London, with a full cargo of drugs, wines and silks, brought into Wilmington, N. C. by the Sabine of Baltimore.

☞ The privateer has safely arrived and has on board the *optima spolia* of the enemy's vessels she took, worth \$100,000.

1204. Brig Mary and Eliza, from Halifax, laden with lumber, &c. captured by the Argo of Baltimore, and chased ashore off Burregat, where she was burnt, or "satisfactorily accounted for."

1205. Schooner ———, with a cargo of provisions, sent into an eastern port by the Portsmouth of Portsmouth, N. H.

1206. Brig Argo, from Dublin, with 100 puncheons Irish whiskey, a quantity of port wine and provisions, sent into Portland, by the Surprise of Baltimore.

1207. Brig ——— laden with rum and molasses, sent into ———, by the Grampus of Baltimore.

1208. "His Majesty's" brig La Confidence, 39 guns, captured on Lake Champlain, by com. Macdonough!

1209. "His Majesty's" brig Linnet, 16 guns, captured on the same by com. Macdonough!

1210. "His Majesty's" sloop Chub, 11 guns, captured on the same by com. Macdonough!!!

1211. "His Majesty's" sloop Finch, 11 guns, captured on the same by com. Macdonough!!!!

1212, 1213, 1214. Three of "his majesty's" galleys, of 2 great guns each, sunk in the same by com. Macdonough!!!!

1215. Sloop Farmer, with provisions, captured by the Mammoth of Baltimore, off Nova Scotia and sunk.

1216. Brig Britania, from St. Andrews for Liverpool, with lumber, captured by the same and burnt.

1217, 1218, 1219. Three other brigs, in ballast, bound to Pictou and Maramichi, captured by the same and burnt.

1220. Privateer *Barons of War*, 3 guns, 40 men, captured in Sappo Sound, by com. of the U. S. gun boats.

1221. East India company's ship *Carriacou* of 2 guns, 66 men, from Batavia for London, with 50 tons of coffee and sugar, and 50 tons of sundries, including 1500*l.* sterling worth of silks, &c. divested of her rich goods, and ordered into port, by the York of Baltimore.

1222. Brig Ceres, of Glasgow, with brandy, &c. divested and given up to release the prisoners, by the same.

☞ The York also captured and ordered in.

1. The brig Harvest, with furs, seal skins, oil and salmon.

2. The brig William, 10 guns, 14 men, from Rio Janeiro, with 350 tons, sugar and coffee and 50 tons sundries.

3. The brig Rover, from Havana for Guernsey, laden with sugar and coffee.

4. Sloop Regulator, of Nantucket, recaptured with a handsome cargo—arrived at Chatham.

☞ The cruises of our privateers, as in a voice of thunder, tells congress how the enemy should be assailed. The prizes of the *Zerkas* worth at least, a million and a half of dollars—It is a chance if either of them arrive, and the proceeds of the cruises may be regained to the enemy, except that part of the richest spoils she is taken with. Let the navy department be directed to fit out

50 such vessels, and, during the coming winter, they will, though "Britain rules the main," sink, burn and destroy, enemy property to the value of 15 or 20 millions of dollars, perhaps. This is the way to fight the English at sea. We have reaped a full harvest of naval glory—and we should now attack the foe in the way that we can do him the most "essential injury." The York did not lose a man during her cruise! She was out 13 weeks.

1223. Brig Queen Charlotte, from St. John's for Yarmouth, divested of a few bales of goods, and destroyed by the surprise of Baltimore.

1224. Ship Milnes, 2 guns, 15 men, from Cork for Quebec, in ballast, captured by the same and burnt.

1225. Brig Lively, from a Marinach for Scotland, with lumber captured by the same and burnt.

1226. Schooner Prince Regent, from Quebec for Scotland, laden with lumber, captured by the same and burnt.

1227. Ship Doris, from Cork for Quebec, in ballast, captured by the same and burnt.

1228. Brig Willing Maid, from Cork for Marinach, by ditto and ditto.

1229. Brig Polly, 4 guns, 15 men, from ditto for ditto, by ditto and ditto.

1230. Schooner Sally, from St. John's for Pictou, by ditto and ditto.

1231. Privateer Lively, 1 gun, 17 men, captured by ditto and brought into Salem.

1232. Ship Caledonia from Cork for Quebec, with dry goods, rum, &c. worth 250,000 dollars, captured by the same, divested of goods to the value of 50,000 dollars, but afterwards retaken by the enemy.

1233, 1234, 1235, 1236. Brigs Eagle, Traveller, Wellington (4 guns, 15 men) and Eliza, captured by the same and made cartels of or given up to release the prisoners.

On the Surprise also captured the Endeavor and Argo. (See Nos. 1191 and 1206.) arrived—the ship Young William, of 10 guns and 17 men, with a full cargo of bread, &c. the brig Albion with wine and fish, and schooner Charlotte Ann, with sugar and wine, which she manned and ordered in, and recaptured the boat Ann. The Surprise has arrived at Salem, with 114 packages of dry goods, besides other articles—her cruise was only of one month—prizes 26; prisoners brought in 37—released 160, total 197; tons of shipping taken 3,700. The day of her arrival she recaptured her prize the Caledonia in the bay, (she had been retaken by the prisoners) took out 60,000 dollars worth of goods and ordered her in again.

A St. John's, N. F. paper, of Sept. 8, mentions the capture of several vessels by the Surprise, and adds:

"Captain Sexton of the Endeavor, Mr. Farlane of the Caledonia, and Reid, of the Milnes, with their crews, were lauded this morning from the brig Traveller.—They speak in the handsomest terms of the politeness and attention they experienced from capt. Barnes and his officers, during the time they were on board the privateer."

1237. Transport ship Stranger, from England for Quebec, laden with 65 pieces of cannon (4232's and 2224's) 370 boxes ammunition, and a great quantity of blankets &c. designed for the enemy's fleet on Ontario, captured by the Fox of Portsmouth and sent into Salem. This prize is indeed, of great value.

1239, 1240, 1241. Three vessels captured by the Spark of New York, off the coast of Portugal, &c. and being of little value, given up. Two others were manned and ordered for the United States.

1241. Ketch Expedition, with 75 pipes of wine and 1150 quintals Barilla, sent into New-York by the Grampus of Baltimore.

1242. Sch. Charlotte Ann, laden with sugar, wine, &c. sent into Saco, by the Surprise of Baltimore.

1243. Schooner —, with some dry goods, &c. sent into Salem, by the Viper of that port.

1244. Brig Eclipse, from Buenos Ayres for Liverpool, laden with 12,000 hides, 16 bales Nutri skins, 60 tons pig iron, horns and specie, armed with 14 guns, 9 pounders, sent into New York by the Chasseur, Boyle, (late of the Comet) of Baltimore.

1245. Brig Catherine and William, of London, laden with dry goods, prize to the Grampus, of Baltimore, lost near Beaufort, S. C. on the 20th ult.

1246. Schooner Retrieve, with a cargo of fish, from St. John's for Martinique, captured by the Fox of Portsmouth and burnt.

1247, 1248, 1249—the Litch Packet, from Tenneriff for Dublin the William and Ann from Glasgow for Clare; and the Peggy and Ann from Liverpool to Limerick, captured by the United States' sloop Peacock, off the coast of Ireland, and sunk.

1250. Cutter Flying Fish with a cargo of sweet oil, &c. captured by the Sabine of Baltimore, and sent into —.

1251. Brig Aaron, with wine and cod-fish, captured by the same, and sent into —.

1252. Brig Harvest, laden with fish, oil, &c. from Newfoundland, sent into —, by the York of Baltimore.

1253, 1254, two ships captured by the Syren, off the British coasts and destroyed.

1255, 1256. The Steady from Bordeaux to Newfoundland, and the James, from St. Jean de Luz, taken and burnt by the Prince of Neufchatel, American privateer, owned by Americans in France, and fitted out at Cherbourg.

1257. Brig Coahers, from Cork for Quebec, with a full cargo of provisions, captured by the Amelia, of Baltimore and burnt.

1258. Brig Harmony, from Alicant for Newfoundland, with salt and some wine, captured by the same, divested of the latter and made a cartel of.

1259. Brig Elizabeth, from Cork for Newfoundland, captured by the same and burnt.

1260. Ship — of 8 guns, from Greenock for Newfoundland, with dry goods, coals and wine—captured by the same, divested of her dry goods, and manned and ordered into port. The Amelia also captured and ordered in the ship Neptune and brig Ann,

with valuable cargoes. She had a smart fight with the Neptune; but no person hurt on either side. When last heard of she had 50 prisoners on board, who were very troublesome—as by manning the prizes she had only 50 of her crew left.

1261. Princess Mary, from Limerick for Plymouth, Enig, captured by the Wlig, of Baltimore, off the British coast, and burnt.

1262. Eliza, from Limerick for London, captured by the same; cargo thrown overboard, and vessel made a cartel of.

1263. Brig Stranger (which sailed in company with the Eclipse, with the same destination, which, probably, a fine valuable cargo) captured by the U. S. sloop Peacock, and burnt.

1264. Schooner —, captured by the Leach, of Salem, divested and given up.

On the West coast a long list of vessels captured or destroyed on the British coasts, where there have lately been many of our privateers.

1265. His majesty's ship Harmes, 28 guns, blown up in Mobile Bay—see Gen. Jackson's official letters.

1266. Sloop Jane, 70 tons, from St. Jean de Luz for Falmouth, with lumber, captured by the privateer Prince of Neufchatel, of New York (originally fitted out in France, by some Americans at Paris, and lost from Cherbourg) and burnt.

1267. Brig Triton, 187 tons, 2 guns, from Calif for London, with a cargo of coffee and wine; captured by the same, some part of the coffee taken out, and sunk.

1268. Transport brig Aaron, 142 tons, 4 guns, from Gibraltar for Lishon in ballast, captured by the same, and burnt.

1269. Brig Apollo, 135 tons, from St. Ubes for Kiga, with a cargo of salt, captured by the same and burnt.

1270. Cutter Gen. Doyle, 87 tons, coppered, from Leghorn for Bristol, with a cargo of oil, captured by the same, and burnt.

1271. Sloop George, 59 tons; from Millin's Haven for Plymouth, with coals, captured by the same and sunk.

1272. Brig Barewick Packet, from Cork for Bristol, in ballast with 50 passengers, captured by the same and made a cartel of.

1273. Brig Sirron, 200 tons, 4 guns from Greenock for Cork, in ballast, captured by the same and sunk.

1274. Brig Nymph, 150 tons, from St. Jean de Luz for Cork, with dry goods, &c. captured by the same, divested of the dry goods, the rest of her cargo thrown overboard, and given up to the prisoners.

1275. Brig Albion, 155 tons, 4 guns, from Greenock for Cork, with dry goods, &c. captured by the same, divested of her richest articles and burnt.

1276. Ship Harmony, 200 tons, 4 guns, from Greenock for Cork, with dry goods and other valuable articles, captured by the same, divested and ordered into port. This vessel was recaptured two or three days after.

1277. Brig Charlotte, 190 tons, 8 guns, from Rio Janeiro, with a cargo of hides, captured by the same and burnt.

1278. Brig Mary Ann, 103 tons from St. John's for Barbadoes, with a cargo of lumber, captured by the same and burnt.

On the Prince of Neufchatel has made several splendid cruises since the war, causing great loss to the enemy. She belongs to the estate of Mrs. Charron of New York, lately deceased. She has been chased by 17 different men of war, during the present cruise—mounted 17 guns, is 310 tons burthen, and hermaphrodite rigged. The goods she has brought in are estimated as worth from 2 to 300,000 dollars, and it was represented she also had a large sum in specie on board. The damage done by her to the enemy during this cruise is equal to a million of dollars at least. She arrived at Boston on the 15th inst. after a desperate battle of which we have the following highly interesting account—sheaving it to have been one of the most splendid victories and hardest fought triumph that has been achieved since the war, for the numbers engaged.

"On the 11th, Nantucket bore N. about 1-4 miles distant from the land—discovered a frigate off Gay Head, which gave chase and came up very fast, with a fresh breeze, while we were becalmed. At 3 P. M. we took the breeze and took the Douglas, four of her prizes in tow, the frigate then about 4 leagues from us. At six set it fell calm. At 7 P. M. was obliged, on account of the current, to come to anchor about musket shot of our prize; and supposing the frigate would send her charges to attempt to capture us, called all hands to quarters and there kept them. At half past 8, P. M. a signal was made from the prize, that the barges were coming to board for them. Soon after discovered them and commenced firing, which they disregarded and were soon alongside—they were five in number, one on each side, and one on each bow, and one on the stern. A warm action was then kept up with muskets, pistols, cutlasses, &c. and in every attempt the enemy made to board he was promptly met and repulsed. About 20 minutes after the commencement, the enemy cried out for quarters, which were granted, and then ended. Of the five barges and launches, (which contained 104 men including officers at the commencement of the action) one was sunk, (with 48 men 2 only of which were saved) 3 drifted off from alongside, apparently with no living man on board, and one was taken possession of. She contained 36 men at the commencement of the action, 8 of which were killed, 20 wounded, and 8 unhurt. It was then ascertained they were from the Endymion and were all armed with pistols, boarding pikes, muskets, cutlasses and blunderbusses. The 2d lieutenant of that frigate, (F. Ormond, who was unhurt) 3 midshipmen, 2 of which were severely wounded, and one master's mate also wounded, were permitted to come on board, the remainder of the prisoners, (15 seamen and marines) were kept in the launch stern all night, after taking out the arms, stores, &c. as the commander dare not trust them on board, having only eight men left fit for duty.

The Prince of Neufchatel had only 33 men, including officers, at quarters, at the commencement of the action, and had on board 37 prisoners. After the action it was ascertained, that 6 of her crew were killed, (as well as Mr. Charles Hilborn, of Nantucket

a pilot, taken out of a fishing vessel) 15 severely wounded, 9 slightly, and 8 unhurt. The next morning the lieutenant, midshipmen and master's mate, signed a paper in behalf of themselves, and the sailors and marines, pledging their honors, not to serve against the United States during the war, unless exchanged; and were towed ashore to Nantucket in the launch, by the Prince of Neufchatel's boat. Shortly after, captain Ordronaux sent 15 of his other prisoners and his fifteen severely wounded men also on shore, and placed the former at the disposal of the marshal, as he did not dare to trust them on board in his then enfeebled situation and soon after got under weigh.

The Prince of Neufchatel has brought in 140 bales, 164 boxes, and 150 trunks of dry goods, 23 casks and 174 boxes sweet oil, and a large quantity of coffee, rum and various other articles, and 20 prisoners. (She arrived at Boston, October 15.)

¶ We learn further, by persons from Nantucket, that the British acknowledge a loss of 33 killed, 37 wounded, and 30 prisoners; among the killed was the first lieutenant of the *Eudymion*, and a master's mate, the 3d lieutenant, 2 master's mates and 1 midshipman wounded. The commander of the frigate said he had lost as many men as he should have done if engaged with a vessel equal to his own, and gave great credit to the officers and crew of the privateer for their gallant defence. They had 111 men in the attack—one of them was wounded by twenty eight musket balls! They said that a part of their men succeeded in gaining the deck of the Prince of Neufchatel, but that the Americans yet rallied and drove them off-board!!

1270. Ship *Douglas*, 10 guns, from Jamaica for England, captured by the same and run ashore on Nantucket, where the cargo was saved. It consisted of 421 lbs. 2 tierces of 1 lb. sugar, 290 pounds rum; 6 lbs. molasses; 254 bales cotton; 422 bags coffee; 3 bags ginger, and 8 logs of mahogany.

1280. Brig *Seely*, 107 tons, 4 guns of 10 lb., from Bordeaux for St. John, N. F. with provisions and bale goods—captured by the same and vested of the dry-goods and burnt.

All the prizes of the Prince of Neufchatel were made in the British and Irish channels, one or two excepted. She also made another letter of marque brig strife, but let her go without taking possession; being engaged in securing a part of the *Harmony's* cargo; some suspicious vessels being also in sight.

1281. Ship *Neptune*, from Greenock for Newfoundland, 40 tons, 8 guns captured by the *Anetia*, of Baltimore, and sent into New-York, her cargo consists of 22 tons sea-coal; 103 boxes, 19 casks, 6 bundles, 4 bales, 3 trunks, 2 lbs. and 1 hamper dry goods; 34 lbs. claret 15 pipes of gin; 10 pipes wine; 60 barrels of pork; 50 do. beef; 48 coils of rope, and 25 barrels of flour.

1282. 1, 183, 1284, 1285, 1286, 1287. Six boats, with 37 armed men captured by a gig of the United States ship *Superior*, with six men, on lake Ontario; laden with wine, brandy, crates, &c. These boats would not have been mentioned but for the value of their cargoes which is estimated at 2,000 dollars.

1285. Schooner *Ann*, with sugar and molasses, from Halifax for the new British port of *Catline*, captured and sent into— as follows: When she sailed, she had on board 4 American seamen, who shipped in Halifax; and when off the mouth of the Penobscot, they rose upon the capt. and remainder of the crew, (6 in number,) confined them below, secured all the fire arms on board, and arrived in safety.

1286. Brig *Susan and Jane*, from Halifax for Sidney, captured by the *Fox* of Portsmouth, and burnt.

1192. Ship *James*, from London for Quebec, with dry-goods, &c. captured by the *Portsmouth*, of Portsmouth, and divested of 290 bales and cases of goods valued at from 3 to 300,000 dollars, and then ordered in. The privateer, with her rich spoils, has safely arrived. The cargo of the *James* was invoiced at 107,000 pounds sterling. She has since arrived at Portsmouth, N. H.

¶ The sale of the goods at Durham, captured by the *Portsmouth* on her former cruise (says a Boston paper) amounted to over 190,000 dollars and allowing the goods she now brought in, to average as much in the sale as those at Durham, (and there is no doubt they will more, as they are better adapted to the season) they will amount to upwards of 362,050, thus netting to the owners and all concerned in that vessel, upwards of 552,000 dollars, in the short space of thirty-three days.

1201. Brig ———, captured by the *Dash* of Portland, and divested of 150 lbs. rum, and given up. The *Dash* has arrived at Wiscasset, to keep us in spirits.

1292. Schooner ———, from Halifax, laden with salmon and herrings, sent into Wilmington, N. C. by a letter of marque schooner from that port.

\* \* We have about forty additional vessels for lists, which must lie over for the next insertion.

## Brown and Chauncey.

Copy of a letter from major-general Brown, to commodore Chauncey, dated

Head-Quarters, Buffalo, Sept. 4, 1814.

Sir—Your letter of the 10th ult. after going the rounds, was delivered to me a few days since, on my way to this place.

The exception you take at my letter to the secretary, would be very reasonable and proper, provided the fleet of lake Ontario was your private property, over which the government had no control. But as I have been induced to believe that it was the property

of the nation, subject to the orders of the government; and as the government led me to believe that the fleet under your command would be upon lake Ontario, to co-operate with my division of the army, the first week in July, I have deemed it fit and proper to let the nation know, that the support I had a right to expect was not afforded.

I consider my conduct towards yourself and the navy, as not only honorable, but, sir, as being very liberal and as friendly, from the date of my report of the battle at Sackett's Harbor to the present hour. The troops under my command have always been disposed of so as to meet your views to the extent of my power and authority; and as far as was consistent with the rights and the honor of the army.

Your information appears very incorrect as to the situation of the army previous to the arrival of reinforcements with Lt. gen. Drummond. From the ninth of July to the 24th, the whole country was in our power from St. George to Burlington Heights; and could the army have been supplied with provisions from the depots provided on the shores of lake Ontario, we should not have doubted our ability (without reinforcements or additional guns) to carry the Heights: when we could have returned upon Forts George and Niagara, or advanced upon Kingston, (as might have been thought most advisable) with the co-operation of the fleet.

You speak of responsibility. I do not desire you, or any man, to be responsible for me. I have endeavored to execute the orders given me; success has not attended my endeavors; but I humbly trust in Heaven that the honor of the brave men entrusted to my command has been and will be preserved, let what may happen.

It will be very difficult to retire from Fort Erie, pressed as the remains of my gallant little army are, by a superior force of the enemy. But no other alternative will be left us, unless reinforcements speedily arrive. The militia are coming in in very considerable numbers, but it is not yet ascertained how many of them will cross. The secretary has given me so understand, that general Izard would move to the St. Lawrence, with a view of attacking Kingston, (should he and you deem that measure advisable.) Should you decide otherwise, that general Izard would come with, or send to me a reinforcement of from two to three thousand men.

I have not heard from general Izard, and begin to apprehend that something has occurred to retard or prevent his movement. I will thank you for any information you can give me on this subject.

I am, sir, with great consideration and respect, your most obedient servant,

JAC. BROWN,

Commodore Isaac Chauncey.

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

ENGLISH NEWS.—We have, via Halifax, London dates of Aug. 25, one vessel of a fleet of 58 sail (including 8 transports with 2000 troops for Quebec) had arrived at Halifax, being separated in a gale.—It is stated, that lord Hill was expected to sail from Cork about the 15th of Sept. with a force of from 15 to 20,000 men. Some of the regiments that are to accompany him are designated. That the British envoys were expected from Ghent; in consequence of which the stocks had experienced considerable depression. Some great mercantile houses, and extensive dealers in stock, have failed. An order from lord Bathurst's office, prohibits all Americans from returning to that country in British packets without permission. British goods are a mere drugg, apparent

by sacrificing for much less than prime cost, throughout the continent of Europe, and also in India.

BRITISH MANUFACTURERS are not received on the continent much more abundantly now, than when Bonaparte's "continental system" was at its height. France utterly refuses them; Germany will export rather than import, and the industry or poverty of other countries, refuses to receive them in competition, or is unable to meet the payment of them.

BRITISH RISKERAGE. The result of the expedition to *Plattsburg*, excites great sensibility in Canada—the papers teem with bold censures on the conduct of Sir *George Prevost*—the army, in the plainest and fullest meaning of the word, was disgraced; more pitifully disgraced than any part of our forces ever has been, the affair at *Detroit* not excepted. If such a disaster had happened us, what a clamor would have been raised about the incompetency of our generals and of our government to carry on the war, by men who feel sorry to notice the "retrograde movement" of "Wellington's invincibles!"

We have laid by and shall publish Sir *George's* "official" story of the matter—it is a queer article. He would make us believe, if we could believe his tale, that he had great difficulty to prevent his troops from capturing *Macomb's* whole force in rather less time than the "twinking of an eye!"—but that, for some strangely-magnanimous purpose, he permitted us to retain for further use, the great quantities of ordnance and stores deposited at *Plattsburg*. Now, this was very clever in Sir *George*. Nay, so considerate was he, that at the very moment we were about to give up our fortifications, and our immense train of artillery, he "thought it necessary to restrain the ardor of his troops!" *Risum teneatis amici?*

The articles that have appeared on this subject in the Canadian papers are very interesting, and shall also be inserted. The writers dolefully complain that such a formidable expedition should have been so ignominiously foiled, by a handful of regulars and a few militia, they affected so much to despise.—When it is known that Sir *George* thought he might march to ALBANY when he started from Canada, and was compelled to run back from *Plattsburg* at the very onset of his career, we may judge of the deep mortification that afflicts the "invincibles." One of these writers says—"Would that a veil could be drawn over the scene on shore! but it must afford a sad tale in the page of British history." Another observes—"The retreat from *Burgos* was disastrous, but witnesses to both are induced to believe it not so much so as the one under immediate view [from *Plattsburg*] which cannot fall short of 75 or £100,000 sterling, in stores, &c. *In men no one dare mention*. His wounded sensibility reminds him he is a British soldier unwilling to tell too sad tales."

To crown the tough stories, one fellow, making out a left-handed victory for the British, puts down their whole loss at 170 men! *Macomb* gives it at 2,500. Now, though it may appear strange to some, I would as soon believe *Macomb* as the prince regent himself!—perhaps rather sooner!! But as the writer quoted above observes, of the loss "in men no one [Englishman] dare make mention."

*Macomb's* general order (page 44) must have stung the presuming enemy to the soul. It is a fine composition, and one of the severest lampoons on Sir *George* and his army that we ever saw, having its merits in a combination of ridiculous facts belonging to the approach and retreat of the British army.

REINFORCEMENTS. The officers of the valuable ship *James*, lately captured by the Portsmouth privateer, stated they had formed part of a convoy which sailed from *Spithead*, September 1st. with 5000 troops on

board, from which they had parted in a gale. Lord Hill had not then sailed.

ROSS AND PARKER. The bodies of major general *Ross*, and captain *Peter Parker*, of the navy, killed on the Chesapeake, were brought to Halifax, in the *Tonnant*, preserved in spirits. The former was buried there with military honors—the latter sent to England for interment.

"DEMONSTRATION ON Baltimore." The quizzical account of the enemy's attack (which he calls a "demonstration," on *Baltimore*,) was inserted in our last. "The primary object of the expedition was accomplished," says the account—we suppose this was to have general *Ross* and at least 500 men killed and wounded, on land, and in the attack by water, to expend 1800 bombs, about 30,000lb. of powder, besides a multitude of rockets and round shot; and to be wretchedly mauled when their courage or enterprize led them within range of our brave little fort, at which they threw one hundred and sixty tons of iron and stuff. This is by fair calculation—say 160 tons! All this, to "demonstrate" the strength of the place.

FLYING DESTRUCTION. There is a bill now before the senate designed, I hope, to meet a favorite idea held out in the REGISTER for the last two years—which is to fit out, in the best possible manner, some 30 or 50 small vessels—"Baltimore flyers"—of from 6 to 12 guns, having from 50 to 100 men, to attack the commerce, nay, the very COASTING TRADE of the enemy; and make him feel, as he ought, the superior skill, enterprize and gallantry of our seamen. Without saying more than we can do; let us shew *Europe*, that Britain, who pretends to blockade the whole world at will, cannot defend her own coasts. The effect of this demonstration will be exceedingly powerful, as well on the interests of the enemy as on the opinions of the continent; and may essentially contribute to strengthen a prevailing opposition to the enemy's unlawful and haughty principle of blockade. By referring to the "prize list" inserted in the present number, some calculation may be made of the probable consequences of adopting the plan. Imagine that 50 vessels, such as many famous on our lists, fitted out in perfect trim for sailing, and charged not to make prizes or lumber themselves with goods, so as to impede their progress were sent to fly around the *British* coasts—to attack all things "assailable," and fly off and on, with the rapidity that belongs to them—laughing at the heavier vessels of the enemy and beating all of equal force (as they would do)—and say, what the probable effect would be? During the coming winter they might destroy one thousand vessels at least, and perhaps not more than five or six of them be taken. And this may be done without much fighting. Several of our privateers have taken 15 or 20 prizes in twice as many days, without firing a gun, or losing a single man during their cruise. As national vessels, they may enter the *French* and other ports, to deposit prisoners and light rich spoils collected—or may "quarter on the enemy," altogether for the whole season—from the ships they take supplying themselves with provisions and water, or, by occasionally landing on some of the numerous islands, or unfrequented parts of the coast of *Scotland* or *Ireland*; on which there are hundreds of towns, as important as *Havre-de-grace*, that one of these vessels might burn, if they shall so be directed; though, to destroy a village, here, is the business of a vice-admiral.

The London M. Chronicle raves at the American sloop of war *Peacock* sailing round Ireland with impunity and making captures. It says the Irish ports are in a state of Blockade.

NEW NOTIONS.—We are indebted to the gallantry of our army and navy, for the opinion conveyed in

the following article from the *Halifax Journal*:—  
 "We will venture to say that lord Wellington could not march from Plattsburg to New York, with less than 50,000 men."

**CHARLESTON.**—We are happy to observe that many troops from the interior have arrived at *Charleston*, S. C. for the defence of that city. The fortifications have been wonderfully strengthened, and the fire of revolution burns bright among its patriotic inhabitants. The old leaven of resistance has excited the whole to animation.

**TREASON.**—A certain Tyler Porter Shaw, charged with high treason, being on his way from *Ipswich* to *Boston*, under charge of a deputy marshal, was rescued at *Wenham* by a mob of "peace party" men. If this had happened in *Baltimore*!—The marshal has offered 300\$ reward for his apprehension.

**SPIES.** A person has been taken up at New-York, as a spy. He had an old British commission in his pocket, and was committed. Two British officers, lieutenants in the navy, were arrested at *Saybrook*, Conn. They stated they were a part of the 24 hostages sent from *Pittsfield* to *Lancaster*, and had been exchanged. They remain in custody of the marshal, who has taken the proper steps to ascertain their true character.

**Gen. BROWN.** The common council of New-York, has passed the following resolve:

*Resolved*, That as a tribute of respect, to a gallant officer and his intrepid associates, who have added such lustre to our arms, the freedom of the city be presented in a gold box to general Jacob Brown; that his portrait be obtained and placed in the Gallery of Portraits belonging to this city, and that the thanks of this corporation be tendered to the officers and men under his command.

**COLUMBIA RIVER.** We learn by way of *Barbadoes*, that the *Racon* sloop of war, after parting with the *Phæbe* and *Cherub* in the South sea, proceeded to the *Columbia* river, on the N. W. coast—which establishment (we suppose) she broke up. It is stated that she had captured some American vessels in those seas. The *Racon* had 21 men wounded by an accidental explosion, seven of whom died; she also struck on a bar and was considerably damaged.

**SPAIN.** The story that Spain has declared war against the United States is reiterated in accounts from *Pensacola*. We care not if it be true. This much is pretty certain, that we shall make war on Spain, so far as to expel the British allied force from *Pensacola*. A *Kingston* (Jam.) article of September 7th, states, that general Balesteros with 10,000 men had sailed from *Cadiz* for *Santa Martha*. General Orons was ready to embark with 20,000 Spanish and Portuguese troops for *Louisiana*, and that general Ley was shortly after to leave Spain with an equal number of men for *La Plata* and *Chili*.

To which, however, we attach no belief. The transportation of fifty thousand men is immensely beyond the means of Spain.

**NEW-YORK.** The following resolution passed both houses of the legislature of *New-York*, on the 22nd Oct. *Resolved, unanimously*, That the house of assembly of the state of *New-York*, view with mingled emotions of surprise and indignation, the extravagant and disgraceful terms proposed by the British commissioners at *Ghent*—and however ardently they may desire the restoration of peace to their country, they can never consent to receive it at the sacrifice of national honor and dignity—that they therefore strongly recommend to the national legislature, the adoption of the most vigorous and efficacious measures in the prosecution of the war, as the best means of bringing the contest to an honorable termination,

and of transmitting unimpaired to their posterity their rights, liberty and independence.

*Resolved*, That the concurrence of the honorable senate be requested to the above resolution, and that in case of such concurrence, his excellency the governor be requested to transmit a certified copy of said resolution to the president of the United States.

The assembly adjourned on the 24th, after passing several laws of great importance, generally on the principles recommended by the governor (see his speech page 97.) Among them are—

An act to raise 12,000 men, to be paid, clothed and subsisted by the United States. The men are to be raised by an equal classification, and are intended as a permanent force to relieve the militia.

An act to provide for the payment of certain monies advanced by the city of *New-York*, for the defence of the state.

An act to prevent the apprehension of British deserters—inserted in our last.

An act to authorise the raising of two regiments of free men of colour.

An act to give additional pay to the volunteers and militia who have been in service the last summer.

An act authorising the incorporation of the associations for the purpose of fitting out privateers.

An act to aid the apprehension of deserters from the army and navy of the United States.

An act to raise a corps of Sea-Fencibles.

When these laws are carried into effect, the state of *New-York* will have a permanent force of 20,000 men.

**OUR ARTILLERY.** The enemy has often been astounded with our artillery, as well on the land as at sea. They thought we had *French* artillerists at *Plattsburg*. A *Buffalo* article of Sept. 10, says:—"After the sortie of the 17th, the British officers, prisoners, in conversation with some American officers, stated their astonishment that we should employ *French* artillerists: that our chief engineer was known to the whole British army, and that he was from *Paris*. They said it was impossible that the artillery could be so good without old experienced officers to command. The American officers replied that the chief engineer and artillerists were native Americans, and that they were young men, neither exceeding twenty-five years. The British officers were thunderstruck, and thought it impossible, that young men could be so scientific in war, and could not believe what was told them, until colonel *McCree's* engineers and maj. *Hindman's* artillery were pointed out to them; they then said, you are very superior to us. You proved it in the siege, and the whole British army fear and respect your discipline. So much for the confession of the enemy."

**WASHINGTON CITY.**—We understand that a committee of a meeting of the citizens of this city (says the *National Intelligencer*) is authorised to make to the secretary of war an offer of the voluntary service of the citizens in executing any project or works of defence which the department may decide on.

We are well informed also, that the banks of this vicinity, together with individuals, are contemplating, and will doubtless offer, a loan to the government for the purpose of re-building or erecting the necessary buildings for the accommodation of congress, the president and public offices, &c.

**THE POTOMAC.**—We understand (says the *Alexandria Herald*) that a deserter from the *Furyadus* frigate, taken below, informs that she had 5 of her crew killed and 7 wounded in passing our battery on the *Potomac*, if this is correct their aggregate

loss must be considerable, as she sustained but a very inconsiderable part of the firing from the batteries.

**MONITORIAL.**—The *Western Monitor*, printed at Lexington, Kentucky, says, what indeed the history of all past ages proclaims, that "the invasion of the enemy, in every wise state, has ever been considered as a signal for terminating the contests of party, and uniting its powers for self-defence; and this is the never-failing effect of invasion, if the state or nation is not ripe for ruin."

**AN EMBARGO** on provisions has been laid at Quebec, to continue until January—When the ice will stop the export, if not sooner.

**SIR GEORGE PREVOST.**—There is a monstrous clamor in Canada against the commander-in-chief—strong party is getting up a petition to the prince regent for his removal. A counter petition is also circulated.

**FEMALE PATRIOTISM.**—A number of ladies of the first distinction in New York have formed themselves into an association to supply the citizens engaged in military duties, particularly on the lakes, with "cloth hoods, mockasons, socks and mittens."

**PROCLAMATION by the commander-in-chief of New Brunswick.**—"Whereas divers persons have come to Moose-Island since its surrender to his majesty's arms, claiming property on the same. I think it necessary hereby to declare, that no title can be given to the land and standing property of said Island in the way of barter or exchange, until the pleasure of his royal highness the prince regent is made known on the subject."

**SAVANNAH.**—The British off the southern coast have expressed a determination to burn *Savannah*; in obedience to *Cochrane's* orders to *destroy* all places "assailable." The people of that city have made an eloquent appeal to the "*Georgians*" for succor. We trust it will be effectual to repulse the *incendiary*. The legislature of Georgia was called by proclamation of the governor, to meet at Milledgeville on the 17th inst.

**BRITISH TROOPS.**—From the *Boston Patriot*.—It appears that since the arrival of the large division of British troops in Canada from Bordeaux, there has scarcely a week elapsed but what there have been arrivals of smaller detachments at Quebec, from England and Ireland. In the two last weeks in September, about 1500 arrived. There has been a regular but noiseless introduction of troops; and the fact must occasion some anxiety.

It appears that the U. S. Corvette John Adams, spoke on the 1st of Sept. a convoy from Portsmouth for Cork, with troops. At Cork the new expedition for America was to rendezvous, and may be expected to sail early in Sept. probably too late to proceed to Quebec—and therefore must be expected to act elsewhere.

**GENERAL PORTER.** From the *Ontario Messenger*.—The following interesting particulars of the extraordinary adventure and escape of major-general PORTER, in the action of the 17th ult. at the batteries, we have received from our correspondent at Fort Erie, who was in the action.

General Porter's command on that day, consisted of two columns. The right column was to attack the batteries in the rear. The left, which was stationed directly back of it, was kept in reserve to meet the reinforcements which were expected from the enemy's main army. General Porter was with the right column until the block-house and third battery were carried; he then set out accompanied by only two or three persons, to go to the left column, where some skirmishing had already commenced with the reinforcements. He had proceeded

but a short distance in the woods, when he found himself within a few yards of a party of 60 or 80 of the enemy who had just emerged from a ditch, and who, discovering probably that our troops were in their rear, stood formed in two lines, with their arms at rest, apparently hesitating which way to go, or how to act. General P. finding himself within their power, and seeing that the occasion required resolution and decision, instantly left his company, and running to them with the greatest boldness, exclaimed, "that's right, my good fellows, surrender, and we will take care of you"—and coming up to the man on the left, he took his musket out of his hand and threw it on the ground, at the same time pushing him forward towards the fort. In this way he proceeded nearly through the first line, most of the men voluntarily throwing down their arms and advancing to the front, when on a sudden a soldier whose musket he was about to take, stepped back and presenting his bayonet to general P's breast, demanded his surrender. The general seized the musket and was wresting it from him, when he was assaulted by an officer who stood next in the ranks, and three or four soldiers, who, after a short scuffle, brought him to the ground. He however soon recovered his feet, when he found himself surrounded by 15 or 20 men with their guns presented to him, demanding his surrender. By this time several of our officers were advancing with their men to the scene of action, and general P. assuming an air of composure and decision, told the enemy that they were surrounded and prisoners, and that if they fired a gun they should all be put to the sword. Without venturing to fire, they still continued to vociferate, "surrender, you are my prisoner," when lieutenant Chyfield, of the Cayuga riflemen, who had got near the spot, ordered his men to fire. This drew their attention from the general, and after a momentary scene of confusion and carnage, the enemy were all either killed or taken prisoners. In this affair captain Knapp of the N. Y. Volunteers, was badly wounded by a musket ball in the side, and general Porter in the hand by the cut of a sword.

**DISTRICT GENERAL ORDERS.** *Head-Quarters, Camp before Fort Erie, 7th September, 1814.* Major-general de Watteville having been directed to detach a party yesterday evening to endeavor to cut off the enemy's picket No. 4, reports that this service was executed by a company of the 6th regiment and one of the Glengary light infantry, joined by infantry pickets at Plattsburgh and the detachment of the 19th dragoons under captain Eustace, the whole under the command of captain Patterson of the 6th regiment and conducted by captain Powell, deputy assistant quarter-master general.

The enemy's picket was surprised at day light this morning. Of its advance party, which consisted of 21 men and an officer, not one escaped; 14 including the officer being killed, and 7 wounded and taken prisoners. The main body of the pickets fled towards the forts, pursued by our troops close under the guns of the place, and must have suffered very considerably from our fire. Our loss has been only one killed, (private 6th) and one slightly wounded.

The conduct of this little enterprize reflects great credit, not only on captain Patterson commanding the detachment, not only the whole of the officers and soldiers of which it was composed, but on captain Powell, deputy assistant quarter-master general, by whom the enterprize was planned. Sergeant Powell, 19th light dragoons, has been named to the lieutenant general as having again distinguished himself on this occasion.

J. HARVEY, Lieut. col. Dep. Adj. Gen.

**Internal Revenue.** By a report received by the house of Representatives a few days ago from Samuel H. Smith, then acting secretary of the treasury, it appears that the aggregate amount of internal duties ascertained, on the 10th October, 1814, to have been received by the collectors, were as follows:

By the collectors	721,420 07	
By the assessing states	1,158,790 83	
		1,880,216 90

<b>INTERNAL DUTIES.</b>		
Received by the collectors	1,401,335 63	
		3,371,692 53

**British Failings.** A Quebec paper states, that in the action on Lake Champlain, the American fleet was driven for shelter under our batteries, by com. Downie; that the British flag ship struck on a sunk rock in rounding to for the purpose of laying her broadside to the American commander; and that the *Linnæus* (the enemy's 2d vessel) grounded in going in action.

The loss on board the *Coalition* is given at nearly 150 killed and wounded.

**BARBAROUS.** *Frankfort, Maine, Sept. 27.* "Capt. Tobias Oakman, seeing the alarmed situation of the inhabitants, with patriotic zeal flew to meet the enemy—appearing to be placed on battery on the morning of the action at Hamplden, the enemy came suddenly upon him in the fog, and made him prisoner. They attempted to force him to take a gun, but he declined—he was then placed in front of their army, and attempting to escape from them, was shot dead by a ball, which fractured his skull. He lay two days unburied; after which his body was interred by the inhabitants of Hamplden."—*Hallowell Advocate.*

**AMERICANISM.** The writer of the following was a colonel in the revolution. At the breaking out of the present war he was offered a brigadier general's commission, by president Madison, which he declined. In private character and public standing he was one of the first men in North Carolina.

*Raleigh, October 17, 1814.*

Sir—It is known to you that at an early period of the present war with Great Britain, I was appointed to an high and honorable command in the army of the United States. It is also within your knowledge as well as that of many other of my fellow citizens, the reasons which influenced me in the non-acceptance of that appointment.

Having discharged no small portion of that duty which every citizen owes to his country, in a service of seven years in the revolutionary army, having subsequently performed the duties of a laborious officer under the general government, being somewhat advanced in life, the fire of youth and with its ambition having ceased to exist, I had determined some time past not again to engage in public employment and particularly in the army—long since having known, that to avoid slander and the reproaches of bad and ambitious men, was to live unobserved, and that to enjoy peaceful repose was to be a private citizen. This determination would have been scrupulously and firmly adhered to had I not seen the degrading conditions demanded by the British commissioners from the American government as the price of peace—conditions as new as they are humiliating; inadmissible under circumstances far more perilous than the present, and such as no American ought to accede to. And whilst those terms are contended for and made the *sine qua non* to an adjustment of our differences, I hesitate not to declare my intention to unite with and support the government in such a system, as shall compel the enemy to respect our rights and bring the war to an honorable termination. In making this declaration, it is not, however, to be understood, that the avowed cause for the war or the manner in which it has been conducted, have ever met my approbation. My objections are well known, and in this communication it is unnecessary for me to repeat to state them. The crisis has arrived when it would be well to enquire what were the causes or who were the authors of the misfortunes which have overtaken the country. It is enough to know that dishonorable conditions have been demanded, and that danger does exist. It now behoves us to show to the world that there is firmness enough in the nation to reject the one and spirit sufficient to meet the other.

With these sentiments I offer to your excellency my services, in lieu of as they are, with a hope that you will employ them in that situation wherein you may deem them most useful.

With sentiments of much respect, I am your most obt. servt.  
WILLIAM POLK.

*His Excellency William Hawkins,  
Governor, of N. C.*

**PUBLIC FEELINGS.** We are laying up, and sometime hence may publish a great variety of articles to shew the *public feeling* as to the propositions, &c. at Ghent. However strange it may appear, writers in the *Boston* newspapers are laboring "with might and main" to shew that we may subscribe to the British conditions without sacrificing our honor—and insisting that we ought to do it. We were not prepared for this—yet we do not believe the people of *Massachusetts* are ready to surrender one third of their territory.

The publication of the papers connected with the negotiations at Ghent is powerfully "separating the wheat from the tares," and bringing about a real union of honest men. But "an angel from Gabriel's

bosom," would not reform the manners of the faction; which I have once before likened to the culprit soldier, who being flogged by an Irish drummer, cried out, "a little higher if you please, sir—a little lower, if you please, sir"—until the latter, wearied with his exclamations, said "By — let me strike where I will there is no such thing as *pleasing you.*" Some grumble because the whole of the despatches and instructions are not published—and, in the part that remains, they insinuate is contained, vastly important things, favorable to the enemy, while others are vociferous because they were published at all!—There is "*no such thing as pleasing*" these men by any measure that may shew the justice and moderation of their own government, or the rapacity and ambition of England; and he is a fool that attempts it.

**ORDERS FROM GOVERNMENT,** we understand, have been received in town this morning, prohibiting the export, which is soon to sail from this port for England, from receiving a passenger on board, either American citizens, or British subjects.

*New-York paper.*

**MILITARY.**

Governor Tompkins, agreeably to the request of the general government, arrived at New-York, on the 20th Oct. to take command at that post. He has under him about 17,000 militia and 3,000 regulars, besides the New-Jersey line, a numerous and gallant body of men.

*Buffalo, Oct. 18.*—Brig. gen. James Miller, has left the northern army and gone on to Boston, there being, as we understand, no command, for the general in this army at present.

A Frankfort, Ky. paper says—We understand that the secretary at war has ordered 2500 of the drafted militia of this state to be marched to general Jackson, and to be placed under his command without delay.

*Tennessee.* A letter to the editor of the Register, from an intelligent friend at Nashville says, "Besides the requisition of the president, 2000 mounted men have tendered their services and marched for head quarters—a new requisition has been made for 5000 more, so that from 12 to 14,000 men will join Jackson from Tennessee alone. It is presumed we shall have hot work about Mobile and New Orleans this winter."

A Nashville paper says "government have received advices that the enemy intend the conquest of *Louisiana.*"

If he attempts it, we venture to say that the people of the west will not let him hold peaceable possession as they do in the east. Such a proclamation as sir John Sherbrooke's (see page 117) would be replied to by 40,000 rifles and muskets, at a very short notice.

**Niagara frontier and Ontario.** We are yet without any news of importance from that quarter.—There has been some skirmishing on the Chippewa; and on the 19 h general Bissel forced the pass with the loss of 68 men, 14 of whom were killed; Izard's main force moved forward the next day. He has lately received some handsome reinforcements. General Winde and colonel Fenwick are among the officers that have crossed to join him. General Brown has gone to take command at Sackett's harbor. We have nothing new respecting the fleets on Ontario. Brown's army has joined Izard's force, a few left at fort Erie excepted.

**NAVAL.**

The greater part of our fleet on *Champlain* has been laid up. There is a report that the enemy has commenced the building of two other large vessels at the *Isle aux Noix.*

Several enemy barges entered the harbor of Brookhaven (L. I.) on the 30th ult. and carried off six small vessels, *unresisted*.

The Canadian editors rate commodore Yeo's new ship at 104 guns.

The Lawrence, of Baltimore, lately sailed from North Carolina, to cruise in the English channel.

*Agood prize on Ontario.*—On the 30th Sept. a gig belonging to the *Superior* with an officer and 4 men only, captured near the mouth of the St. Lawrence, 6 boats manned with 35 men (armed) laden with wine, brandy, crates and dry goods, bound to Kingston, and brought them safe into the harbor; the men were paroled and landed soon after capture—the boats and their cargoes were estimated at \$12,000.

*Lake Huron.*—Two of our sch'rs (says the *Albany Argus*) the *Tygress* and *Scorpion*, with their crews of 57 men, have been surprised and captured by the enemy in lake Huron. The enemy consisted of 130 soldiers, 20 sailors and 250 Indians. Three of our men escaped at the bay of Quinti, crossed lake Ontario in a canoe, and landed at Genesee river.

*Grumbling.*—An English paper of the 26th of July says "The French chasse matee *Marie Lucie*, from L'Orient, has arrived at Plymouth, having on board the remaining part of the *Reindeer's* crew, carried into that port by the *Wasp* U. States sloop of war, which was put under quarantine until the following morning, when a number of French officers came off to remedy her defects. Every possible attention was paid to her wants, and she was regularly supplied with fresh beef. Two American midshipmen, one master's mate, and 17 wounded men, were taken into the hospital, and the American crew received every civility, while the British were treated with contempt and insult. A deputy American consul (a Frenchman) struck the master of an English sch'r. for merely asking him a simple question! The treatment of the British on board the *Wasp* was very indulgent, in every respect, except that the men were shackled both hands and feet. The crew of the *Wasp* confessed that their compliment in the late action amounted to 210, among whom are several Englishmen, some of which are personally known to the people of the *Reindeer*. Previous to the *Wasp's* getting into L'Orient, she burnt a brig, from Oporto to London, with wine, and scuttled a schooner called the *Polly*, of Plymouth, from Leghorn to London, laden with oil. Our blood glows with indignation at narrating the shameful conduct of the French, and we feel confident that it will not escape notice in the proper quarter. The most ample apology should be required and made for it, with promises to avoid such behaviour in future.

Another account says, they (the British prisoners) were indifferently received by the French, while the American crew were hailed as victors, tapped on the back, shaken by the hand, and complimented for their superior prowess. "We really hope that, for this treatment, capt. *Blakeley* may not be suspected of being under "French influence!"

The papers also state that nothing "could exceed the politeness of captain *Blakeley*," to the crew of the *Reindeer*—they also speak "of the brutality and insolence of his crew," but say that capt. B. was "completely master of his ship." An *Englishman* may reconcile these statements as well as he can—we cannot. If *Blakeley* was "polite" and the "master of his ship," they certainly were politely used.—They add, that the crew of the *Reindeer* were "remarkably fine young men, and had sailed together six years and upwards." To cap the story they affirm, that "at least two thirds of the crew of the *Wasp* were Scotchmen and Irishmen"—*That's a good one!* But it suits the nature of *John Bull's* skull.

## Congress of the United States.

IN SENATE.

*Friday, October 28.* The Senate resumed, as in committee of the whole, the consideration of the bill authorizing the president to cause to be built or purchased the vessels therein described. After some discussion and amendment, the bill was ordered to be read a third time in the following form:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled;* That in addition to the present naval establishment, the president of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized to cause to be built or purchased, manned, equipped and officered, any number of vessels, not exceeding \_\_\_\_\_, which, in his opinion, the public service may require, to carry not less than \_\_\_\_\_ nor more than \_\_\_\_\_ guns each, and to be manned, equipped and officered, in the manner which he shall judge most expedient.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That for the building or purchase and equipping of these vessels, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars, and the same is hereby appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

And the Senate adjourned to Monday.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The following were the yeas and nays in the house of representatives, on Tuesday last, on the question to increase the direct tax 100 per cent.

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Anderson, A. V. Ly, Barbour, Bard, Barnett, Bowen, Brown, Burwell, Butler, Caldwell, Cannon, Clapp, H. Clark, Clifton, Comstock, Condit, Conrad, Crawford, Creighton, Crouch, Cuthbert, Dana, Davis of Penn. Denoyelles, Desha, Duval, Earle, Eppes, Evans, Farrow, Fisk of Vt. Fisk of N. Y. Forney, Forsythe, Gholson, Glasgow, Goodwyn, Griffin, Hall, Hanson, Harris, Hawes, Hawkins, Hopkins of Ky. Humphreys, Hungerford, Ingham, Irving, Johnson, of Virg. Johnson, of Ky. Kennedy, Kent, of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, Kilbourn, King, of N. C. Lefferts, Lowndes, Lyle, McCoy, McKee, McLean, Montgomery, Moore, Newson, Newton, Oakley, Ormsby, Pickens, Pleasants, Wm. Reed, Rich, of Penn. Rich, Ringgold, Robertson, Sage, Seybirt, Sharp, Smith, of Virg. Strong, Tannahill, Taylor, Telfair, Troup, Udree, Ward of N. J. Wilson, of Penn. and Yancey—89.

NAYS—Messrs. Baylies of Mass. Bradburn, Brigham, Caperton, Cooper, Culpepper, Davenport, Franklin, Gaston, Goldsborough, Hal. Heath, Jackson, of R. I. King, of Mass. Lovett, Mason, Moffitt, Markell, Pearson, Pickering, Pitkin, Post, Potter, John Reed, Ruggles, Schreman, Shepherd, Smith of N. Y. Stamford, Sturges, Taggart, Thompson, Vose, Ward of Mass. Wheaton, White and Wilcox—37.

*Wednesday, October 26.* The house resumed the consideration of the additional tax proposed on whiskey.

Mr. Fisk's motion to levy upon it a tax of 25 cents per gallon was lost—67 to 74. He then moved to insert twenty instead of the fifteen cents, reported by the committee of the whole, which was carried as follows.

YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Avery, Barnett, Baylies of Mass. Bigelow, Boyd, Bradley, Bradley, Brigham, Butler, Chappell, Ciley, Comstock, Condit, Conrad, Cooper, Crouch, Dana, Davenport, Denoyelles, Ely, Evans, Fisk, of Vt. Fisk of N. Y. Forsythe, Gaston, Gholson, Grosvenor, Hale, Hawes, Hubbard, Ingersoll, Irving, Jackson of R. I. Kennedy, Kent, of N. Y. King, of Mass. King, of N. C. Lefferts, Lovett, Lowndes, Moffitt, Moore, Mosley, Markell, Nelson, Pickering, Pitkin, Post, Potter, John Reed, Wm. Reed, Rich, Robertson, Ruggles, Sage, Seybirt, Sherwood, Skinner, Smith of N. Y. Strong, Sturges, Taggart, Taylor, Telfair, Troup, Vose, Ward, of Mass. Ward, of N. J. Webster, Wheaton, Wilcox, Wilson, of Mass. Winter, and Wright—75.

NAYS—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Barbour, Bard, Bayly, of Vt. E. Brown, Brown, Burwell, Calhoun, Cannon, Clark, Clifton, Crawford, Creighton, Culpepper, Cuthbert, Davis, of Penn. Desha, Duval, Earle, Eppes, Farrow, Forney, Franklin, Giddies, Glasgow, Goodwyn, Griffin, Hall, Harris, Hasbrouck, Hawkins, Hubbard, Humphreys, Hungerford, Ingham, Jackson, of Virg. Johnson of Ky. Kent, of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, Kilbourn, Law, Lewis, Lyle, Mason, McCoy, McKee, McLean, Montgomery, Newton, Ormsby, Pearson, Pickens, Piper, Pleasants, Rich, of Tenn. Ringgold, S. V. Sharp, Smith, of Vir. Stamford, Thompson, Udree, White, Wilson, of Penn. Yancey—69.

Mr. Yancey, then moved an amendment going to place a duty of \_\_\_\_\_ cents on every gallon of spirits distilled from domestic materials, instead of dividing it between the capacity and product of the still.

This motion was lost—yeas 55—nays 67.



Thursday, October 27. Mr. Troup, of Geo. from the military committee, reported a bill making further provision for filling the ranks of the regular army by classifying the free male population of the United States. [The bill is of some length, and contains very full provisions for carrying itself into effect.]

Mr. Troup also reported a bill "to authorise the president of the United States to accept the services of volunteers who may associate and organize themselves, and offer their services to the government of the U. States."

Mr. Troup also reported a bill "to provide for the further delivrance of the frontiers of the United States by authorizing the president to augment the present military establishment."

[This bill proposes to provide, that "in addition to the present military establishment of the United States there be immediately raised forty regiments, in such proportions of infantry, artillery, riflemen and cavalry, as the president of the United States may deem proper, to be enlisted to serve during the war, unless sooner discharged, and limited as to service to the defence of the frontiers of the U. States, &c. &c.]

The three bills were severally twice read and referred to a committee of the whole.

Mr. Troup also laid before the house a letter from the Secretary at war to the military committee.

[This letter and its accompanying papers, will be inserted in our next number.]

The house resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of ways and means.

The rates of postage were doubled—ayes 96—nays 47.

The duty on auctions was increased 100 per cent. without debate.

The next resolution was that embracing a tax, among other articles, on cotton yarn, and other manufactures, furniture, &c.

The questions to concur with the committee of the whole in striking out *cotton yarn* and *shoes* (that is, exempting them from taxation) were decided in the affirmative without debate; as also was the proposition for taxing all manufactured paper at the rate of five per cent.

The amendments of the committee of the whole to this resolution, having been gone through—

Mr. Oakley made a motion to strike out tallow candles—for it 59, against it 74. Mr. Reed moved that spermaceti candles be stricken out—for it 50—against it 73. Both negatived.

Mr. Bigelow moved to strike out leather—negatived.

Mr. Wheaton moved to strike out nails manufactured by machinery—negatived without a division.

Mr. Gaston moved to strike out furniture—negatived; 43 for it, 72 against it.

The question was then stated on the whole resolution (which has been published more than once, and goes to tax sundry articles of manufacture besides those mentioned in the foregoing.)

Mr. Oakley of N. Y. stated that he was friendly to some and opposed to others of the taxes embraced in this resolve, and should therefore vote against the whole, reserving the right to vote for the bills for laying some of these taxes when they should be brought

The question on the adoption of the whole of the resolution (as amended by striking out cotton yarn and shoes) was decided in the affirmative as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Anderson, Avery, Barbour, Barnett, Bowen, Bradley, Burwell, Butler, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cannon, Chappell, Clopton, Condit, Conard, Crawford, Creighton, Dana, Dennyelles, Dista, Duvall, Egnes, Farrow, Fisk of Vt. Fisk of N. Y. Forney, Forsythe, Franklin, Gibson, Goodwyn, Griffin, Har-

Harris, Hasbrouck, Hawes, Hawkins, Hopkins of Ky. Hungerford, Ingham, Irving, Jackson of Virg. Johnson of Virg. Kennedy, Kent, of Ml. Kerr, Kershaw, Kilbourn, King of N. C. Lefferts, Lowides, Lyle, McCoy, M'Kee, M'Lean, Montgomery, Nelson, Newton, Pickins, Pleasant, Rhea of Ten. Rich, Ringgold, Roberts, Sage, Sharp, Skinner, Smith of N. Y. Smith of Virg. Tammill, Taylor, Telfair, Troup, Udree, Ward of N. J. Wilson of Penn.—76.

NAYS—Messrs. Baylies of Mass. Bigelow, Boyd, Bradbury, Brigham, Caperton, Champion, Cilley, Cooper, Ely, Gaston, Hale, Jackson of R. I. Law, Lewis, Lovett, Mosley, Martell, Oakley, Pearson, Pickering, Pitkin, John Reed, Wm. Reed, Ruggles, Seybert, Sherwood, Stanford, Storges, Vose, Ward of Mass. Wheaton, White, Wilcox—34.

The next resolution, is "that it is expedient to class the retailers of foreign merchandize and add fifty per cent to the present duty thereon."

The next resolution was so to impose a duty on plated harness, combined with the tax on carriages, as to add to the present duty on carriages 100 per cent.

The eighth and last resolution, "that it is expedient to establish a national bank, with branches in the several states," being under consideration.

On motion of Mr. Hawkins of Ky. the house adjourned.

Friday, October 28. The house resumed the consideration of the remaining part of the report of the committee of the whole—it being a resolution "that it is expedient to establish a national bank with branches in the several states."

Mr. Post called upon the chairman or some member of the committee to explain the reasons for the proposition. Mr. Clopton requested information as to that part of the constitution that authorizes the establishment of a national bank. Mr. Eppes said his opinion of the matter, had not changed—he had reported it in obedience to the directions of the committee and the reasons for it might be found in Mr. Dallas' report. Mr. Wright was in favor of establishing a national bank, but would locate it in the district of Columbia. Mr. Burwell was entirely hostile to the establishment, on the principles laid down by the secretary of the treasury. Mr. Duvall resumed his observations, and at considerable length supported the constitutionality and propriety of establishing a national bank. Mr. Grosvenor had not a doubt that such a bank might be constitutionally raised. He was in favor of the general proposition, but hoped that many of its features would not be sanctioned. Mr. Hawkins thought that congress had not power to establish such a bank; but if it was to be established he hoped it would be established on general principles. Mr. Clopton, replied to Mr. Duvall, and contended the house could not constitutionally act on the matter before them. Mr. Wilson spoke in favor of the establishment, generally; Mr. M'Kee expressed his surprise at the opposition to this proposition. He had no doubt of the power of congress to establish a national bank—it was proper and expedient. He was opposed to Stanford's motion. The question in the motion to strike out the words "with branches in the several states" was taken—for it 14, against 138.

The question being stated on the passage of the resolution—

Mr. Post of New York said, under present impressions, he should vote against it, because the idea it embraced was illusive, and its object impracticable at the present moment; to shew which he made a number of remarks going to establish the insufficiency of such a measure to remedy the general want of confidence among individuals as well as in the banks, which at present prevailed.

The question on the adoption of the resolution was decided by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Anderson, Archer, Avery, Barnett, Bayly, of Va. Bradley, Brown, Butler, Caperton, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cannon, Chappell, Clark, Comstock, Condit, Con-

Creighton, Crouch, Culpeper, Cuthbert, Dana, Davis, of Penn. D-noyelles, Duvall, Earle, Farrow, Findley, Fisk, of N. Y. Furney, Forsyth, Gaston, Geddes, Gardin, Griffin, Grosvenor, Hanson, Harris, Hasbrouck, Hayes, Hopkins of Ky. Hubbard, Hurlbert, Ing-rull, Ingham, Irving, Kent, of N. Y. Kent, of Md. Kerr, Keeshaw, Kilbourn, King of N. C. Leferts, Lewis, Lovett, Lowndes, Lyle, McKee, McKim, McLean, Montgomery, Moore, Markell, Oakley, Ormsby, Parker, Pearson, Pickens, Piper, Rea of Penn. Rich, Robertson, Sage, Sevier, Sherwood, Shipperd, Skimmer, Smith of N. Y. Strong, Sturges, Tannahill, Taylor, Telfair, Thompson, Udree, Ward of N. J. Webster, Wilson of Penn. Winter, Wright, Yancey, —93.

NAYS—Messrs. Barbour, Bard, Baylies of Mass. Bowen, Boyd, Bradbury, Burwell, Champin, Ciley, Clopton, Crowder, Davenport, Desha, Ely, Eppes, Evans, Franklin, Gholson, Glasgow, Goodwyn, Hale, Hall, Hawkins, Humphreys, Hungerford, Jackson, of R. I. Johnson of Va. Kennedy, King of Mass. Law, Macon, Moseley, Nelson, Newton, Pitkin, Pleasants, Post, Potter, John Reid, Wm. Reed, Rhea, of Vir. Ringgold, Ruggles, Schreman, Seybert, Sharp, Smith of Vir. Stanford, Taggart, Vose, Wheaton, Wilcox, Wilson, of Mass.—54.

So the resolution was agreed to, and this together with the other resolutions, were referred to the committee of Ways and Means, to bring in the bills.

#### *Note from the Editor.*

The irregular manner in which the REGISTER has appeared for some time past, and the long delay of the index for the 6th, or last volume, is more unpleasant to the editor than it can be to any other person. But the good old homely proverb says, "*what cannot be cured must be endured*"—every person in the employ of the office being "in the service of the United States," without the possibility of obtaining others in their places, or auxiliary to the labor they had time to perform on the REGISTER. For the future, we hope to get along more harmoniously—there are now *three* extra hands in the office, and it so happens that *they* are exempt from military duties; and the index may be expected within the coming fortnight. The friends of the United States will appreciate the difficulties we have laboured under, and excuse irregularities which it was impossible to avoid—the enemies of the United States (if any such there are among the readers of my paper) may condemn or extenuate—*just as they please*.

The pressure of official documents and facts has monopolized our pages for some time past, and will chiefly occupy them for some time to come. The will to give "something new" is ever uppermost in our mind, but the first object of this work—to make it a faithful record of the times—checks the desire to give our own articles in preference to those that belong to the history of our country. We have *many* things in manuscript on hand—some finished for the press, and others digested and arranged, which we believed to be curious, important and interesting, especially in statistics—but they must lie over for the present. During the winter months we trust to furnish much amusement for the fire sides of our friends.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

The U. S. sloop of war Peacock, has arrived at New York from a cruise on the coasts of England, Ireland, &c. during which she made 14 prizes—burnt or sunk all but two of little value that were made cartels of. Damage to the enemy estimated at between 6 and 700,000 dollars, particulars hereafter. It appears that she did not sink a sloop of war, as was so variously reported as to obtain entire belief.

The privateer Chasseur, of Baltimore, has also arrived at New York, from a similar cruise, during which she made 18 prizes, laden with choice spoils, among which is some specie. Capt. Boyle issued his proclamation, in the most formal manner to blockade all the bays, rivers and creeks, outlets and inlets &c. of the United Kingdoms, in which with some account of his cruise shall appear in our next.

The privateer Harpy, of Baltimore, has also arrived at New York, after a cruise of 20 days, during which she made 5 valuable prizes.

The rich ship James, with a cargo invoiced at 100,000 pounds sterling, from England for Quebec, has arrived at Portsmouth, N. H. a prize to the Portsmouth privateer. This probably is the most valuable capture made since the war.

A vessel belonging to New York, with a full cargo of teas, &c. worth half a million, has arrived at Newport, R. I. from Canton.

A schooner with a large quantity of specie, has reached New Orleans, from Vera Cruz.

The news of the arrivals noticed above, with some others we might mention, reached us in the space of 24 hours—yet

"The winds and waves are Britain's wide domain,  
And not a flag without permission spreads!"

The steam frigate "*Fulton the first*," was launched at New York, Oct. 31. She will soon be ready for service; and is cannon proof. She is to carry thirty 32 pound carronades, and two 100 pound Columbiads, to fire hot shot. The gallant Porter commands her. This frigate is 145 feet deck, 53 feet in breadth, and draws only eight feet water. We expect much from her.

By this morning's mail (Nov. 2) we learn that the British fleet (10 sail) were near the head of Ontario—that they had reinforced Drummond, and that Izard was expected to retire, or was retiring.

An idea prevailing that the British force coming out is destined for the south-west, the governor of Georgia, at the request of the secretary of war, has detached 2500 men, for the disposition of general Jackson. We have no fear from *this* quarter; and almost wish that lord Hill with his 15 or 20,000 men was fairly in the country.

"*Important if true.*" It is stated that Russia and Sweden have protested against the principle of the blockade of the American coast. And accounts from Halifax intimate that the neutrals sent there in the early part of the war, for a pretended breach of blockade will proceed to the ports of their original destination.

#### THE ENEMY IN THE CHESAPEAKE

Have taken possession of Tilghman's island (about 30 miles below Annapolis) with the apparent view of fixing winter quarters there, for a part of their force. The force in the neighborhood consists of 4 ships, 1 brig and 2 schooners. On the 27th October they crossed the bay and came ashore at Tracy's Landing, and soon went to work carrying off tobacco, &c. [*they was it left there!*] demolishing the houses. But they remained not long—a small party of militia appeared and the robbers fled to their vessels.

Accounts received at head-quarters, (Baltimore, Nov. 1.) state that the British again landed yesterday morning at Deep Creek, and proceeded to Kirby's Wind Mill, capt. Burd, of the U. S. dragoons having reconnoitered and ascertained the enemy's position, determined on an attempt to cut off his retreat back to his shipping. Capt. B accordingly made a gallant charge, under a severe fire from the enemy's cannon and musketry. But brig. general Madison had not yet reached the scene of these operations, with his infantry from the camp near the Patuxent; and capt. Burd not being so well supported by his own men as he had expected, the charge was not successful as he had anticipated. He, however made two prisoners. Capt. B. was severely wounded in the hand, narrowly escaped being himself taken. Our artillery is said to have galled the enemy while moving off in his barges.

Another account says, that at 10 o'clock, (Nov. 1.) the enemy was under full sail standing down the bay—that in the gallant attack made by capt. Burd, himself and three of his men were slightly wounded, and 9 horses killed. Loss of the enemy in killed and wounded unknown—we took five prisoners.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 9 of VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 165.]

*Hec olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann

## Supplement to Volume VII.

The quantity of matter, useful and necessary to a work of such very extensive reference as the WEEKLY REGISTER, that present itself in times like these, cannot be compressed in our numbers, even by the aid of those gratuitous supplements that the Editor has delighted to publish, or may publish, as soon as his workmen are relieved of the duties they owe, and perform, in the defence of their country. It has been, and shall be, our fixed practice, first to insert the documents that are most important, accompanying them with the details, events, &c. that give life and spirit to history. But a great body of all descriptions of articles lies over, and must lie over forever, except by some extraordinary exertion we give them to future perusal and remembrance. We live in a busy age.

And, believing that the proposition will be sufficiently patronized, the editor has already made some needful arrangements for putting to press, by the first of *January* next, and to be completed by the middle of *March*, at the *first* volume, a SUPPLEMENT for the 7th, or present volume of the Register, to consist of *twelve* sheets, for *one dollar*.

The primary object of this supplement is to add to the value and perfection of the REGISTER. Pecuniary considerations have little weight with the Editor; for he does not expect to receive for it but little more than will meet the disbursements and indemnify his labor, the cost of materials, and especially of paper, being greatly enhanced.

The editor's time is too *severely* occupied to afford much exertion to obtain subscribers for this supplement. Those who desire it will immediately, or as soon as may be, pay over or transmit to the nearest of his agents, or to himself, their money; and, on the same being received, the proper receipt will issue, as directed. But the agents are enjoined not to receive any one as a subscriber for the *supplement* who has not also paid the current year's subscription to the REGISTER—say, up to Sept. 1814. This is a rule absolute.

And, having suffered considerable disadvantage by deviating from the plan of the other extra supplement, (from the shortness of the notice and on the suggestion of several respected friends) which was—to print no more than were actually engaged—that plan will be pursued on this occasion, and no more will be printed than are ordered, except an allowance of a few copies for those who, engaged in the service of their country, may not have opportunity to see and comply with the terms.

Many will be ready to ask—"what is the supplement to contain?" In truth, I cannot tell. I have yet little idea of it—but my best judgment shall be exerted to give it all the interest I can, by inserting the most important and interesting documents (domestic and foreign) speeches, proceedings, incidents, narratives and things that necessity has compelled, or may compel me, to exclude from the usual numbers of the REGISTER, and which would be inserted if the space were allowed. From the general contents of the Register, therefore, an idea may be formed of the supplement.

Returns must be made by the middle of *December* next. Ample time is allowed, and no one should

calculate on receiving this addition without giving due notice of his wishes.

For the convenience of subscribers, resident at places where there are no regular agents, the editor recommends that they address the following gentlemen, whose receipts will be valid. They are selected for their locality.

*New-Hampshire.* William Plumer, jun. Esq. Postmaster at Epping.

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*Georgia.* James Frazer, Esq. Postmaster at Augusta. John J. Smith, Esq. Postmaster, at Putnam, C. H. or Eatonton. S. Duggar, Esq. Postmaster, at Powellton.

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*Ohio.* Elisha Killey, Esq. Postmaster, Bainbridge. Arthur Patterson, Esq. Postmaster, Warrenton. Francis Le Clerg, Esq. Postmaster, Gallipolis.

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Nashville. David Rawlings, Esq. Postmaster, Ruea, E. H.

Missouri Territory. Rufus Easton, Esq. Postmaster, St. Louis.

Illinois Territory. John Messenger, Esq. Postmaster, Clinton Hill.

For Michigan Territory. Almon Gibbs, Esq. Postmaster, at Fort Meigs.

Or, may address the editor himself, at Baltimore, the postage of the letters being paid.

## Defence of Stonington.

The following has been in type about two months, and would have been yet longer deferred had not national convenience urged its insertion now. But the redoubtable exploit of the great Nelson's captain could not have been suffered to pass away—due record of the grand affair must have been made.

New London, August 17.

Record of the extraordinary attack on Stonington.

On Tuesday the 9th instant, at 5 P. M. the Ramilies 74, Pactolus 38, a bomb ship and the Dispatch 22 gun brig, arrived off Stonington, and a flag was sent on shore with the following note—

On board his majesty's ship Ramilies, Stonington, Aug. 9.

TO THE MAGISTRATES OF STONINGTON.

Gentlemen—one hour is allowed you from the receipt of this communication for the removal of the unoffending inhabitants

THOMAS M. HARDY.

This notification was received by two magistrates, and lieutenant Hough of the drafted militia who went off to meet the flag. The officer was asked whether a flag would not be received on board. He said no arrangements could be made. They inquired whether com. Hardy had determined to destroy the town. He replied that such were his orders from the admiral, and that it would be done most effectually.

When the gentlemen reached the shores, a crowd waited with great anxiety for the news; which being stated, consternation flew through the town. An express was dispatched to general Cushing, at New London. A number of volunteers hastened to collect ammunition; others ran to the battery which consisted of two 18 pounders and a 4 pounder, on field carriages, with a slight breast work, 4 feet high. The sick and the aged were removed with haste; the women and children, with loud cries, were seen running in every direction. Some of the most valuable articles were hastily got off by hand, others placed in the gardens and lots, or thrown into wells, to save them from impending conflagration. The 60 minutes expired, but the dreadful moment did not bring the attack.—Nelson's favorite hero and friend, was seized with the compunctions of magnanimity—he remembered what ancient Britons were; he remembered that something was due to the character of Thomas M. Hardy. Three hours in fact elapsed, when at 8 in the evening the attack was commenced by a discharge

of shells from the bomb ship, several barges and launches had taken their stations in different points, from whence they threw Congreve rockets, and carcasses. This mode of attack was continued incessantly till midnight; and the fire was returned occasionally from the battery as the light of the rockets gave opportunity, without any chance of success.

The few drafted militia, which had been sometime stationed there, under command of lieutenant Hough, were placed in the best directions to give an alarm in case a landing should be attempted. During the night the volunteers and militia had assembled in considerable numbers; and the non-combatant inhabitants had generally removed to the neighboring farm-houses in the momentary expectation of seeing their abandoned dwellings in flames. It was a night of inexpressible anguish to many a widow and orphan, to many aged and infirm, whose little pittance they were now apparently to lose forever. But Providence directed otherwise. This compact little village of 100 buildings, had been for four hours covered with flames of fire and bomb shells, and not a single building was consumed nor a person injured.

At the dawn of day on the 10th, the approach of the enemy was announced by a discharge of Congreve rockets from several barges and a launch, which had taken their station on the east side of the town, and out of reach of the battery. Several volunteers, with small arms and the four pounder, hastened across the point, supposing the enemy were attempting a landing. Colonel Randall of the 13th regiment, who at the time was moving towards the battery with a detachment of militia, ordered them to assist the volunteers in drawing over one of the 18 pounders to the extreme end of the point; the fire of which, in a few minutes, compelled the barges to seek safety in flight. During this time the brig was working up towards the point, and soon after sunrise came to anchor, short of half a mile from the battery, or more correctly the breastwork. Our ammunition being soon exhausted, the guns were spiked, and the men who fought them, being only 15 or 20, retired leaving them behind for want of strength to drag them off.

The brig now continued deliberately to pour her 32 pound shot and grape into the village, without our having the power of returning a shot, for an hour, and the bomb ketch occasionally threw in shells. A fresh supply of ammunition being obtained the 18 pounder was withdrawn from the breastwork, the vent drilled and the piece taken back again, when such an animated and well directed fire was kept up, that at 3 o'clock the brig slipped her cable and hauled off, with her pumps going, having received several shots below her water line and considerable damage in her spars, &c.

During this action between the eighteen pounder and the brig, Mr. Frederick Denison was slightly wounded in the knee by a fragment of a rock, and Mr. John Miner, badly burnt in his face by the premature discharge of the gun. The flag, which was nailed to the mast, was pierced with seven shot holes, the breast-work somewhat injured and 6 or 8 of the dwelling houses in the vicinity essentially injured. At this time a considerable body of militia had arrived, and brigadier general Isham, had taken the command; the inhabitants had recovered from the consternation of the first moments; and were deliberately moving off their furniture and goods. At 1 o'clock the Ramilies and Pactolus had taken stations about two and a half miles from the town; when resistance appearing hopeless, the magistrates as a last resort applied to the general for permission to send a flag off, being impressed with the opinion that there must exist some latent cause of a peculiar nature to induce a commander who had heretofore distinguished himself for a scrupulous regard to the claims of honorable warfare to induce him to commit an act so repugnant to sound policy, so abhorrent to his nature, so flagrant an outrage on humanity. The general, we understand, would not sanction, nor did he absolutely prohibit a flag being sent. They, therefore, on their own responsibility, sent on board the Ramilies, Isaac Williams, and Wm. Lord, esqrs. with the following letter.

(COPY.)

Stonington, August 10.

To sir Thomas M. Hardy,

Sir—Agreeable to notice received from you yesterday, this town is now cleared of offending inhabitants and they feeling anxious about the fate of their village are desirous to know from you, your determination respecting it. Yours, &c. Amos Denison, burgess,  
William Lord, magistrate.

The deputation proceeded on board the Ramilies and shortly after an officer informed the boatmen that they might return to the shore as the gentlemen would be landed in a boat from the ship; and that captain Hardy had declared that no further hostilities would be committed against the town. After remaining on board an hour, or more, the deputation were conveyed in a flag from the ship which was met by one from the shore. They brought with them a very singular and extraordinary communication. An exact copy cannot at present be obtained, as official etiquette will not permit; but having read it when it was received on shore, as far as memory will serve us it was as follows:

On board H. M. ship Ramilies, off Stonington, Aug. 10.

Gentlemen—You having given assurances that no torpedoes have been fitted out from Stonington; and having engaged to exert your influence to prevent any from being fitted out

or receiving any aid from your town: If you send on board this ship tomorrow at eight o'clock Mrs. Stewart, wife of James Stewart, esq. late his majesty's consul at New London, and their children, I engage that no further hostilities shall be committed against Stonington; otherwise I shall proceed to destroy it effectually. For which purpose I possess ample means. T. M. HARDY, capt.

This letter was received indignantly. No answer was given. It was a fact well known that no torpedoes have been fitted at Stonington, and that the inhabitants are unfriendly to the system; but neither individuals nor the town have power to prevent their resorting to that place. The condition *sine qua non*, is truly *tragi-farcical*. Neither the town of Stonington or the state of Connecticut, had any legal power to comply with it, which capt. Hardy well knew. And if Stonington Point with its rocky foundations had been in danger of being blown up, scarcely a voice would have been raised to have saved it upon such disgraceful terms. The first duty of a citizen, we are taught in Connecticut, is to obey the laws. Mrs. Stewart is under the protection of the government of the United States, and the petition of her husband for a permission for a departure is in the hands of a proper authority, who will undoubtedly decide correctly in the case.

Our countrymen at a distance, from the importance capt. Hardy has attached to the circumstance of Mrs. Stewart's being sent off to the British squadron, may possibly apprehend that she has received insult, or signified such fears for the personal safety of herself and children.—So far from this being the fact, no lady ever experienced greater civilities from the citizens; as no one has better deserved them. And her feelings during the proceedings at Stonington, demanded the sympathy of her friends.

By the terms offered by capt. Hardy, it was impossible to discover whether he was most doubtful of his ability to accomplish the destruction of the town, or desirous of a pretext to save it. He assured the gentlemen who accompanied the flag that this was the most unpleasant expedition he had ever undertaken.

The truce on the part of the enemy having expired at 8 o'clock on Thursday morning, a flag, was soon after observed at the battery to be coming on shore, and there not being sufficient time to give information of the fact at head quarters and receive instructions, it was determined by the officer then commanding to send a boat off to receive the communication. Mr. Faxon, of Stonington, took charge of the boat, and offered to convey the dispatch agreeable to its directions. The British officer, lieutenant Claxton, questioned his authority to receive it. Enquired whether Mrs. Stewart would be sent off; and what he would

go on shore. Mr. Faxon replied, that he knew nothing of Mrs. Stewart, and that if he attempted to proceed for the shore he would undoubtedly be fired on. He continued his course, when a sentinel was directed to fire forward of the boat, but the ball passed through the after sail. They immediately put about and steered for the ship; the lieutenant swearing revenge for what he termed an insult to his flag.

An explanation of the circumstance was immediately transmitted by general Isham to captain Hardy, which he received as satisfactory.

At the moment a flag had started for the Ramilies from the civil authority of the town; which was received on board, by which was sent the following letter.

*Stonington-Boro', Aug. 14, 1814.*

*To Thomas M. Hardy, Esq. commander of H. B. M. ship Ramilies.*

SIR—Since the flag went into New London for Mrs. Stewart, and family, general Cushing who commanded at New London, has written, we are informed, to the secretary of war on the subject, and it is our opinion that the request will be complied with. But whatever may be the result of the communication from gen. Cushing, you will be satisfied it is not in our power to enter into any arrangement with you respecting her.

From yours, &c.

Isaac Williams,	} Magistrates.
William Lord,	
Alex. G. Smith,	
John Smith,	warden.
Geo. Hubbard,	} Burgess.
Amos Denison,	

To this letter, capt. Hardy replied verbally, that he should allow till 12 o'clock for Mrs. Stewart to be brought on board. At this time the principal part of 3 regiments of militia had arrived, and the town was perfectly secure against a landing.

At 3 o'clock, the bomb-ship re-commenced throwing shells into the town; and being out of the reach of our cannon, the general withdrew the militia excepting a guard of 50 men, who were ordered to patrol the streets for the extinguishment of fire, should any happen.—The bombardment continued till evening.

On Friday morning the bomb-ship renewed her operations a little before sun rise, while the Ramilies and Pactolus were warping in. At eight o'clock the frigate opened her fire, and was soon followed by the Ramilies. At this time the cannon were ordered to be moved to the north end of the town, where they would have been serviceable if an attempt had been made to land under cover of the ships. This was a very hazardous service as the party would be entirely exposed to the fire of the enemy. Volunteers in sufficient numbers instantly offered their services; among them were upwards of twenty of the Norwich

artillery. The command of the party was entrusted to lieutenant Lathrop, of that corps. They marched to the battery and brought off the pieces without the smallest accident; exhibiting all the steadiness which characterises veteran soldiers.

This tremendous cannonade and bombardment continued till nearly noon, when it ceased; and about four o'clock the ships hauled off to their former anchorage.

During the succeeding night a large force was kept on guard; in the expectation and hope that a landing would be attempted. The militia during this afflicting scene discovered the very best disposition, and were eager to take revenge of the enemy or sacrifice their lives in the contest.

It may be considered miraculous that during the several attacks, while so many were exposed to this terrible and protracted bombardment and cannonade, not a person was killed, and but five or six wounded, and those slightly. Among the wounded is lieutenant Hough of the drafted militia.

On Saturday morning the enemy relinquished the hope of burning the town, weighed anchor and proceeded up Fisher's island sound.

The volunteers who so gloriously fought in the battery, deserve the thanks of their country. No men could have done better. Their example will have the happiest influence.

About 40 buildings are more or less injured; 8 or 10 essentially so; and two or three may be considered as ruined. The damage was principally done by the brig. Many shells did not explode, several were extinguished. The Congreve Rockets which were frightful at first, soon lost their terrors, and effected little.

The inhabitants fearing another attack, have not returned to their dwellings; and their desolate situation calls loudly upon the philanthropy of their fellow citizens. If a brief should be granted for collections in the churches of the state, we trust very essential aid will be furnished. Nineteen-twentieths of the inhabitants, it is said, have no other property than their buildings.

A Nantucket man has been on board the British fleet to redeem his boat and learnt that the Dispatch had 2 men killed and 12 wounded; her loss was undoubtedly much greater.

An article signed by the magistrates, says "During this protracted bombardment, nothing more excites our astonishment and gratitude than this, that not a man was killed on our part. We understand from good authority, the enemy had a number killed and several badly wounded. In this unprovoked attack upon us, we have made some estimate of the number of shells and fire carcasses thrown into the village, and we find there has been about three hundred. The amount of metal

fired by the enemy, will exceed we think fifty tons, about three or four tons of bombs, carcasses and shot, have been collected.”\*

FROM THE COLUMBIAN.

THE BATTLE OF STONINGTON.

Three gallant ships from England came,  
Freighted deep with fire and flame,  
And other things we need not name,  
To have a dash at Stonington.

Now safe arrived—their work begun—  
They thought to make the yankees rue,  
And have a mighty deal of fun,  
In stealing sheep at Stonington.

A yankee, then, popp'd up his head,  
And parson Jones' sermon read,  
In which the reverend doctor said,  
That they must fight for Stonington.

The ships advancing several ways,  
The Britons soon began to blaze,  
And put the old women in amaze,  
Who fear'd the loss of Stonington!

The yankees to their fort remained,  
And made as though they little cared,  
For all their shot—though very hard  
They blazed away on Stonington.

The Ramilles began the attack,  
And Nimrod made a mighty crack,  
And none can tell what kept them back,  
From setting fire to Stonington.

The old Razee, with red hot ball,  
Soon made a farmer's barrack fall,  
And did a cow-house sadly maul,  
That stood a mile from Stonington.

The bombs were thrown, the rockets flew,  
But not a man of all their crew,  
(Though every man was full in view)  
Could kill a man at Stonington.

To have their turn they thought but fair—  
The yankees brought two guns to bear,  
And, sir, it would have made you stare;  
To see the smoke at Stonington!

They bored the Nimrod through and through,  
And kill'd and mangled half her crew,  
When riddled, crippled, she withdrew,  
And caus'd the boys of Stonington.

The Ramilles gave up the fray,  
And with her comrades sneak'd away—  
Such was the valor on that day,  
Of British tars at Stonington.

But some assert, on certain grounds,  
Beside the damage and the wounds,  
It cost their king ten thousand pounds,  
To have a dash at Stonington.

\*Some respectable citizens from motives of curiosity weighed several shells, &c. and found their weight to be as follows:

One of the largest carcasses partly full of the combustible,	216 lb.
One of the smallest sort do.	103
One of the largest kind empty,	189
One of the largest bomb shells,	189
One of the smallest do.	90
One marked on it (firé 16lb)	16

One of the large carcasses partly full, was set on fire which burnt half an hour, emitting a horrid stench, in a calm the flame would rise ten feet.—Some of the rockets were sharp pointed, others not, made of sheet iron very thick, containing at the lower end some of them a fusee of grenade, calculated to burst, and if they were taken hold of before the explosion, might prove dangerous, one or two persons received injury in this way. They appear to contain a greater variety of combustibles than the fire carcasses.

British Proclamations, &c.

The following proceedings were had by the hon. William Henry Percy, a captain in "his majesty's" navy—and Lieut. col. Nicholls, commanding "his majesty's" forces in the Floridas, before they got their drubbing at Fort Bowyer—which has, perhaps, changed their tone. Their impudence is equalled only by their folly.

Though we have laughed heartily at the appeal of the gallant colonel to the people of Kentucky, &c. and his story of "French influence"—he base, villainous and unprincipled application to the celebrated pirate Lafitte, for his alliance—a man who, for about two years past, has been famous for crimes that the civilized world wars against—who is supposed to have captured one hundred vessels, of all nations, and certainly murdered the crews of all that he took, for no one has ever escaped him—who was known to the HON. captain Percy, "his Britannic majesty's senior officer, &c."—indubitably known, as such an outlaw, pirate and murderer—is of a character so infamous and detestable, that, in the strong language of an anonymous writer on another occasion, we would "with trumpet lungs, call upon heaven and earth to punish the offence!"

Gracious Providence!—are such men the "bulwarks of religion and liberty."

These fellows have been handsomely beaten by less than 100 men at fort Bowyer, with all their spouting. The poor creature Nicholls, had only about 200 marines, and as many indians, of whom, and to whom, he speaks so pompously!

Head quarters, Pensacola, August 26, 1814.

Order of the day for the first colonial battalion of the royal corps of marines.

You are called upon to discharge a duty of the utmost peril. You will have to perform long and tedious marches through wildernesses, swamps and water courses; your enemy from long habit inured to the climate, will have great advantages over you. But remember the 21 years of toil and glory of your country, and resolve, to follow the example of your glorious companions, who have fought and spilt their blood in her service. Be equally faithful and strict in your moral discipline, and this the last and most perfidious of your enemies, will not long maintain themselves before you. A cause so sacred as that which has led you to draw your swords in Europe, will make you unsleath them in America, and I trust you will use them with equal credit and advantage. In Europe your arms were not employed in defence of your country only, but of all those who groaned in the chains of oppression, and in America they are to have the same direction. The people whom you are now to aid and assist have suffered robberies and murders committed on them by the Americans.

The noble Spanish nation has grieved to see her territories insulted; having been robbed and spoiled of a portion of them while she was overwhelmed with distress and held down by the chains which a tyrant had imposed on her glorious struggling for the greatest of all possible blessings (true liberty.) The treacherous Americans, who call themselves free, have attacked her, like assassins, while she was fallen. But the day of retribution is fast approaching. These atrocities will excite horror in the heart of a British soldier, they will stimulate you to avenge them, and you will avenge them like British soldiers. Valor, then, and humanity!

As to the Indians, you are to exhibit to them the most exact discipline, being a pattern to those children of nature. You will teach and instruct them, in doing which you will manifest the utmost pa-

tiences, and you will correct them when they deserve it. But you will regard their affections and *antipathies*, and never give them just cause of offence. Sobriety, above all things, should be your greatest care—a single instance of drunkenness may be your ruin, and I declare to you in the most solemn manner that no consideration whatsoever shall induce me to forgive a drunkard. Apprized of this declaration, if any of you break my orders in this respect, he will consider himself the just cause of his own chastisement. Sobriety is your first duty; I ask of you the observance of it among your brethren. Vigilance is our next duty. Nothing is so disgraceful to our army as surprise. Nothing so destructive to our cause.

By the honorable William Henry Percy, captain of his majesty's ship *Hermes*, and senior officer in the gulf of Mexico.

You are hereby requested and directed after having received on board an officer belonging to the first battalion of royal colonial marines, to proceed in his majesty's ship under your command, without a moment's loss of time for Barataria.

On your arrival at that place, you will communicate with the chief persons there; you will urge them to throw themselves under the protection of Great Britain; and should you find them inclined to pursue such a step, you will hold out to them, that their property shall be secured to them, that they shall be considered British subjects, and at the conclusion of the war, lands in his majesty's colonies in America, will be allotted to them. In return for these concessions, you will insist on an immediate cessation of hostilities against Spain; and in case they should have any Spanish property not disposed of, that it is to be restored, and that they put their naval force into the hands of the senior officer here, until the commander in chief's pleasure is known. In the event of their not having inclined to act offensively against the United States, you will do all in your power to persuade them to strict neutrality, and still endeavor to put a stop to their hostilities against Spain; should you succeed completely in the object for which you are sent, you will concert such measures for the annoyance of the enemy as you judge best from circumstances, having an eye to the junction of their small armed vessels with me, for the capture of the *Mobile*, &c. You will, at all events, yourself, join me with the utmost despatch at this post, with the account of your success.

Given under my hand, and on board his majesty's ship *Hermes*, at Pensacola, this 30th day of August, 1814.

(Signed) W. H. PERCY, captain.

Nichols Lockyer, esq. commander of his majesty's ship *Sophia*.

A true copy from the original in my possession.

WM. C. C. CLAIBORNE.

By the honorable William Henry Percy, captain of H. M. S. *Hermes*, and senior officer of the Gulf of Mexico.

Having understood that some British merchantmen have been detained, taken into, and sold by the inhabitants of Barataria, I have directed captain Lockyer, of H. M. sloop *Sophia*, to proceed to that place, and to inquire into the circumstance, with positive orders to demand instant restitution, and in case of refusal, to destroy to his utmost, every vessel there, as well as to carry destruction over the whole place, and at the same time to assure him of the co-operation of all H. M. naval force on this station. I trust at the same time that the inhabitants of Barataria consulting their own interest, will not make it necessary to proceed to such extremities.—Hold out at the same time to them, a war instantly

destructive to them, and on the other hand, should they be inclined to assist Great Britain, in an unjust and unprovoked war against the United States, the security of their property, the blessings of the British constitution, and should they be inclined to settle on this continent, lands will at the conclusion of the war, be allotted to them, in his majesty's colonies in America. In return for all these concessions, on the part of Great Britain, I expect that the direction of the armed vessels will be put into my hands, (for which they will be remunerated) the instant cessation of hostilities against the Spanish government and the restitution of any undisposed of property of that nation shall be made. Should any inhabitants be inclined to volunteer their services into H. M. force, either naval or military, for limited service, they will be received, and if any British subject being at Barataria wishes to return to his native country, he will, on joining his majesty's service, receive a free pardon.

Given under my hand, on board his majesty's ship *Hermes*, Pensacola, the 1st day of Sept. 1814.

(Signed)

W. H. PERCY, Capt.

and Senior officer.

MONSIEUR LAFETE.

A true copy from the original in my possession.

W. C. C. CLAIBORNE.

Head-quarters, Pensacola, August 31st, 1814.

Sir—I have arrived in the Floridas for the purpose of annoying the only enemy Great Britain has in the world. As France and England are now friends, I call on you, with your brave followers, to enter into the service of Great Britain, in which you shall have the rank of captain—LANDS will be given to you all in proportion to your respective ranks, on a peace taking place, and I invite you out on the following terms:—your property shall be quartered to you, and your person protected. In return for which I ask you to cease all hostilities against Spain or the allies of Great Britain. Your ships and vessels to be placed under the orders of the commanding officer on this station until the commander in chief's pleasure is known; but I guarantee their fair value to you at all events.

I herewith enclose you a copy of my proclamation to the inhabitants of Louisiana, which will, I trust, point out to you the honorable intentions of my government; you may be a useful assistant to me in forwarding them; therefore if you determine, lose no time; the bearer of this captain M<sup>W</sup> Williams will satisfy you on any other points you may be anxious to learn, as will capt. Lockyer of the *Sophia*, who carries him to you. We have a powerful reinforcement on the way here, and I hope to cut out some other work for the Americans than oppressing the inhabitants of Louisiana. Be expeditious on your resolves and rely upon the veracity of

Your humble servant,

(Signed)

EDWARD NICHOLLS,

Lt. col. com. H. B. M. forces in the Floridas, To Monsieur La Fete, or the commandant at Barataria.

By Lieut. col. Edward Nicholls, commanding H. B. M. forces in the Floridas.

Natives of Louisiana, on you the first call is made to assist in liberating from a faithless and imbecile government, your paternal soil. Spaniards, Frenchmen, Italians and British, whether settled or residing for a time in Louisiana, or you also I call to aid me in the just cause. The American usurpation in this country must be abolished, and the lawful owners of the soil put in possession. I am at the head of a large body of Indians, well armed, disciplined, and commanded by British officers. A good train of artillery with every requisite, seconded by the



powerful aid of a numerous British and Spanish squadron of ships and vessels of war. Be not alarmed, inhabitants of the country, at our approach; the same good faith and disinterestedness, which has distinguished the conduct of Britons in Europe accompanies them here. You will have no fear of litigious taxes imposed on you for the purpose of carrying on an unnatural and unjust war; your property, your laws, the peace and tranquility of your country, will be guaranteed to you by men who will suffer no infringement of theirs; rest assured that these brave men only burn with an ardent desire of satisfaction, for the wrongs they have suffered from the Americans, to join you in liberating these southern frontiers from their yoke, and drive them into the limits formerly prescribed by my sovereign.—The Indians have pledged themselves, in the most solemn manner, not to injure in the slightest degree, the persons or properties, of any but enemies to their Spanish or English fathers. A flag over any door whether Spanish, French or British will be a certain protection. Nor dare any Indian put his foot on the threshold thereof, under penalty of death from his own countrymen. Not even an enemy will an Indian put to death, except resisting in arms, and as for injuring helpless women and children the red men by their good conduct and treatment to them, will, if it be possible, make the Americans blush for their more than inhuman conduct, lately on the Es-cambia, and within a neutral territory.

Inhabitants of Kentucky, you have too long borne with grievous impositions. The whole brunt of the war has fallen on your brave sons; be imposed on no more; but either range yourselves under the standard of your forefathers, or observe a strict neutrality. If you comply with either of these offers; whatever provisions you send down, will be paid for in dollars, and the safety of the persons bringing it, as well as the free navigation of the Mississippi guaranteed to you. Men of Kentucky, let me call to your view, and I trust to your abhorrence, the conduct of those factions, which hurried you into this cruel, unjust and unnatural war, at a time when Great Britain was straining every nerve in defence of her own, and the liberties of the world; when the bravest of her sons were fighting and bleeding in so sacred a cause; when she was spending millions of her treasure in endeavoring to pull down one of the most formidable and dangerous tyrants that ever disgraced the form of man: when groaning Europe was almost in her last gasp, when positions alone shewed an undaunted front, basely did these assassins endeavor to stab her from the rear; she has turned on them, renovated from the bloody, but successful struggle. Europe is happy and free, and she now hastens justly to avenge unprovoked insults. Show them that you are not collectively unjust, leave that contemptible few to shift for themselves; let those slaves of the tyrant send an embassy to Elba, and implore his aid; but let every honest, upright American spurn them with merited contempt. After the experience of 21 years, can you any longer support those brawlers for liberty, who call it freedom, and know not when themselves are free; be no longer their dupes, accept of my offer; every thing I have promised in this paper I guarantee to you in the sacred honor of a British officer.

Given under my hand at my head-quarters, Pensacola, this 29th of August, 1814.

(Signed) EDWARD NICHOLLS.

### Recent omissions—miscellaneous.

It is stated that the privateer Midas, of Baltimore, lately from Savannah, has made a *Cockburn-descent*

on Harbor Island, one of the Bahamas, and burnt or plundered twenty seven houses, taking from one person 740 doubloons. The destruction of the capitol was assigned as a reason for this proceeding.

It is a fact that eleven-twelfths of the towns and settlements in the West Indies might be burnt or plundered by our armed vessels—the whole British navy cannot defend them—and there are hundreds of small places in England, Ireland and Scotland, far more important than Havre de Grace, Fredericktown, &c. &c. which the enemy has destroyed, that might be retaliated upon as easily by a privateer or small armed schooner, as a ship of the line—yet we hope and trust it may not be done. It may, perhaps, be well enough to shew the barbarian enemy that we can do it; but let us refrain from doing it. Such excursions cannot have any national effect; and are condemned by the laws and usages of all civilized nations, the British excepted, if they deserve to be so called. Our forbearance may bring them to a sense of shame for their conduct,—and, though it should have no good effect in this way, must be pleasing in the sight of God, and will strengthen us in a consciousness of our own rectitude, and secure us the good opinion of the world.

Mr. STEWART, formerly British consul at New London, since known as an agent for procuring specie for the enemy, &c. and who has long been on board the fleet off New London, was lately made prisoner on Plumb island, and remains so on board the U. S. sloop Hornet.

“THE TUNE CHANGED.” *From the Albany Argus, Sept. 30.* The official paper of the government at Quebec, which lately held up the idea, that Great Britain would insist on the exclusive jurisdiction of the lakes, the establishment of a new boundary line on our northern and western frontier, which should give her a large district of our territory, our abandonment of the fisheries, and the East India trade as the price of peace—in an article of the 23d ult. condescends to say, “If, in addition to their [the Americans] being shut out from the East India trade, they should be, in some degree curtailed in the fisheries, we fear it is as much as we can look for.” This official paper pays no mean compliment to the valor of our troops, when in the same article it admits, “with all our strength, it would be rashness to penetrate to any considerable distance into the enemy’s country. Such a measure would infallibly expose our army to be taken in the rear and produce perhaps another Saratoga disaster.” Again—“They [the British troops on the Niagara frontier] have at present an enemy to contend with not to be contemned by them.”

[The affairs at Plattsburg and Baltimore, not known at Quebec when the article alluded to was written, will very strongly confirm the positions of the writer.]—*Ree.*

**LIBERALITY.** The people of the state of New York are busy in administering to the comfort of the families of those who have marched to defend the maritime frontier.

**SINGULAR CIRCUMSTANCE.** There are some facts relating to the capture of general Riell which may not be uninteresting. On the day of the memorable battle of Bridgewater, capt. Ketchum, of the 25th infantry, in conversation with one of his brother officers, observed, that in 24 hours he would return with gen. Riell and suit prisoners. During the evening of that day capt. Ketchum, with a small body of men, circumvented the British army, and got in their rear. Gen. Riell, supposing them to be a body of his own men, ordered them to charge upon them. Captain Ketchum coolly replied—“Sir I receive no orders from you—I command here—please to dismount.”

Gen. Riall after a slight resistance, in which one of his aids was killed, surrendered.

**BAIG. GEN. RIPLEY.**—It is stated in a letter received at Pittsfield in Massachusetts, from an officer, who was by the side of gen. Ripley in the battle of the 17th ult. that all the troops participated in the action, and that towards the close of it, as the general was at the head of the 23d regt. then closely engaged at the distance of twenty yards from the enemy, he received a musket shot, which penetrated through his neck between the throat and the spine, entering in front of the right artery and passing out behind the left artery. His aid conveyed him from the field of battle, insensible through the loss of blood. On the 20th his recovery was considered as doubtful.

By subsequent accounts we have the pleasure to hope the early return of this gallant officer to the service of his country.

The *Boston Palladium* of the 28th Oct. says: "It was reported a few days since, that several of the neutral nations of Europe had complained to the British government of the extent of the blockade of the ports of the United States.

And yesterday it was reported that an order had been received at Halifax, permitting the neutral vessels which have been sent in there and not adjudicated, to sail for their original ports of destination in the United States, not known to them to be blockaded at the time they commenced their voyages, and to return with cargoes.

No doubt there has been a negotiation in England on the subject of neutral vessels turned off from ports not known by them to be blockaded, when they sailed; and the above is possibly the result. To take a return cargo under such circumstances, would be among their rights.

A considerable number of neutrals have been waiting at Halifax the issue of the despatches sent to England.

**VERMONT VOLUNTEERS.**—To the editors of the *Burlington Gazette*.—Sirs—On my arrival at this place last evening, I found a false and disgraceful report in circulation respecting the Vermont troops. It is stated, that while fighting the enemy at Plattsburgh, in their attack on Sunday last, we refused to give them quarters after they had surrendered. In the part of the line occupied by col. Lyman's regiment, a number of the enemy surrendered, and a captain and several others were killed. But col. Lyman asserts with confidence, that no person fell after quarters were asked, although there were several guns fired in consequence of a large number of the enemy making their escape. This may, perhaps, account for the misrepresentation. I hope that no person will undertake to disgrace such brave men as ours appeared to be on that occasion, with imputations of such base and savage conduct, as I am certain colonel Lyman acted with all the bravery, skill and magnanimity of an experienced veteran.

By order of SAMUEL STRONG, gen. of Vermont volunteers. R. D. HOPKINS, A. D. C.

*Burlington, Sept. 15.*

### BRUTALITY OF THE ENEMY.

*Messrs. Gales and Seaton*—Having seen the following publication in the *Alexandria Herald*, of the 19th October with horror, as capping the climax of atrocity—

To the Editors of the *Herald*. Gentlemen, I have no recollection of having seen any account of the conduct of the enemy at Choptico published in any of the public prints; you are at liberty to publish the following extract of

a letter to a friend, written shortly after that affair. It is a very imperfect account written in a hurry amidst the bustle of a camp, but contains most of the facts. My name is enclosed, which you are at liberty to make public, if any respectable person should deny the truth of the following statement.

*A Citizen of Maryland.*

"I passed through Choptico shortly after the enemy left it, and I am sorry to say that their conduct would have disgraced Cannibals; the house was torn to pieces, the well which afforded water for the inhabitants was filled up, and; what is still worse, the church and the ashes of the dead shared an equally bad or worse fate. Will you believe me, when I tell you, that the sunken graves were converted into barbacue holes! The remaining glass of the church windows broken, the communion table used as a dinner table and then broken to pieces! Bad as the above may appear, it dwindles into insignificance, when compared with what follows: the vault was entered and the remains of the dead disturbed. Yes, my friend, the winding sheet was torn from the body of a lady of the first respectability, and the whole contents of the vault entirely deranged! The above facts were witnessed by hundreds as well as myself, and I am happy to say, that but one sentiment pervaded our army."

I immediately shewed it to general Philip Stewart, lately commanding the American troops at that place, who read and declared it strictly true; that Cockburn was at the head of it; that they also destroyed the organs; that judge Key's lady who had been last put into the vault was the person alluded to, that her winding sheet was torn in pieces, and her person wantonly exposed; and that his men were exasperated to desperation by his conduct. You will publish this. Yours, &c.

ROBERT WRIGHT.

October 19, 1814.

N. B. I hope every American printer will also publish it. R. W.

### WORSE AND WORSE.

The Boston Patriot noticing this brutal transaction, adds—

"The above facts, detailed by governor Wright, were confirmed by general Philip Stewart, who lately commanded the American troops at that place; who declared the statement to be every way correct. But this, horrible as it was, was nothing to what followed. We are authorized to state, that general Stewart informed a member of the senate of the United States, that the BRITISH OFFICERS STRIPPED YOUNG LADIES ENTIRELY NAKED, and obliged them to stand before them in that condition for an hour and an half; when they, the British officers, at length permitted these distressed females again to clothe themselves!"

FURTHER!

The general fact stated in the following is abundantly confirmed by captain Campbell's letter to the secretary of the navy, inserted below.

A letter from the southward says, the British are as savage in their warfare now, as in the days of our

revolution: it is their character in all their wars; cruel in victory, and fawningly supple when they are conquered. The fate of sailing-master Paine is illustrative of this fact. A grape shot passed through his thigh, and he fell—he had discharged his cannon and small arms with good effect; was boarded, and cheered his men as he lay—was stabbed by a pike—cried out for quarters, and afterwards received two deep wounds on the back of his head and neck by a cutlass, supposed to be mortal. Several of the enemy were counted, dead in one barge. Paine was carried off; and the other wounded and sick were left on a sand bank, dry at low water in the midst of the sound, surrounded by 18 feet water, without a boat, in order that they might perish by flow of tide, when it was equally convenient to have landed them at Cumberland High-point, or on little Cumberland beach—the sand bank lies about midway between!!! Such is “the Bulwark of our Religion.”

There are letters in town which state that sailing-master Paine expired about 15 minutes after the action. [Sav. Led.]

*Copy of a letter from com. Campbell, to the secretary of the navy, dated*

ST. MARY'S, October 8th, 1814.

SIR—I have the misfortune to inform you of the loss of my vessel, No. 160, commanded by Thomas Paine, jr. sailing master. He was from Savannah with convoy, and about eight leagues from this place when taken. The enemy had ten boats of different descriptions, and a sloop fitted out as a tender full of men. They were manned from the frigate Lacedemonian, and other vessels, names unknown, having on board about 200 men. They entered St. Andrew's Sound on the night of the 5th inst. came up with the gun boat about 3 o'clock in the morning of the 6th, and carried her by boarding, after a distant cannonade, and a discharge of musketry for 20 minutes. Four of the convoy were likewise taken, two of which they destroyed, in consequence of their running on shore. Mr. Paine had but 30 souls on board, of which 16 only were fit for duty, the residue on the sick list. The enemy landed all the sick and wounded except Mr. Paine, 16 in number, on a sand bank near the bar of St. Andrew's Sound, a situation from which they could not extricate themselves, but at the risk of their lives, and one of them was drowned in the attempt; those that could not swim were obliged to remain on the bank, and must have drowned had not timely relief been given them by a few inhabitants formerly of this place, who had lately settled on Cumberland, who took them off at the moment, when a few minutes would have terminated their existence. They all declare that they could have survived but a few moments longer. Eleven of these unfortunate men have arrived at this place; by their statement of the action I have reason to believe that every man did his duty on board the gun boat, yet strange to tell, we had but 3 men wounded, Mr. Paine included, who fell early in the action. The enemy's loss, as far as I can learn is about twenty killed and wounded, of the latter a lieutenant with the loss of his arm, and two midshipmen with the loss of a hand each. The enemy was in sight yesterday. Their orders are I understand to destroy the inland trade between this place and Savannah.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your obedient servant,

HUGH G. CAMPBELL,

*Hon. Wm. Jones, secretary of the navy.*

*To the Editors of the National Intelligencer.*  
Among the deeds of Vandalism committed

during the late invasion of the city, by the enemy, I know of none more base and wanton than the mutilation of the monument at the navy yard.

This elegant monument of the liberality and gallantry of our naval heroes, has been shamefully defaced by the hand of some barbarian. On the base the genius of America is represented by a female figure pointing to an inscription and raising a view of the battle before Tripoli, instructing her children who are standing beside her—the pointing finger and thumb have been cut off. History, a female figure, who is represented as recording the event, has been robbed of her pen—and a figure of fame, who is represented as descending in a cloud covering the deeds of her sons with the palm and crown of glory, has been robbed of the palm at the expense of the hand that held it. From every enquiry it is possible to make, there is no reason to doubt but that it was the deliberate act of some of the British officers, as several of them were seen to be on the base of the monument, by the neighbors around the yard.

The deed itself appears to have some allusion to the time when it was perpetrated; but poor indeed must have been the inspiration of the poet not to have foreseen, in the victories of M'Donough, Warrington and Blakely, how soon history might resume her employment, and fame cover our heroes with, I trust, an imperishable palm of victory.

AN OBSERVER.

## New Military Force.

*Department of war, October 17.*

SIR—The great importance of the subject, and the other duties of the Department, which could not fail to be very sensibly felt, at so interesting a period, by a person who had just taken charge of it, are my apology for not answering your letter of the 24th of September at an earlier day, on the defects of the present military establishment.

Due consideration has been bestowed on the subject matter of that letter, and I have now the honor to submit to the committee the following report:

1. That the present military establishment, amounting to 62,448 men, be preserved and made complete, and that the most efficient means authorised by the constitution and consistent with the general rights of our fellow-citizens be adopted, to fill the ranks, and with the least possible delay.

2. That a permanent force consisting of at least 40,000 men in addition to the present military establishment be raised for the defence of our cities and frontiers, under an engagement by the executive with such corps that it shall be employed in that service within certain specified limits, and that a proportional augmentation of general officers of each grade, and other staff be provided for.

3. That the corps of engineers be enlarged.

4. That the ordnance department be amended.

Respecting the enlargement of the corps of engineers, I shall submit hereafter a more detailed communication.

For the proposed amendment of the ordnance de-

partment, I submit a report from the senior officer of that department in this city, which is approved.

I shall be ready and happy to communicate such further remarks and details on these subjects as the committee may desire, and shall request permission to suggest hereafter the result of further attention to, and reflection on, our military establishment generally, should any thing occur which may be deemed worthy its attention.

I have the honor to be, &c.

JAS. MONROE.

*Honorable G. M. Troup, chairman, military committee, house of representatives.*

EXPLANATORY OBSERVATIONS.

*Accompanying the letter from the secretary of war to the chairman of the military committee of the house of representatives.*

In providing a force necessary to bring this war to a happy termination, the nature of the crisis in which we are involved, and the extent of its dangers, claim particular attention. If the means are not fully adequate to the end, discomfiture must inevitably ensue.

It may be fairly presumed, that it is the object of the British government, by striking at the principal sources of our prosperity, to diminish the importance, if not to destroy the political existence of the United States. If any doubt remained on this subject, it has been completely removed by the despatches from our ministers at Ghent, which were lately laid before congress.

A nation contending for its existence against an enemy powerful by land and sea, favored in a peculiar manner by extraordinary events, must make great sacrifices. Forced to contend again for our liberties and independence, we are called on for a display of all the patriotism, which distinguished our fellow-citizens in the first great struggle. It may be fairly concluded, that if the United States sacrifice any right, or make any dishonorable concession to the demands of the British government, the spirit of the nation will be broken, and the foundations of their union and independence shaken. The United States must relinquish no right, or perish in the struggle. There is no intermedia ground to rest on. A concession on one point, leads directly to the surrender of every other. The result of the contest cannot be doubtful. The highest confidence is entertained that the stronger the pressure, and the greater the danger, the more firm and vigorous will be the resistance, and the more successful and glorious the result.

It is the avowed purpose of the enemy to lay waste and destroy our cities and villages, and to desolate our coast, of which examples have already been afforded. It is evidently his intention to press the war along the whole extent of our seaboard, in the hope of exhausting equally the spirit of the people, and the national resources. There is also reason to presume, that it is the intention to press the war from Canada on the adjoining states, while attempts are made on the city of New-York, and other important points, with a view to the vain project of dismemberment or subjugation. It may be inferred likewise to be a part of the scheme, to continue to invade this part of the union, while a separate force attacks the state of Louisiana, in the hope of taking possession of the city of New-Orleans, and of the mouth of the Mississippi, that great inlet and key to the commerce of all that portion of the United States lying westward of the Alleghany mountains. The peace in Europe having given to the enemy a large disposable force, has essentially favored these objects.

The advantage which a great naval superiority

gives to the enemy, by enabling him to move troops from one quarter to another, from Maine to Mississippi, a coast of two thousand miles extent, is very considerable. Even a small force moved in this manner for the purposes avowed by the British commanders, cannot fail to be sensibly felt, more especially by those who are most exposed to it. It is obvious, if the militia are to be relied on principally for the defence of our cities and coasts against their predatory and desolating incursions, wherever they may be made, that by interfering with their ordinary pursuits of industry, it must be attended with serious interruption and loss to them, and injury to the public, while it greatly increases the expense. It is an object, therefore, of the highest importance, to provide a regular force, with the means of transporting it from one quarter to another along our coast, thereby following the movements of the enemy with the greatest possible rapidity, and repelling the attack wherever it may be made. These remarks are equally true as to the militia service generally under the present organization of the militia, and the short terms of service prescribed by law. It may be stated with confidence, that at least three times the force in militia has been employed at our principal cities along the coast, and on the frontier, in marching to and returning thence, that would have been necessary in regular troops; and that the expense attending it has been more than proportionably augmented, from the difficulty, if not the impossibility, of preserving the same degree of system in the militia as in the regular service.

But it will not be sufficient to repel these predatory and desolating incursions. To bring the war to an honorable termination, we must not be contented with defending ourselves. Different feelings must be touched, and apprehensions excited in the British government. By pushing the war into Canada, we secure the friendship of the Indian tribes, and command their services, otherwise to be turned by the enemy against us; we relieve the coast from the desolation which is intended for it, and we keep in our hands a safe pledge for an honorable peace.

It follows, from this view of the subject, that it will be necessary to bring into the field next campaign, not less than 100,000 regular troops. Such a force, aided, in extraordinary emergencies, by volunteers and militia, will place us above all inquietude as to the final result of this contest. It will fix, on a solid and imperishable foundation, our union and independence; on which the liberties and happiness of our fellow-citizens so essentially depend. It will secure to the United States an early and advantageous peace.

It will arrest, in the further prosecution of the war, the desolation of our cities and our coast, by enabling us to retort on the enemy those calamities which our citizens have been already doomed to suffer, a resort which self-defence alone, and a sacred regard for the rights and honor of the nation, could induce the United States to adopt.

The return of the regular force now in service, laid before you, will shew how many men will be necessary to fill the present corps; and the return of the numerical force of the present military establishment, will shew how many are required to complete it to the number proposed. The next and most important inquiry is, how shall these men be raised? Under existing circumstances, it is evident that the most prompt and efficient mode that can be devised, consistent with the equal rights of every citizen, ought to be adopted. The following plans are respectfully submitted to the consideration of the committee. Being distinct in their nature, I will present each separately, with the considerations applicable to it.

## FIRST PLAN.

Let the free male population of the United States, between 18 and 45 years, be formed into classes of 100 men each, and let each class furnish men for the war, within 30 days after the classification, and replace them in the event of casualty.

The classification to be formed with a view to the equal distribution of property among the several classes.

If any class fails to provide the men required of it, within the time specified, they shall be raised by draft on the whole class: any person thus drafted being allowed to furnish a substitute.

The present bounty in land to be allowed to each recruit, and the present bounty in money, which is paid to each recruit by the United States, to be paid to each draft by all the inhabitants within the precinct of the class, within which the draft may be made, equally, according to the value of the property which they may respectively possess; and if such bounty be not paid within days, the same to be levied on all the taxable property of the said inhabitants. And in like manner, the bounty, whatever it may be, which may be employed in raising a recruit, to avoid a draft, to be assessed on the taxable property of the whole precinct.

The recruits to be delivered over to the recruiting officer in each district, to be marched to such places of general rendezvous as may be designated by the department of war.

That this plan will be efficient, cannot be doubted. It is evident, that the men contemplated may soon be raised by it. Three modes occur, by which it may be carried into effect. 1st. By placing the execution of it in the hands of the county courts throughout the United States. 2d. By relying on the militia officers in each county. 3d. By appointing particular persons in each county for that purpose. It is believed that either of these modes would be found adequate.

Nor does there appear to be any well founded objection to the right in congress to adopt this plan, or to its equality in its application to our fellow-citizens individually. Congress have a right, by the constitution, to raise regular armies, and no restraint is imposed in the exercise of it, except in the provisions which are intended to guard generally against the abuse of power, with none of which does this plan interfere. It is proposed, that it shall operate on all alike, that none shall be exempted from it except the chief magistrate of the United States, and the governors of the several states.

It would be absurd to suppose that congress could not carry this power into effect, otherwise than by accepting the voluntary service of individuals. It might happen that an army could not be raised in that mode, whence the power would have been granted in vain. The safety of the state might depend on such an army. Long continued invasions conducted by regular well disciplined troops, can best be repelled by troops kept constantly in the field, and equally well disciplined. Courage in an army is in a great measure mechanical. A small body well trained, accustomed to action, gallantly led on, often breaks three or four times the number of more respectable and more brave, but raw and undisciplined troops. The sense of danger is diminished by frequent exposure to it without harm; and confidence, even in the timid, is inspired by a knowledge that reliance may be placed on others, which can grow up only by service together. The grant to congress to raise armies was made with a knowledge of all these circumstances, and with the intention that it should take effect. The framers of the constitution, and the states who ratified it, knew the

advantage which an enemy might have over us, by regular forces, and intended to place their country on an equal footing.

The idea that the United States cannot raise a regular army in any other mode than by accepting the voluntary service of individuals, is believed to be repugnant to the uniform construction of all grants of power, and equally so to the first principles and leading objects of the federal compact. An unqualified grant of power gives the means necessary to carry it into effect. This is an universal maxim which admits of no exception. Equally true is it: that the conservation of the state is a duty paramount to all others. The commonwealth has a right to the service of all its citizens, or rather, the citizens composing the commonwealth have a right collectively and individually to the service of each other, to repel any danger which may be menaced. The manner in which the service is to be apportioned among the citizens, and rendered by them, are objects of legislation. All that is to be dreaded in such case, is the abuse of power, and happily our constitution has provided ample security against that evil.

In support of this right in congress, the militia service affords a conclusive proof and striking example. The organization of the militia is an act of public authority, not a voluntary association. The service required must be performed by all, under penalties which delinquents pay. The generous and patriotic perform them cheerfully. In the alacrity with which the call of the government has been obeyed, and the cheerfulness with which the service has been performed throughout the United States by the great body of the militia, there is abundant cause to rejoice in the strength of our republican institutions, and in the virtue of the people.

The plan proposed is not more compulsive than the militia service, while it is free from most of the objections to it. The militia service calls from home for long terms whole districts of country. None can elude the call. Few can avoid the service, and those who do are compelled to pay great sums for substitutes. This plan fixes on no one personally, and opens to all who chuse it a chance of declining the service. It is a principal object of this plan to engage in the defence of the state the unmarried and youthful, who can best defend it and best be spared, and to secure to those who render this important service, an adequate compensation from the voluntary contribution of the more wealthy in every class. Great confidence is entertained that such contribution will be made in time to avoid a draft. Indeed it is believed to be the necessary and inevitable tendency of this plan to produce that effect.

The limited power which the United States have in organizing the militia may be urged as an argument against their right to raise regular troops in the mode proposed. If any argument could be drawn from that circumstance, I should suppose that it would be in favor of an opposite conclusion. The power of the United States over the militia has been limited, and that for raising regular armies granted without limitation. There was, doubtless, some object in this arrangement. The fair inference seems to be, that it was made on great consideration; that the limitation in the first instance was intentional, the consequence of the unqualified grant of the second.

But it is said that by drawing the men from the militia service into the regular army, and putting them under regular officers, you violate a principle of the constitution which provides that the militia shall be commanded by their own officers. If this was the fact the conclusion would follow. But it is

not the fact. The men are not drawn from the militia, but from the population of the country: when they enlist voluntarily, it is not as militia men that they act, but as citizens. If they are drafted it must be in the same sense. In both instances they are enrolled in the militia corps, but that, as is presumed, cannot prevent the voluntary act in one instance, or the compulsive in the other. The whole population of the United States within certain ages belong to these corps. If the United States could not form regular armies from them they could raise none.

In proposing a draft as one of the modes of raising men in case of actual necessity, in the present great emergency of the country, I have thought it my duty to examine such objections to it as occurred, particularly those of a constitutional nature. It is from my sacred regard for the principles of our constitution that I have ventured to trouble the committee with any remarks on this part of the subject.

Should it appear that this mode of raising recruits was justly objectionable on account of the tax on property, from difficulties which may be apprehended in the execution, or from other causes, it may be advisable to decline the tax, and for the government to pay the whole bounty.

In this case it is proposed that, in lieu of the present bounty, the sum of fifty dollars be allowed to each recruit or draft at the time of his engagement, and one hundred acres of land in addition to the present bounty in land, for every year that the war may continue.

It is impossible to state with mathematical accuracy the number which will be raised by the ratio of 4 to 100 or 1 to 25, nor is it necessary. It is probable that it will be rather more than sufficient to fill the present corps. The extra number, in that case, may form a part of the local force in contemplation, a power to that effect being given to the president.

No radical change in the present military establishment is proposed. Should any modification be found necessary, on further consideration, it will form the subject of a separate communication. It is thought advisable in general to preserve the corps in their present form, and to fill them with new recruits in the manner stated. All these corps have already seen service, and many of them acquired in active scenes much experience and useful knowledge. By preserving them in their present form and under their present officers, and filling them with new recruits, the improvement of the latter will be rapid. In two or three months it will be difficult to distinguish between the new and old levies.

The additional force to be provided amounts to 40,000 men. Of this it is proposed that local corps be raised, to consist partly of infantry, partly of mounted men and partly of artillery. There is reason to believe that such corps may be raised in the principal cities, and even on the frontier, to serve for the war, under an engagement as to the limit beyond which they should not be carried. Every able bodied citizen is willing and ready to fight for his home, his family and his country, when invaded. Of this we have seen, in the present year, the most honorable and gratifying proofs. It does not suit all, however, to go great distances from home. This generous and patriotic spirit may be taken advantage of, under proper arrangements, with the happiest effects to the country, and without essential inconvenience to the parties.

The officers who may be appointed to command these corps, should be charged with recruiting them. Local defence being their sole object, it may be presumed that the corps will soon be raised. Patriotism alone will furnish a very powerful motive. It seems reasonable, however, that some recompence

should be made to those who relieve others from the burthen: one hundred acres of land and fifty dollars to each recruit will, it is presumed, be deemed sufficient.

It is proposed that this additional force shall form a part of any plan that may be adopted.

#### SECOND PLAN.

This plan consists of a classification of the militia, and the extension of their terms of service.

Let the whole of the militia of the United States be divided into the following classes, viz:

All free male persons capable of service, between the ages of 18 and 25, into one class: all those between the ages of 25 and 32 into another class, and those between 32 and 45 into a third class.

It is proposed also that the president shall have power to call into the service any portion of either of these classes which in his judgment the exigencies of the country may require, to remain in service two years, from the time each corps shall be assembled at the appointed place of rendezvous.

It is believed that a shorter term than two years would not give to these corps the efficiency in military operations that is desired, and deemed indispensable, nor avoid the evils that are so sensibly felt, and generally complained of, under the present arrangement. It requires two campaigns to make a complete soldier, especially where the corps, officers and men are alike raw and inexperienced. In the interim, the numbers must be multiplied to supply the defect of discipline. And it requires the extension of the term of service, to avoid the additional proportional augmentation of having so many in the field at the same time, in marching, to the frontier and returning from it. The inconvenience to the parties, and loss to the community in other respects, need not be repeated. It is proper to add only, that if substitutes are allowed in the service it must put an end to the recruiting of men for the regular army, especially the old corps. Of the justice of this remark what has occurred in the present year has furnished full proof. It follows that if this plan is adopted, the militia must be relied on principally, if not altogether, in the further prosecution of the war.

The additional force for local service, amounting to forty thousand men, will likewise form a part, as already observed, of this plan.

#### THIRD PLAN.

It is proposed to exempt every five men from militia service, who shall find one to serve for the war. It is probable that some recruits might be raised in this mode, in most or all the states. But it is apprehended that it would prevent recruiting in every other mode, by the high bounty which some of the wealthy might give. The consequence would probably be very injurious, as it is not believed that any great number could be raised in this mode.

#### FOURTH PLAN.

Should all the preceding plans be found objectionable, it remains that the present system of recruiting be adhered to, with an augmentation of the bounty in land. Should this be preferred, it is advised that in addition to the 160 acres of land now given, 100 be allowed annually for every year while the war lasts.

These plans are thought more deserving the attention of the committee than any that have occurred. The first, for the reasons stated, is preferred. It is believed that it will be found more efficient against the enemy, less expensive to the public and less burdensome on our fellow-citizens.

It has likewise the venerable sanction of our revolution. In that great struggle resort was had to this expedient for filling the ranks of our regular army, and with decisive effect.

It is not intended by these remarks, should the first plan be adopted, to dispense altogether with the service of the militia. Although the principal burthen of the war may thereby be taken from the militia, reliance must still be placed on them for important aids, especially in cases of sudden invasion. For this purpose it will still be advisable that the men be classed according to age, and that their term of service be prolonged. Even should this plan be attended with all the advantages expected of it, such an arrangement could not fail to produce the happiest effect. The proof which it would afford of the impregnable strength of the country, of the patient virtue and invincible spirit of the people, would admonish the enemy how vain and fruitless his invasions must be, and might dispose him to a speedy, just and honorable peace. Of the very important services already rendered by the militia, even under the present organization, too much cannot be said.

If the United States make the exertion which is proposed, it is probable that the contest will soon be at an end. It cannot be doubted that it is in their power to expel the British forces from this continent, should the British government, by persevering in its unjust demands, make that an object with the American people. Against our united and vigorous efforts, the resistance of the enemy will soon become light and feeble. Success in every fair and honorable claim, is within our easy grasp. And surely the United States have every possible inducement to make the effort necessary to secure it. I should insult the understanding and wound the feelings of the committee, if I touched on the calamities incident to defeat. Dangers which are remote and can never be realized, excite no alarm with a gallant and generous people. But the advantages of success have a fair claim to their deliberate consideration. The effort we have already made has attracted the attention and extorted the praise of other nations. Already have most of the absurd theories and idle speculations on our system of government been refuted, and put down. We are now felt and respected as a power, and it is the dread which the enemy entertain of our resources and growing importance, that has induced him to push the war against us, after its professed objects had ceased. Success, by discomfiture of his schemes, and the attainment of an honorable peace, will place the U. States on higher ground, in the opinion of the world, than they have held at any former period. In future wars, their commerce will be permitted to take its lawful range unmolested. Their remonstrances to foreign governments will not again be put aside, unheeded. Few will be presented, because there will seldom be occasion for them. Our union, founded on interest and affection, will have acquired new strength by the proof it will have afforded, of the important advantages attending it. Respected abroad and happy at home, the United States will have accomplished the great objects, for which they have so long contended. As a nation they will have little to dread, as a people little to desire.

*Extract from Marshall's life of Washington, vol. 4th, page 241.*

"In general the assemblies (of the states) followed the example of congress, and apportioned on the several counties within the state, the quota to be furnished by each. This division of the state was again to be subdivided into classes, and each class was to furnish a man by contributions or taxes imposed on itself. In some instances a draft was to be used in the last resort; in others, the man was to be recruited by persons appointed for that purpose, and

the class to be taxed with the sum given for his bounty."

*Extract from Ramsay's life of Washington, 2d vol. page 246.*

"When voluntary enlistments fell short of the proposed number, the deficiencies, were, by the laws of several states, to be made up by drafts or lots from the militia. The towns in New-England and the counties in the middle states, were respectively called on for a specified number of men. Such was the zeal of the people of New-England, that neighbors would often club together to engage one of their number to go into the army. Maryland directed her lieutenants of counties to class all the property in their respective counties into as many equal classes as there were men wanted, and each class was by law obliged, within ten days thereafter, to furnish an able bodied recruit during the war; and in case of their neglecting or refusing to do so, the county lieutenants were authorised to procure men at their expense, at any rate not exceeding 15 pounds in every hundred pounds worth of property classed agreeably to law. Virginia likewise classed her citizens, and called upon the respective classes for every fifteenth man for public service. Pennsylvania concentrated the requisite power in the president, Mr. Reed, and authorised him to draw forth the resources of the state, under certain limitations, and if necessary to declare martial law over the state. The execution of these arrangements, although uncommonly vigorous, lagged far behind."

## Proceedings of Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Saturday, Oct. 29.* A letter was received from the secretary of the navy in reply to the resolve of this house of the 24th inst. stating that the whole of the official papers, books, trophies, and every thing else belonging to that office, were saved on the late incursion of the enemy into this city, and that all the books and papers relating to the office of the accountant of that department were saved, except the papers relating to accounts settled and transmitted to the treasury department.

Mr. Clopton introduced a resolution requesting the president to recommend a day of public humiliation, fasting and prayer. Twice read and committed.

The house went into committee of the whole, on the bill to authorize a loan. Mr. Eppes moved to fill the blank for the amount to be borrowed, with *three millions*. The secretary of the treasury had recommended, in his letter, a larger sum to be borrowed; but since that letter had been written, it was ascertained that three of the six millions of stock proposed to be sent to Europe for sale had not yet left the country, and the president had determined to retain it. The retention of this stock from the market would, by so much as its amount, reduce the additional amount necessary to be authorised. It was therefore determined to ask only for three millions on this occasion.

The blank was filled accordingly.

The bill was amended so as to limit the interest, or premium at 3 per cent. The committee then rose and reported the bill to the house—the amount proposed to be loaned was confirmed, but the amendment to limit the interest was rejected, as being unusual: for the amendment 51 against it 97. On this subject there was a considerable range of debate. Other amendments were proposed, but none approved of. The simple bill to authorize a loan of three millions, was ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Wilson of Massachusetts offered for consideration the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee of Ways and Means enquire into the expediency of suspending the collection of the Direct Tax and Internal Duties in those districts of the state of Massachusetts, which are in possession of the enemy.

The house agreed, 62 to 47, now to consider the resolution.

Mr. Sharp of Kentucky who had voted for the consideration of the resolution, desired that the gentleman would state his object.

Mr. Wilson, stated that the enemy having possession of Eastport and Castine, thus possesses the command of territory which belonged to two collection districts; one of the collectors of which resided within the territory thus occupied, and the other just without it, although five-sixths of the territory attached to his district was in possession of the enemy. It was the duty of those collectors, according to law, to proceed in the collection of the duties. These duties, the British governor Sherbrooke, as gentlemen had no doubt seen in the public papers, had required the collectors to pay over to his officers established at Castine or Eastport; and with this requisition the collectors must comply, or suffer confiscation of their property; on the other hand, they would violate the duty according to law, if they did not proceed in their collection. He wished to relieve them from this disagreeable alternative, and to put it out of the power of the British government to tax the people through the intervention of American officers.

Mr. Wright of Maryland said there was nothing new in this proposition, as precedents might be found for it in the journals of the old congress. Whenever a district was in possession of the enemy, some provision of this kind ought to be interposed to relieve the people as well as the collectors. Mr. Wright, was for doing equal justice to all; for considering the people of all parts of the union as one great family; and, in regard to this question, he was willing to begin with Massachusetts, any thing in her denunciations of the general government to the contrary notwithstanding.

After a few words of explanation from Mr. Wilson—

The resolution was agreed to 70 to 42.

Monday, October 27. Mr. Eppes from the committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill for authorising the secretary of State, during the continuance of the present war to give additional compensation of masters of vessels for bringing home destitute and distressed American seamen from abroad; which was read and committed.

The bill to authorise a loan of 5 millions was passed.

A bill was received from the senate entitled "An act authorising the president of the United States to cause to be built or purchased the vessels therein described." The bill provides for building or purchase and employment of any number not exceeding twenty vessels, to carry not less than 8 or more than 14 guns.]

The bill was twice read and referred to the committee on naval affairs; and

The house adjourned.

Thursday, Nov. 1.—The Speaker laid before the house a letter from the secretary of the treasury, transmitting a report of the papers lost or destroyed from the treasury in consequence of the incursion of the enemy on the 24th day of August last; whereby it appears that no papers essential to the adjustment of pending accounts, or of material value, were lost or destroyed.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill for allowing compensation to com. Barney's officers and men, for the loss of their clothing, &c.

Mr. Pleasants of Va. took occasion to read the following letter he had received from commodore Barney since this subject was last under consideration:

Baltimore, Oct. 30. 1814.

Hon. Mr. Pleasants,

Sir—It was not until this morning that I saw a short sketch of the debate on the "Flotilla Bill." I was much surprised at what was said on that occasion; for it was well known when orders were given to *blow up* the flotilla; that the enemy were firing upon them from 40 barges with cannon and rockets, and had landed a body of marines at Pig Point, within a mile of the flotilla. The orders from the secretary of the navy to me, were to keep the flotilla above the enemy, and if they attempted to march for Washington to land my men, leaving sufficient to destroy the flotilla if attacked. On Sunday 21st of August, finding the enemy on the road to the Wood-Yard direct for Washington, I landed upwards of four hundred men, leaving only eight men in each barge to take care of them or *destroy them* as the case might be, but by no means to suffer them to fall into the hands of the enemy; most of the baggage and all the bedding of the men which were landed was left on board, not wishing to encumber my men with much baggage. On Monday morning the 22nd, we joined the army at the Wood-Yard, where I found the marine corps and five pieces of heavy artillery, which the secretary of the navy had the precaution to send forward from Washington and place under my command. I need not relate our services afterwards—but when the flotilla was blown up, *we*, and not the enemy "were a day's march from it," of course could not save the baggage. So far from being able to get "farther up the river," as was said, the vessels were aground and blown up in that situation; and as to having time to save the baggage, so contrary is the truth, that several of the men were taken prisoners in the act of destroying the flotilla, and still remain so. Much more might be said on this subject, but the winter coming on imperiously calls for some assistance to these unfortunate men.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,  
JOSHUA BARNEY.

The amendment pending, when this subject was last before the house, was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. J. G. Jackson, the word "officers" was stricken out of the bill 53 to 47. His reason was, that it would set a bad precedent for remuneration of officers in other cases where they should lose baggage, which frequently occurred.

The bill thus amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on to-morrow.

The resolution "requesting the president of the United States to recommend a day of public humiliation, fasting and prayer," was read a third time and passed.

Wednesday, Nov. 2. The bill for the relief of the petty officers and seamen under com. Barney was passed.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill to authorize the president to accept the services of volunteers. The bill provides that they shall serve *nine* months, which produced considerable debate; and a motion to strike out *nine* and insert *twelve* prevailed—57 to 55.

Mr. Forsythe moved to add as an amendment to the bill a new section in nearly the following words: "And be it further enacted, That the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, whose services are accepted under the authority of this act, who



shall serve for two years, shall be exempted from militia service during the present war."

Which was agreed to—54 to 51. Other proposed amendments failed. The committee rose and reported the bill to the house; when the amendments made were agreed to, as was also the proposition of Mr. Kilbourn, to extend to privates killed during the service, the same provisions for the relief of their widows and children, as is provided in the bill for officers' families.

The bill was then ordered to lie on the table.

The following resolution was submitted by Mr. Robertson, and agreed to—

*Resolved*, That the committee on naval affairs be instructed to enquire into the expediency of giving a bounty to the owners, officers and crews of privateers, for the vessels of the enemy destroyed at sea, and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

From Niagara, in the absence of official accounts, we have a multitude of rumors and reports, from all which we conclude that the campaign has closed on our part. It is certain that *Porter's* volunteers have discharged with the thanks of general Izard—that *Brown* has gone to Sackett's Harbor—that the British fleet, including the *St. Lawrence* of 102 guns, has been at the head of the lake. She is said to be a very fine vessel, and "took on board at Kingston 700 barrels of pork and 1200 men, including sailors." We are without the details of *Bissel's* affair with the enemy on the Chippewa, though an account published in a Boston paper says he beat them with a loss on their part of 200 men—ours, 16 killed, 54 wounded. We are not certain where Izard was. It is variously reported that he has re-crossed to Buffalo, which, however, does not absolutely appear—1500 of *Brown's* division have marched for the Harbor, where an attack was looked for.

An idea very generally prevails that *Drummond* ought to have been taken, and that we had him completely in our power. One chance, it is said, was lost by the want of the co-operation of the fleet, then master of the lake; another in the time consumed by general Izard in proceeding from Plattsburg to Erie, say from August 24 to October 12.

MEANNESS. The meanness of the transaction noticed in the following correspondence, presents our enemy in a new character, infamous and humiliating to man. It should cover *Drummond*, and the nation to whom he belongs, so far as they sanction it, with eternal shame. When general *Brown* announced the exchange of gallant *Spencer dead*, for the Englishman living, there was something within us that would not finly believe that lieutenant-general *Drummond* would insist upon, or captain *Loring* agree to the exchange. But it seems they are as destitute of high souled honor, as *Cockburn* is of decency and humanity. Is this "British magnanimity?"  
Copy of a letter from general *Brown* to general *Drummond*, August 2d, 1814.

SIR—A letter said to be dictated by you, but signed by lieutenant colonel *Harvey* has been laid before me. As it was proposed to exchange your aid for mine, I desired first to ascertain if my aid yet lived. But as it appears my flag sent direct from the American shore, for the purpose of ascertaining the fact, has been detained, I gave the objection that induced my mind at the time the proposal was received. Send me the body of my aid captain *Spencer*, by his brother if he is dead, and your aid captain *Loring* shall

be returned to you. If captain *Spencer* is not dead, any attention that you will cause to be paid to him, will be gratefully acknowledged; but I do not desire to have him removed 'till it can be done with safety, as his life is dear to me. Of this however, I am willing his brother should be the judge; and you can pass him by the front, the flank or the rear of your army, as may by you be deemed most prudent and proper. The favor I ask is, that Mr. *Spencer* may be so far indulged as to be allowed to see his brother, and if dead collect his effects.

Very respectfully your humble servant.

(Signed) JACOB BROWN, maj. gen.  
Lieutenant general *Drummond*.

Copy of the reply of general *Drummond*.

British head quarters, camp before Erie, Aug. 5. SIR—I am extremely sorry to acquaint you, that it has just been reported to me that captain *Spencer* died this forenoon. He had the melancholy satisfaction of having had his brother with him for some time previous to his death.

Mr. *Spencer* with the corpse of captain *Spencer*, shall be sent over to Schlessor, when I shall expect the fulfilment on your part of your promise to send back captain *Loring*.

I have the honor to be, sir, with respectful consideration, your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed) GORDON DRUMMOND, lieutenant gen.  
His ex. maj. gen. *Brown*, U. S. Army.

A MESSENGER. Mr. Purviance, a bearer of despatches for our ministers in Europe, sailed from New York some days ago, in the cartel ship *Fingal*, for Havre de Grace. About 120 passengers went out in this ship, among whom was col. *Barclay*, late British agent for prisoners.

DISAPPOINTMENT. The want of correct information from the Niagara frontier appears to be owing to two failures of the mail—the first by high waters, and the second by the carelessness of some one in changing the bags, so that the one from Buffalo was sent back!

BOSTON, OCT. 24. Previous to the close of the extra session, which took place on Tuesday last, several acts were passed relative to defensive measures. It is provided, by one of these acts, that his excellency the governor shall have power to raise by enlistments, an army not exceeding 10,000 men, to consist of ten regiments of infantry, and two of artillery, to be commissioned, and clothed agreeably to his direction. The pay, rations, clothing and emoluments of these troops are to be the same as those of the United States army. Another act was also passed, authorising the governor to appoint a board of commissioners on military accounts; it is to consist of three persons with a secretary and necessary clerks; to this act is subjoined an additional one, providing for the further appointment of two other commissioners, the whole of whom are to constitute a board of war, for a regular and prompt discharge of the duties necessarily belonging to such a commission.

### THE ENEMY IN THE CHESAPEAKE.

Action at Kirby's Wharff. When captain *Burd* with his dragoons charged on the enemy on Monday last, they were on the retreat towards their barges; the charge was made with so much spirit, that a number of the enemy had actually laid down their arms preparing to surrender, and it is probable that the whole of the party would have been captured, if the troop had continued to press on them with the same spirit and energy with which the charge was commenced. Unfortunately, some miscreant called loudly to the troop to retreat, which they mistook for an order from their officer and obeyed. Captain *Burd* succeeded in rallying a part of his troop as soon as

he discovered the mistake and was returning to the charge—but the enemy in the mean time recovering from their consternation had rallied behind a fence which served them as a protecting breast work, enabled them to pour a very galling fire on the part of the troop which were pursuing, and finally to effect their retreat without much loss.

Accounts from Norfolk of the 1st inst. say, that a frigate with 4 transports, all full of troops, have entered the bay from *Halifax*, as the enemy reported to our flag that had been up to the commander; and gives the whole force then in the Chesapeake, at two 74's, 6 frigates, 1 brig, 5 transports, and 8 schooners. Whether they are the vanguard of a larger force or merely sent hither to alarm our villagers and cottagers—we shall ascertain pretty soon.

**CHRONICLE.**

*New-York legislature* was lately in session. The state of parties therein may be seen by the following vote for speaker:

Mr. Young (rep.)	61
Mr. Emott (fed.)	35

*Maryland election.*—The late election in this state has terminated in a considerable "federal" gain, as well of assemblymen as of congressmen. The representation in the present congress consists of 6 rep. and 3 fed—in the next there will be 5 fed. and 4 rep. as follows—Messrs. Stuart, Goldsborough, Hanson, Baer and Herbert, federalists—and Messrs. Wright, Pinkney, Moore and Archer, republicans.

The house of representatives stands as follows:

*Republican.*—Annapolis city 2; Baltimore city 2; county 4; Harford 4; Queen Ann's 4; Washington 4; and in Anne Arundel 1.—Total 21.

*Federal.*—St. Mary's, Charles, Calvert, Prince George's, Montgomery, Frederick, Allegany, Cecil, Kent, Talbot, Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset and Worcester, 4 each, and in Anne Arundel 3—Total 59.

*New-Hampshire election.*—Federal members of congress have been chosen in this state, as usual. Highest fed. 13,126—highest rep. 16,604—the scattering votes leaves a majority of 753, for Messrs. Webster, Cilley, Hale, Atherton, Vose and Wilcox.

*Pennsylvania election.*—The returns of the late election in this state have not yet reached us. Governor Snyder is re-elected by 20,000—but five federal gentlemen have been elected for the next congress. The present representation is entirely republican. Particulars when all the returns are received.

*Georgia election.*—Six republicans have been elected to congress from Georgia without [federal] opposition.

*Vermont Election.* The federalists have elected their candidates for governor, congress, &c. in the state of Vermont, and had a majority, on an election for speaker of 24. Governor Chittenden had 55 votes more than Mr. Galusha. (rep.) but not a majority of the whole number given, and was re-elected by a joint ballot of both houses, by a majority of 28. The votes were for M. Chittenden, 17466—J. Galusha, 17411; scattering 457.

The council (federal) had a majority of about 100 votes. The federal members of congress had a majority of about 750 votes.

*Ohio election.* Thomas Worthington, now a senator in congress, has been chosen governor of the state of Ohio, and the representatives in congress are republican, as usual.

*South Carolina election.* The elections in this state have terminated in favor of the republicans with the usual decided majorities, for congress and the state legislature, except that one federal member of congress is elected by a small majority.

*Connecticut election.* The old members of congress have been re-elected. The house of representatives consists of 200 members, all federalists but 39.

*New Jersey election.* This state is thoroughly republican, by handsome majorities, for congress and assembly. Mr. Pennington has been re-elected governor. The 6 members for congress are republican, in the present congress 4 fed. 3 republican.

*Congress.*—It is estimated that the next house of representatives will consist of about 114 republicans and 68 federalists.

*Mexico.*—We have received accounts which we think worthy of full credit, which state that on the reception of the intelligence that Ferdinand the ungrateful, had destroyed the new constitution, all parties united to establish a government for themselves—the viceroy had been deposed, and the new state of things proclaimed in all the cities of this delightful country. This is good news, indeed. It is reported that a deputation is on its way to Washington city.

An exterminating war, of various success, still prevails in the provinces of Caracas. The revolutionists under *Bolívar* are stated to have experienced a dreadful defeat on the 15th of June last, by which nearly the whole army was destroyed. But the cities of Caracas and Laguaira had not been taken by the royalists at our last dates.

By papers laid before parliament we have the following facts:

The bank of England notes in circulation July 3, 1813, amounted to 23,314,890£—on July 10, same year, to 24,991,308£. In circulation July 3, 1814, 26,304,308£—on the 9th July instant, 29,532,900£.

The net produce of the revenue, including customs and excise, was, for one year, ending 5th July, 1813, 58,967,864£; and for the year ending July 3, instant, 62,956,077£. [N. E. Palladium.]

The inquisition is restored at Rome.

The great military establishments kept up by the chief powers of Europe, and a restless spirit that appears to pervade all the late belligerents; strengthen the apprehension that a new war is not far distant. The British have a large force in the Netherlands.

The British are preparing to give up Martinique and Guadaloupe to the French—who are also making great preparations to repossess themselves of Hispaniola, in which they are assisted by the British, furnishing transports.

*London, July 26.* A terrible pestilential sickness has broken out in Hamburg, insomuch that almost every person who has left the city has been afflicted with it.—The horrid filth which abounds in the city, in some places is several yards in height, and many in circumference, and so shocking that the inhabitants are afraid to pass near it. Trade at a stand—markets overstocked—goods selling at 35 per cent. loss.

The Algerines have taken 3 Swedish, 1 Danish, 2 Dutch, and 3 Spanish vessels. They released the first on learning that men of war was coming to negotiate about them.

Bodies of Austrian, Russian and Prussian troops have been sent to Tuscany to embark for Elba, which indicates mischief to be brewing there.

*Antwerp, Aug. 11.* The agents of the French navy, will on the 31st. publicly sell at the navy yard of Antwerp, nine ships of the line and two frigates; now on the stocks, viz:

2 three deckers pierced for 110 guns each.			
3 do.	do.	80	do.
4 do.	do.	74	do.
2 frigates	do.	44	do.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 19 OF VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 166.]

*Hec olim meminisse juvabit.—VIRGIL.*

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann

## Retaliatory Documents.

*To the house of representatives of the United States.*

I transmit to the house of representatives a report from the department of state, complying with their resolution of the 15th instant.

JAMES MADISON.

October 23, 1814.

### REPORT.

*Department of state, Oct. 27, 1814.*

The acting secretary of state, to whom was referred the resolution of the house of representatives of the 15th instant, has the honor of submitting to the president the accompanying papers, marked Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, as containing the information which is presumed to be called for by the said resolution.

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES MONROE.

*The president of the United States.*

No. 1.

*Extract of a letter from Reuben G. Beasley, Esq. to the commissary general of prisoners, dated*

*LONDON, March 18, 1814.*

"Having had several conversations on the subject of retaliation, previous to the receipt of your letters of the 6th and 9th of January, I took the earliest occasion to communicate the information they contained. On the 19th ultimo, I addressed a letter to the transport board on the subject, a copy of which I have now the honor to inclose. Although I have received no reply to this letter, I have the satisfaction to inform you that I have been assured by the secretary of the board, and have found the fact confirmed by my own observation, that the treatment of the individuals sent to this country for trial, has in no respect been different from that of the other prisoners of war."

*Mr. Beasley to the secretary of the transport board.*

*HARTLEY-STREET, Feb. 19, 1814.*

SIR—In consequence of the wish which you verbally expressed to me yesterday, I now present to the board, in the form in which it has been communicated to me by the commissary general of prisoners of the United States, a statement of the various measures of retaliation which have been forced on the American government by the unwarrantable acts of the British officers. I the more readily comply with this wish, because it will lead to a proper understanding on the subject, and I persuade myself it will be followed by measures on the part of the British government, which will not only relieve the suffering individuals, but put an end to the proceedings, the very idea of which is so painful to every generous and humane feeling. I begin in the order in which they occurred.

(Here follows the statement extracted from general Mason's letter of the 6th January, 1814.)\*

To the foregoing I have to add, that information has been received by the commissary general that the British commanding officer at Halifax had confined there 64 American officers, with intention to make the number 92, in retaliation for the 46 British officers confined by the American government. As

\* This statement contained the substance of the cases to be found in the report of the secretary of state of the 14th April, 1814, printed by order of the senate, from page 13 to 173.

soon as this should be officially communicated to the government, a correspondent and effectual measure would be adopted in the United States.

In this statement and the documents which accompany it, will be found the disposition and sentiments of the American government. It will be seen that this system was not begun by the United States. Prompt in the discharge of the duty they owe to their citizens; they have constantly lamented the necessity of the measure imposed on them, and have on every occasion shewn, as you will see exemplified in the first, second, third and fourth acts above recited, that the moment the necessity of detention ceased to exist, the persons confined have at all times been released.

The British agent in the United States, who has been regularly informed of every circumstance relative to this unpleasant subject, will no doubt have done the American government the justice to say, that the sufferings of the individuals concerned have been as little as the nature of the case would admit.

It has been thought extraordinary that contrary to the stipulations of the cartel, American prisoners have been sent to this country from Canada. This measure was strongly remonstrated against to col. Barclay some time ago; but so far from having produced the desired effect, it has been continued under circumstances of the greatest hardship and suffering. About 400 of these persons, many of whom had never before been at sea, were hurried on board ship without the least previous notice to provide themselves with necessaries; and in that situation exposed to a boisterous winter passage. The government of the United States has sought in vain for a legitimate motive for this conduct, which will necessarily lead to a corresponding measure of severity if not satisfactorily explained.

I am instructed to make enquiry relative to the situation of all the prisoners who have from time to time been sent to this country; and to give information of the places of confinement and treatment of those who were sent here for trial.

I have to remark, that while the British prisoners in the United States have been treated in exact conformity to the stipulations contained in the cartel, no change whatever has been made in the treatment of American prisoners in close confinement, nor has any satisfactory reason been given why they have not been placed on the same footing.

The situation of the British officers who are held in the U. States as hostages to answer in their persons for the safety and proper treatment of the American prisoners, will be found described in the extract of a letter herewith transmitted, dated 13th December, 1814, and it will continue the same while it is understood that American officers in the hands of the British government meet with similar treatment.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed)

R. G. BEASLEY.

*Alexander M'Leay, Esq. &c.*

No. 2.

*Extracts of a letter of instructions from the secretary of state to colonel Tobias Lear, appointed to negotiate, on the part of the United States, an exchange of prisoners of war, with sir George Prevost, dated*

*WASHINGTON, June 27, 1814.*

"On the subject of hostages, if any are required

on either side, it cannot be admitted, that a number of prisoners shall be left in the hands of the enemy in that state, or in any other, different from the ordinary state of prisoners of war, greater than shall be held by us to answer for their proper treatment and safety."

"You are not unacquainted with the course which induced the government to designate certain persons, prisoners of war, in our possession, to abide the fate of such American prisoners of war as the enemy had thought proper to separate from their comrades, and to transport, under severe and ignominious confinement, to England, for trial as traitors. While this treatment continued, and while there was a probability of the threatened trial and punishment, this government could not and would not have relaxed in the measures it had adopted. Information, however, having been recently received from Mr. Beasley, American agent for prisoners at London, dated on the 18th day of March last, by which it is known, that he had received assurances, and that he was satisfied of the fact, that the treatment of the individuals sent to that country, avowedly for trial, has been in no respect different from that of other prisoners of war, the president has been induced to hope, from this circumstance, as well as from the length of time which has elapsed since these persons have been in England, without having been brought to trial, that it is not the intention of the British government to take a step which would inevitably involve consequences shocking to humanity; and sincerely desirous of lessening, as much as possible, the sufferings of individuals on both sides, he has determined, that, reserving to the government the full right of replacing the hostages who may have been designated here, and retaining the power to do so, such of the prisoners taken from the command of sir George Prevost, as have been so designated, may now be exchanged. You are accordingly authorised to stipulate that the proposed release and exchange shall be without distinction of hostages, taking care that it shall be reciprocal, and that a special reservation be made of the right, which may be common, to replace them, whenever it is deemed proper to do so."

### No. 3.

Extracts of such parts of a convention, for the exchange of prisoners of war, proposed on the 15th of April, 1814, and of the instrument, by which it was modified, and finally agreed upon, on the 16th July following, between agents duly authorised by the secretary of state of the United States, on the one part, and sir George Prevost, commander in chief of the British forces in the Canadas, on the other, as relates to those who had been on either side confined under the system of retaliation.

#### *Extract of the convention of the 15th of April.*

Article I. It is mutually stipulated and agreed, that all the persons belonging to the army, navy, or militia, of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or the provinces or dependencies thereof, under the command, authority, and jurisdiction of his excellency sir George Prevost, or any subjects or residents thereof, within the same command, authority, and jurisdiction, who may have been made captives during the present war, under and by the command and authority of the government of the United States, and also all persons belonging to the navy, army, or militia, of the United States, or any of them, or the territories thereof, or citizens or residents of the same, or any of them, who may have been made captives, during the present war, by and under the command and authority of sir George Prevost aforesaid; and which said persons, so re-

spectively captured, are now held in confinement by the said respective parties, either as prisoners of war, hostages, or otherwise, shall be mutually and respectively forthwith released from confinement, and sent or permitted to proceed to the United States or Canada, respectively, in the manner hereinafter pointed out, with as little delay as may be, saving and excepting always the first three and twenty men first put into confinement on principles of retaliation, as hostages, by the United States, and the officers and non-commissioned officers put into confinement by his excellency sir George Prevost, in retaliation for the confinement of said twenty-three men, private soldiers.

Article IX. It is further mutually agreed that all the persons thus released, and sent or permitted to return to their respective countries, who are now in Lower Canada, or on the eastern side of the Alleghany mountains in the United States, and also all prisoners of war who are now on parole or otherwise in their respective countries, be and the same are hereby declared to be exchanged, and that they and every of them, from and after the 15th May next, shall be perfectly and entirely free to enter and engage in the military, naval, or other service of their respective countries, as if they never had been prisoners of war and hostages; and in like manner all the said persons who are on the western side of the Alleghany mountains in the United States, and those who are in or near Halifax, or in Nova Scotia, and who were captured by and under the command of sir George Prevost, shall be and are hereby declared exchanged and at liberty to enter into the naval, military, or other service of their respective countries, as if they had never been made prisoners of war and hostages.

Article XII. It is further mutually agreed and expressly understood, that nothing herein contained is intended or shall in any manner prevent or hinder either party from resorting to retaliation, or replacing said hostages, whenever either may deem it proper, for the past or any future act or conduct of the opposite party.

*Extracts of the instrument of modification and ratification of the 16th July, 1813.*

PREAMBLE.—"The following modification of the said convention of the 15th April last, have been agreed to; in consequence of which, the same is hereby ratified and confirmed, on the part of the United States, in virtue of the full powers given to the aforesaid Tobias Lear, the same having been before ratified by his excellency sir George Prevost," &c.

"Article I. The twenty-three British soldiers put into confinement as hostages by the United States, and the forty-six American commissioned and non-commissioned officers put in confinement by his excellency sir George Prevost, in retaliation for the confinement of the said twenty-three soldiers, as mentioned in the first article of the aforesaid convention, are to be immediately released and exchanged, in the same manner as other prisoners of war mentioned in the said article.

"Article II. All accounts of exchange, relative to prisoners of war, officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, of the army, navy, and militia, of the government of Great Britain, and of the United States of America, and of all other persons, subjects or residents of the one, or citizens or residents of the other, captured by the forces under the command of sir George Prevost, or from his command or authority, during the present war between Great Britain and the United States, prior to the fifteenth of April last, and for the release and exchange of whom it is stipulated, by the ninth article of the aforesaid con-

tion of the 15th April aforesaid, and the twenty-three and forty-six hostages, before mentioned, are by this present modification definitively liquidated and settled, without either party having any pretension or right to any claim therein hereafter."

No. 4.

*Extract of a letter from colonel Thomas Barclay, to the commissary general of prisoners, dated at*

Bladensburg, 14th June, 1814.

"Should there be any British prisoners of war remaining in these states from New-York, eastward, permit me to recommend their being released, and sent in the Matilda cartel, lately arrived at Salem, with American prisoners. In the number I hope you will include all those now held as hostages, and beg leave to assure you, I have recommended to the admiral and general, the release of all Americans held on similar principles, to the state of ordinary prisoners; and that Mr. Mitchell be informed, he is at liberty to elect them to be sent to these states, in return for British prisoners received."

*Extract of a letter from the commissary general of prisoners to colonel Thomas Barclay, dated June 21st, 1814, in answer to colonel Barclay's letter of June 14, 1814*

"On the subject of hostages, I will cheerfully direct to be released, and sent to Halifax, any such as we now hold on the maritime frontier of Massachusetts; if you will engage that the persons at Halifax, on whose account they were confined, shall be immediately released and returned to the United States. I believe there are but sixteen of that description whose names are enclosed. The few then remaining, with the desire to meet the relaxation proposed by you I will direct to be confined with other non-paroled prisoners, on board the prison ship at Salem."

Bladensburg, June 21, 1814.

SIR—I had hoped, in consequence of my having acquainted you I had recommended the naval and military commanders at Halifax to release to the state of ordinary prisoners all the Americans then held on retaliatory principles, that this government would have been induced to adopt a similar conciliatory measure, and thereby relieve the unfortunate men who have been so unpleasantly situated. You will by a re-perusal of my late letters on this subject, perceive the unpleasant consequences to which his majesty's government will be driven, if the acts above mentioned on the part of his majesty do not meet a corresponding conduct on the part of this government.

Mr. Prince, the marshal of Massachusetts has informed Mr. Simpson, that you have directed him to retain eighteen British prisoners as hostages, for a like number of men part of the 101 American prisoners sent last autumn to England.

On the 14th instant I requested you to inform me, whether you would consent that all the British prisoners who might remain in the eastern states after the departure of the Perseverance cartel to Halifax, should be sent in the Matilda cartel for Halifax, for whom I would order an equivalent to be returned. A measure of this nature must prove equally advantageous to both nations. Permit me to request your answer, and if it is the determination of this government to hold any British subjects as hostages, that you will favor me with a list of their names, the persons they are held for, and the places of confinement.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

THOMAS BARCLAY.

General Mason, &c. &c.

*Extract of a letter from colonel Thomas Barclay to the commissary general of prisoners, dated at*

Bladensburg, June 22d, 1814.

"SIR—I am this moment honored with your letter of yesterday.

"I am pleased with your consenting to send all the British prisoners remaining in the eastern states to Halifax, and that the hostages are to be included. I have repeatedly informed you, that I had requested every American prisoner held as an hostage at Halifax, should be released to the state of ordinary prisoners; and that Mr. Mitchell should be at liberty to select whom he pleased in making up the equivalent to be sent from Halifax. I will be answerable that the above is carried into effect, and that an equivalent, under Mr. Mitchell's election, is immediately sent from Halifax to Salem, in return for the men whom the Matilda carries from Salem."

*Extract of a letter from the commissary general of prisoners to colonel Thomas Barclay, dated at*

Washington, June 22, 1814.

"I have received your letters of this date, and of the 21st instant. I shall in consequence of your engagement in that of the 22d instant and in compliance with the terms of mine, of yesterday, by the mail made up to-day, instruct Mr. Prince to collect all the prisoners he can in reasonable time and send by the cartel Matilda, and such hostages as have been designated in retaliation against American prisoners confined at Halifax.

"The other hostages designated for American prisoners sent to England will be placed in the ordinary state of non-paroled prisoners, and those at Fort Sewall removed to the prison ship at Salem for that purpose."

Bladensburg, August 9, 1814.

SIR—I had hoped, in consequence of my several letters to you on the subject of retaliation, and the release of all the American prisoners held as hostages in his majesty's dominions under retaliatory orders, of which I have given you notice, that this government would have been induced to follow the example, and place in the ordinary state of prisoners, ready for release and exchange, the few British prisoners named at the foot of this letter who are still held in confinement as hostages.

I request you will be pleased to inform me, whether it is the intention of this government to continue these unfortunate men in prison as hostages, and to withhold their release and exchange; and I beg leave to add, that if this is the case double the number of American prisoners will once more be placed in a similar state of confinement in retaliation for these men.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

THOMAS BARCLAY.

General Mason, &c. &c.

*List of prisoners referred to in the preceding letter, in Massachusetts.—John Price, R. Robertson, John Anderson, John Egeon, James Dawson, Henry Bellingfield, William Kitts.*

*In Rhode-Island.—William Lincoln.*

*Extract of a letter from the commissary general of prisoners to colonel Thomas Barclay, dated*

August 12, 1814.

SIR—In reply to your letter of the 9th instant, I shall pass over the terms in which you have thought proper to convey part of that letter, with the remark, that after the manner in which the subject of hostages had been treated in your letter of the 14th of June, and mine of the 21st and 22d of the same month, considering the information I had given you in my letter of the 29th of May, of the relaxation which had taken place in the condition of the twenty-three hostages in our power at Greenbush, and the cause of it, and the communication I had made you as late as the 29th ultimo, if the convention concluded with sir George Prevost, by which these and all other hostages appertaining to the class of prisoners captured by or from his command, were released and finally exchanged; it could not have been expected, when you thought proper to make further inquiry as to the situation of

those persons yet remaining in our possession, who had been hostages, and the intention of the government towards them, you should have then resorted to the same declaration of consequences, conveyed in terms amounting to a threat, which you had been informed in the letter I addressed to you on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June, on a former occasion, was unavailing, and had been considered exceptionable.

In my letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June, I informed you, that those who had been hostages and not sent for exchange for the cartel then in port, should be restored to the ordinary state of prisoners. Why, then, unless you were well assured that this had not been, do you say in yours of the 2<sup>nd</sup> instant, you had hoped that the American government would have been induced to follow the example of your government. The fact is, at this time there is no British prisoner in this country in any other situation. The order to that effect went from this office on the 22<sup>d</sup> of June, as to the prisoners in Massachusetts, and on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July as to one (William Lincoln) in Rhode Island. The copy of my letter to the marshal of that state, now sent, will explain the cause of his confinement being thus much lengthened, namely, his attempt to escape.

The reasons which determined this government to relax in the mode of treatment toward hostages, are detailed in that letter, and were the same which induced it to accept a proposition on the part of sir George Prevost, to include all hostages on both sides in the general exchange of prisoners made with him, with the reservation of the right to replace them with others, should it from any change of circumstances be deemed necessary. These reasons, to wit: Information from our agent in London, that the American prisoners sent to England for trial were not then confined or treated otherwise than ordinary prisoners, operating, generally so soon as they had been acted on in the exchange of part of the hostages held by us in the quarter just mentioned, produced instructions from this office to put on the same footing "the persons heretofore designated as hostages of the maritime class, and to hold them ready for exchange: they are accordingly now so held."

## Massachusetts Legislature

DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANYING THE MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR TO THE GENERAL COURT.

*Copy of a letter from the governor of this commonwealth, to the secretary of war.*

Boston, September 7, 1814.

SIR—The troops of the United States, which at different periods were stationed on the sea coast of this state, have been afterwards ordered to join the army on the western frontier, so that very few have remained in the state: We have therefore found it necessary, in the course of the last and present year, to call out small bodies of militia, as guards to the towns most exposed. As the danger has increased, the number of detached militia has been augmented, and I have now issued the enclosed general order for the protection of Boston and the towns and property in its neighborhood, and shall immediately issue an order of a similar kind for the security of the district of Maine.

A few weeks since, agreeably to the request of general Dearborn, I detached eleven hundred militia for three months, for the defence of our sea coast, and placed them under his command as superintendent of this military district, but such objections and inconveniences have arisen from that measure, that it cannot now be repeated. The militia called

out on this occasion, will be placed under the immediate command of a major-general of the militia.

I will thank you, sir, to consult with the president, and inform me whether the expenses thus necessarily incurred for our protection will be ultimately reimbursed to this state by the general government; and I shall be particularly obliged if you will favor me with an answer as soon as may be, as the legislature of the state will meet on the 5<sup>th</sup> of the next month.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient and humble servant,  
CALEB STRONG.

*Mr. Secretary Monroe.*

*Copy of the Secretary's answer.*

Department of State, Sept. 17, 1814.

SIR—I have had the honor to receive your excellency's letter of the seventh instant.

The attack of the enemy on Baltimore and probable eventual attack on other places, with the heavy duties incident thereto pressing on this department have prevented my answering it at an earlier day.

It may be satisfactory to your excellency for me to explain the views and principles on which this government has acted, in regard to the defence of our eastern frontier.

It was anticipated, soon after the commencement of the war, that while it lasted, every part of the union, especially the sea-board, would be exposed to some degree of danger, greater or less, according to the spirit with which the war might be waged. It was the duty of the government to make the best provision against the danger which might be practicable, and it was proper that the provision should continue while the cause existed.

The arrangement of the United States into military districts, with a certain portion of the regular force, artillery and infantry, under an officer of the regular army, of experience and high rank, in each district, with power to call for the militia, as circumstances might require, was adopted with a view to afford the best protection to every part that circumstances would admit.

It was presumed, that the establishment of a small force of the kind stated, constituting the first elements of an army, in each district, to be aided by the militia in case of emergency, would be adequate to its defence. Such a force of infantry and artillery, might repel small predatory parties, and form a rallying point for the militia, at the more exposed and important stations, in case of more formidable invasion. A regular officer of experience stationed in the district, acting under the authority, and pursuing the will of the government, might digest plans for its defence; select proper points for works, and superintend the erection of them, call for supplies of ordnance, for tents and camp equipage, for small arms and other munitions of war; call for the militia, and dispose of the whole force. These duties, it was believed, could not be performed with equal advantage by the officers of the militia, who being called into service for short terms, would not have in their power, however well qualified they might be in other respects, to digest plans, and preserve that chain of connection and system in the whole business, which seemed to be indispensable.

On great consideration, this arrangement was deemed the most eligible, that could be adopted under the authority of the United States. Indeed none occurred that could be placed in competition with it. In this mode the national government acts by its proper organs, over whom it has control, and for whose engagements it is responsible.

The measures which may be adopted by a state government for the defence of a state, must be considered as its own measures, not those of the United

States. The expenses attending them are chargeable to the state, and not to the United States. Your excellency will perceive that a different construction would lead into the most important, and, as is believed, into the most pernicious consequences. If a state could call out the militia, and subject the United States to the expense of supporting them, at its pleasure, the national authority would cease as to that important object, and the nation be charged with expenses, in the measures producing which the national government had no agency, and over which it could have no control. This, however, though a serious objection to such a construction is not the most weighty. By taking the defence of the state into its own hands and out of those of the general government, a policy is introduced on the tendency of which I forbear to comment. I shall remark only, that if a close union of the states and a harmonious co-operation between them and the general government, are at any time necessary for the preservation of their independence, and of those inestimable liberties which were achieved by the valor and blood of our ancestors, that time may be considered as having arrived.

It follows from this view of the subject, that if the force which has been put into service by your excellency has been required by major-general Dearborn, or received by him and put under his command, that the expenses attending it will be defrayed by the United States. It follows likewise as a necessary consequence, that if this force has been called into service by the authority of the state, independently of major-general Dearborn, and be not placed under him, as commander of the district, that the state of Massachusetts is chargeable with the expense and not the United States. Any claim which the state may have to reimbursement, must be judged of hereafter, by the competent authority, on a full view of all the circumstances attending it. It is a question which is beyond the authority of the executive.

Your excellency will perceive that this government has no other alternative than to adhere to a system of defence which was adopted on great consideration with the best view to the general welfare, or to abandon it, and with it a principle held sacred; thereby shrinking from its duty, at a moment of great peril, weakening the guards deemed necessary for the public safety, and opening the door to other consequences not less dangerous.

By these remarks it is not intended to convey the idea, that a militia officer of a superior grade regularly called into service, shall not command an officer of the regular army, of inferior grade, when acting together. No such idea is entertained by the government. The militia are relied upon essentially for the defence of the country. In their hands every thing is safe \* \* \* \* \*. It is the object of the government to impose on them no burthens, which it may be possible to avoid; and to protect them in the discharge of their duties, in the enjoyment of all their rights.

The various points which are attacked and menaced by the enemy, especially in this quarter, where they are waging in considerable force, a predatory and desolating warfare, make it difficult to provide immediately for all the necessary expenditures. Any aid which the state of Massachusetts may afford to the United States, to meet these expenditures, will be cheerfully received, and applied to the payment and support of the militia of that state, in the service of the United States. It will be proper that the money thus advanced should be deposited in some bank in Boston, that the disbursement of it may be made under the authority of the government of the United States, as in similar cases elsewhere.

Credit will be given to the state for such advance, and the amount be considered a loan to the United States.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JAS. MONROE.

*His excellency Caleb Strong, &c. &c.  
Copy of a letter from the governor of Rhode-Island to the governor of Massachusetts.*

Providence, Sept. 21, 1814.

SIR—By virtue of certain resolutions passed by the general assembly of this state, at their session holden on the 15th day of September instant, I am authorized and requested, in case of the invasion of the neighboring states, to march immediately to their assistance such part of the military force of this state as shall be by me thought expedient to detach for that service. And I am also requested to assure your excellency of the readiness of this state to render you all the aid and assistance in our power, in case of invasion or imminent danger thereof, and to solicit the co-operation of your state, and your speedy aid and assistance in case of an invasion of this state, or of imminent danger thereof.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM JONES.

*His excellency Caleb Strong, Esq.*

*Copy of the governor's answer*

Boston, Sept. 23, 1814.

SIR—I have received your obliging communication of the 21st inst. and shall lay it before the legislature of this state which will assemble on the 5th of October next. I have no doubt they will sincerely reciprocate the sentiments expressed by your general assembly.

In the meantime I pray you to be assured that I shall be ready to co-operate with you in the present alarming state of public affairs, and in case of invasion of the state of Rhode-Island, or of immediate danger thereof, to afford all the aid and assistance which the powers with which I am entrusted enable me to render.

And that I am with very great respect, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

CALEB STRONG.

*His excellency William Jones,*

*governor of the state of Rhode-Island.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Saturday, October 8th.*

The committee to whom was referred the message of his excellency, with the documents accompanying the same, respectfully report in part—

That the unhappy and ruinous war, declared against Great Britain, has assumed an aspect of great and immediate danger to this commonwealth. The persevering invasion of Canada, has, at length, produced, as by natural consequence, the invasion of our Atlantic frontier, and River towns. A portion of the territory of this state, is already in the actual occupation of the enemy, and the sea-coast, in all such parts as may be deemed assailable, is openly menaced with desolation. To defend our soil, and to repel the invader, no force or means, bearing any proportion to the emergency, have been provided by the national government. It was justly to have been expected, that, before hostilities were provoked from a formidable enemy, or, at least that, at some period subsequent to their commencement, means of defence and protection would have been afforded to a sea-coast so extended, and so exposed to the ravages of an enemy, as that of Massachusetts. But events forbid a reliance on any such expectation. The principal part of the regular force raised, or at and

time quartered in this state, has been withdrawn for the war on the Canada border. The fortifications, until lately strengthened by the exertions of our own citizens, were essentially defective, and the navy in a situation calculated to invite, rather than repel aggression, and to require protection, instead of affording it. Indeed, when the circumstances under which the war was declared and has been prosecuted, are viewed in connexion with the utter neglect of the ordinary preparation for such a state; the inference is fairly warranted, that the American cabinet intended no other means of defence for this state, but such as a brave and free people would feel themselves impelled to make, by their own sense of danger and love of country. That it relied upon the passions and sufferings, incident to a state of war, to overcome the repugnance so universally felt by our citizens to the unjust and ruinous contest; and to leave them at liberty to drain our population and our treasures for the protection of their favorite enterprises. But when the commonwealth was found to be in danger of invasion, the people have not paused to consider the motives or objects of their national rulers, in leaving them defenceless; but at the summons of their governor, they have repaired to the standard of their country, with a zeal and alacrity which demonstrate, that the principles which unite men of every class and description in the determination to conquer or die in its defence, are not enfeebled by our party divisions. Thousands of brave and hardy yeomanry, composing a part of a well provided and well disciplined militia, have hastened to the post of danger, and other thousands are ready to follow, at a moment's warning. The most liberal and effectual aid has been afforded in erecting forts and batteries; and but one spirit animates the whole mass of our citizens, with the invincible resolution of defending their native land against the incursions of an enemy, who has not discriminated between those who anxiously sought peace, and those who have wantonly provoked the war. It is however a fact, not to be disguised, that while the people of this state with the blessing of Heaven, have confidence in the sufficiency of their resources, for defending their own soil, if applied exclusively to this object, yet they cannot be supposed equal to this, and also competent to respond to the heavy and increasing demands of the national government.

The state of the national treasury, as exhibited by the proper officer, requires an augmentation of existing taxes, and if in addition to these, the people of Massachusetts, deprived of their commerce, and harassed by a formidable enemy, are compelled to provide for the indispensable duty of self-defence, it must soon become impossible for them to sustain this burden. There remains to them therefore no alternative but submission to the enemy, or the control of their own resources, to repel his aggressions. It is impossible to hesitate in making the election. This people are not ready for conquest or submission. But being ready and determined to defend themselves, and having no other adequate means of defence, they have the greatest need of those resources derivable, from themselves, which the national government has hitherto thought proper to employ elsewhere.

Your committee are also of opinion, that if the war is to continue, provision for a military force, in addition to the ordinary militia, must be resorted to; that a considerable force must be embodied, and maintained, ready to meet the enemy in his varied and distant enterprises—that the continual calls upon great bodies of militia, to march from home, at all seasons, and to remain at a distance from their families, will be the more oppressive, and least econ-

omical of any mode of defence which can be devised in a protracted warfare.

But while your committee think, that the people of this commonwealth ought to unite, and that they will unite, under any circumstances, at the hazard of all that is dear, in repelling an invading foe, it is not believed, that this solemn obligation imposes silence, upon their just complaints against the authors of the national misfortunes. It is on the contrary, a sacred duty, to hold up to view on all occasions the destructive policy, by which as late of unparalleled national felicity has been converted into one of humiliation and danger, believing, that, unless an almost ruined people will discard the men and change the measures which have induced this state of peril and suffering, the day of their political salvation is past. It should never be forgotten that this disastrous condition of public affairs, has been forced upon Massachusetts, not merely against her consent, but in opposition to her most earnest protestations. From the moment that the administration, yielding to its own passions, and calculations of party power, commenced its system of commercial hostility to Great Britain, and of conformity to the views of the late tyrant of France, its tendency to involve the nation in the most needless and cruel embarrassments, was distinctly foreseen, and declared by former legislatures. The insufficiency of our youthful, though flourishing commerce, to cope with that of Great Britain in a struggle of restrictions, was announced by the united warning of those best versed in a knowledge of this subject. It was never doubted by these persons, that a war with Great Britain, would be accompanied by an extinction of commerce; by the banishment of our sailors; the desolation of our coast, the blockade and invasion of our sea-ports, the failure of national credit; the necessity of oppressive taxes; and the consummation of national ruin by an alliance with the late despot of Europe, from which greatest of all calamities we have been preserved only by his fall. Of all these evils, were our rulers forewarned by Massachusetts, whose vital interests were thus put in jeopardy; and they were implored by every consideration of policy and humanity, to stay their hands from the cruel and wanton sacrifice of the interests of those who asked from them, nothing but the privilege of pursuing their own industrious callings. But government deaf to this voice, and listening to men distinguished in their native state only by their disloyalty to its interests, and the enjoyment of a patronage bestowed upon them as its price, have affected to consider the patriotic citizens of this great state as tainted with disaffection to the union and with predilection for Great Britain, and have lavished the public treasury in vain attempts to fix by evidence this odious imputation. Thus dishonored and deprived of all influence in the national councils, this state has been dragged into an unnatural and distressing war, and its safety, perhaps its liberties, endangered.

It is therefore with great concern, that your committee are obliged to declare their conviction, that the constitution of the United States, under the administration of the persons in power, has failed to secure to this commonwealth, and as they believe to the eastern section of this union, those equal rights and benefits, which were the great objects of its formation, and which they cannot relinquish without ruin to themselves and posterity. These grievances justify and require vigorous, persevering and peaceable exertions to unite those who realize the sufferings, and foresee the dangers of the country, in some system of measures, to obtain relief, for which the ordinary mode of procuring amendments to the constitution affords no reasonable expectation, in season to



prevent the completion of its ruin. The people however, possess the means of certain redress; and when their safety, which is the supreme law, is in question, these means should be promptly applied. The framers of the constitution, made provision to amend defects which were known to be incidental to every human institution: and the provision itself was not less liable to be found defective upon experiment, than other parts of the instrument. When this deficiency becomes apparent, no reason can preclude the right of the whole people who were parties to it to adopt another; and it is not a presumptuous expectation, that a spirit of equity and justice, enlightened by experience, would enable them to reconcile conflicting interests, and obviate the principal cause of those dissensions, which unfit government for a state of peace and of war, and so to amend the constitution, as to give vigor and duration to the union of the states. But as a proposition for such a convention from a single state, would probably be unsuccessful, and our danger admits not of delay, it is recommended by the committee, that in the first instance, a conference should be invited between those states, the affinity of whose interests is closest, and whose habits or intercourse, from their local situation and other causes are most frequent, to the end, that by a comparison of their sentiments and views, some mode of defence suited to the circumstances and exigencies of those states and measures for accelerating the return of public prosperity may be devised; and also to enable the delegates from those states, should they deem it expedient to lay the foundation for a radical reform in the national compact by inviting to a future convention, a deputation from all the states in the union. They therefore report the following resolves—which are submitted.

H. G. OTIS, *per order.*

*Resolved,* That the calamities of war being now brought home to the territory of this commonwealth; a portion of it, being in the occupation of the enemy, our sea-coast and rivers being invaded in several places, and in all exposed to immediate danger, the people of Massachusetts are impelled by the duty of self-defence, and by all the feelings and attachments which bind good citizens to their country, to unite in the most vigorous measures for defending the state and expelling the invader, and no party feelings, or political dissensions can ever interfere with the discharge of this exalted duty.

*Resolved,* That provision be made by law for raising by voluntary enlistment for twelve months or during the war, a number of troops not exceeding ten thousand to be organized and officered by the governor, for the defence of the state.

*Resolved,* That the governor be authorized to accept the services of any volunteers, and to organize them as part of the aforesaid troops, who shall hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning to any part of the commonwealth, who shall be entitled to full pay and rations, when in actual service, and to a just compensation short of full pay, to be provided by law, during the entire term of their enlistment.

*Resolved,* That the governor be authorized to borrow from time to time a sum not exceeding one million of dollars, at an interest not exceeding six per cent, and that the faith of this government be pledged to provide funds at the next session of this legislature at furthest for the payment of the interest on the sums borrowed.

*Resolved,* That persons be appointed as delegates from this legislature to meet and confer with delegates from the states of New-England, or any of them, upon the subjects of their public grievances

and concerns, and upon the best means of preserving our resources and of defence against the enemy, and to devise and suggest for adoption by those respective states, such measures as they may deem expedient; and also to take measures, if they shall think proper for procuring a convention of delegates from all the United States, in order to revise the constitution thereof, and more effectually to secure the support and attachment of all the people by placing all upon the basis of fair representation.

*Resolved,* That a circular letter from this legislature, signed by the president of the senate, and speaker of the house of representatives, be addressed, to the executive government of each of said states, to be communicated to their legislatures, explaining the objects of the proposed conference and inviting them to concur in sending delegates thereto.

*Resolved,* That on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ instant, this legislature will, by joint ballot, elect \_\_\_\_\_ persons to meet such delegates as may be appointed by the said states, or either of them, at \_\_\_\_\_ in the state of \_\_\_\_\_.

REPORT

*On so much of the message of his excellency the governor as relates to his application to the secretary at war, and the answer thereto.*

The committee to whom was referred the message of his excellency the governor, and the documents accompanying the same, beg leave to report as to so much thereof as relates to the application made to the secretary at war, on the subject of having the militia called into service for the defence of this state; that, in their opinion, the application of his excellency to the secretary at war, on the seventh of September last, on the subject of the militia, was highly proper; and corresponds with the watchfulness and zeal which his excellency has always manifested, in guarding the rights and interests of this commonwealth.

That the answer of the secretary at war, to the application so made, is of a character justly to alarm the citizens of this state, and especially that portion of them who have been, and those who may be necessarily called into service, and who will also be called on, to pay their proportions, respectively, of the sums assessed, and to be assessed, as to direct taxes: no part of which sums seems intended to be applied in defending this state from invasion, or in compensating the militia for their services.

The tenor of the answer of the secretary at war, has induced your committee to recur to the principles of the compact entered into between this state and the United States.

It is provided in the fourth section of the fourth article of the constitution, that "the United States shall guarantee to every state in this union, a republican form of government; and shall protect each of them against invasion." To enable the United States to do this, power is given by the eighth section of the first article, "to call forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, suppress insurrections, repel invasions; to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia; for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the states, respectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by congress." And by the second section of the second article, it is provided, that "the president shall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states, when called into the actual service of the United States."

Before the adoption of the national form of government, the state of Massachusetts possessed

every attribute of sovereignty, and the people of this state would not have surrendered those relating to peace and war, negotiation with foreign powers, and to the resources of this community, founded in taxation, but upon the assurance that the surrendered attributes would have been used, among other purposes, to provide for the common defence, to protect this state against invasion, to promote the general welfare; and to secure the blessings of liberty to them, and their posterity. At a moment then, when a war voluntarily commenced by our national rulers, is prosecuted to conquer the provinces of the enemy, and is retaliated upon the Atlantic states, with powerful fleets and armies, which according to the late proclamation of the president of the United States, have come to desolate every assailable place, the committee cannot but consider the answer of the secretary at war as further evidence of a disposition on the part of the present administration to withhold these equal benefits of the union to which this commonwealth is entitled.

It appears from this answer, that the government of the United States, soon after the commencement of the war, anticipated that "the seaboard would be exposed to some degree of danger, according to the spirit with which the war might be waged," and although the armies of the United States were employed to effect the conquest of Canada, and it was therefore, certain that the Atlantic frontier would be invaded, the only provision made by the United States against the impending danger, consisted in dividing the United States into military districts, "with a certain portion of regular force, artillery and infantry, under an officer of the regular army, of experience and high rank, with power to call for the militia as circumstances might require."

If this arrangement was intended as a performance of the highly responsible duties, which the United States had assumed towards the individual states, it behoves the state of Massachusetts to enquire, whether these acts were a performance of these duties; and if not, to seek that redress which is consistent with its rights; and to ascertain the measures necessary to be adopted to meet the dangers which the policy of the national government has produced.

The committee do not find in any terms, used in the constitution, nor by any fair construction of that instrument, a power vested in the president of the United States, to place the militia under the command of any officer of the regular army of the United States. When the militia is called forth for any purpose, intended by the constitution, they are to be commanded by their own officers, subject to the command of the president.

But independently of this assumption of power by which the militia would be subject to the performance of duty indefinite as to time or place, it is not known to your committee, that any such force, as is referred to in the answer of the secretary of war, has been stationed within this commonwealth; nor do they know that any part of the regular army has been employed within this state, excepting to recruit the armies employed on the borders of Canada, and excepting also the number of men usually employed in the forts of the United States in time of peace. In the mean time the whole burden of defence has devolved, in the most inconvenient and costly form on the citizens of this state; who have been called from their families, and their daily employments, and who would not have been disposed to obey the call, but from an highly honorable sense of duty. Is the enquiry of his excellency the governor, whether the expenses thus necessarily incurred for the protection of this state from invasion, would be reimbursed by the United States, the secretary of

war answers—"That the measures which may be adopted by a state government for the defence of a state, must be considered as its own measures, not those of the United States. That the expenses attending them are chargeable to the state, and not to the United States."

When the people of this commonwealth call to mind, that since the adoption of the federal constitution, thirty millions of dollars have been collected in this state, and paid into the treasury of the United States; when they are daily reminded, by collection of taxes, that the sum of three hundred and sixteen thousand two hundred and seventy-two dollars is now in process of collection, as a direct tax; when they reflect that of the sum of eleven millions six hundred and sixty thousand dollars already appropriated for the year 1814, they will be called on to pay one million two hundred and sixty five thousand dollars, and that the proportion of this state, for the fifty millions that must be raised for the year 1815, if the expenses of that year should be as great as they have been during the year 1814, will exceed five millions and three hundred thousand dollars, they cannot learn without indignation, that no part of these sums are intended to be applied in defraying the expenses incurred by them, in protecting themselves against invasion, *unless the militia have been called for by an officer of the regular army of the United States, and the expense incurred under his direction.*

Your committee are opinion, that the legislature of Massachusetts are bound to preserve, by all the means in their power, the resources of the state so far as may be necessary for defence in their present perilous and distressing circumstances. But having been informed that the expenses which have been incurred, and those which will be necessarily incurred, in defending this state against invasion, cannot be ascertained during the present session of the legislature; and presuming that the amount thereof will be made known to the legislature at the next session, and that such statements and information will accompany the same as to his excellency the governor may seem proper, your committee respectfully commend that the further consideration of this subject be referred to the next session of the general court.

D. A. WHITE, per order.

In senate, Oct. 18, 1814—Read and accepted.

Sent down for concurrence.

JOHN PHILLIPS, president.

In the house of representatives, Oct. 18.

Read and concurred,

TIMOTHY BIGELOW, Speaker.

*In the house of representatives, Oct. 5.*

Soon after the house was called to order, a motion was made by Mr. Low of Lyman, which was laid on the table:

*Moved,* That a committee be appointed to confer with all the *New England states* and see if they will agree to appoint a committee to join them, and repair to the city of Washington immediately, then and there personally to make known to the president, the general opinion of all the *New England states* in regard to the present war, and the manner in which it has been conducted, and inform him that he must either resign his office, as president, or remove those ministers and other officers of the general government, who have by their nefarious plans ruined the nation—with leave to report by bill or otherwise.—Read, and to-morrow, at eleven o'clock, assigned for the consideration of the subject.

[This motion was withdrawn the next day.]

The resolutions attached to the report signed H.

(*z. Otis* (inserted above) were adopted on the 13th of October. The first with only 3 dissentients—on the second the votes were 248 for and 78 against it. The third and fourth were passed without debate. The fifth occasioned a long discussion, but was carried 260 to 90—The sixth and seventh were passed by about the same majority.

October 19.—The convention of both houses proceeded to the choice of twelve delegates, to meet and confer [on the 15th December next] with such as may be chosen by any or all of the other New England states upon our public grievances and concerns—when the committee appointed to collect and count the votes, reported, that the whole number was 215; and that the following gentlemen were elected:

Hon. George Cabot, Harrison G. Otis, Timothy Bigelow, Nathan Dana, William Prescott, Samuel S. Wilde, George Bliss, Joshua Thomas, Rodijah Baylies, Joseph Lyman, Daniel Waldo, Stephen Longfellow.

And they were declared to be unanimously chosen. Then adjourned to meet at the usual time of the winter session.

[The delegates were appointed by the votes only of 215 members. The house, I believe, consists of nearly 500. The republicans did not vote in the election, in either branch of the legislature.]

#### PROTEST

Of the minority of the senate of Massachusetts, against the report of the joint committee of the legislature on the governor's message.

To the honorable the senate of Massachusetts.

The undersigned, members of said senate, beg leave respectfully to object and protest against certain resolutions which were reported by a committee of the legislature and which have been adopted by the senate.

The resolutions, which are more particularly the object of this protest, provide for the appointment of twelve delegates to meet at Hartford, in the state of Connecticut, on the fifteenth day of December next, "To confer with delegates from the other states of New-England, or any of them, upon the subjects of their public grievances and concerns, and upon the best means of preserving our resources and of defence against the enemy, and to devise and suggest for adoption, by those respective states, such measures as they may deem expedient. And also to take measures, if they shall think proper, for procuring a convention of delegates from all the United States, in order to revise the constitution thereof, and more effectually to secure the support and attachment of all the people, by placing all upon the basis of fair representation."

Notwithstanding we deem this proposition, at this time, extraordinary, alarming and pernicious, it is rendered peculiarly so, by the novel, strange and unprecedented doctrines and principles contained in the preamble to the resolutions. We had believed, that the constitution of the United States was the most perfect system of republican government, which human wisdom could invent—Framed by men who had felt the oppressions of tyranny, and in some measure experienced the dangers of anarchy; established upon the broad principles of sovereignty in the states, liberty in the people, and energy in the federal head—and effected by the zeal, concessions and candor of those virtuous and enlightened patriots, who had carried America through a war of unparalleled suffering to independence and peace. We had hoped that neither the ambition of party, nor the test of experiment, would have so soon brought us to the conclusion, that it had "fail-

ed to secure to" any "section of the union those equal rights and benefits which were the great object of its formation;" much less, was it to have been suspected, that under the pretext of "reconciling conflicting interests" and in a time of war and invasion and while our constitutional agents were attempting to negotiate a peace, we should promulgate the sentiments to our friends and enemies that the government is "unfit for peace and war"—that a radical reform, or another constitution, were essential to the salvation of the people.

The undersigned have considered that part of the constitution which provides for amendments, as dictated by superior wisdom. While it guards against sudden innovations and ensures stability to the compact, it provides for the correction of those errors and defects which experience alone could discover. And it is with extreme regret that we perceive this attempt at innovation indirect contravention of this salutary provision. If the legislature have no other powers on this subject than those which they derive from the state and federal constitutions, it is manifest, that, in this case they have assumed an authority never delegated to them by the people—And if the legislature have no authority, it is difficult to perceive how they can vest a discretion in their delegates which they themselves do not possess. Thus, therefore, is an assumption of power, for which this Senate are responsible to the people of this state and the United States; an assumption, which the undersigned utterly disclaim, and against which they most solemnly protest. We are not aware of any defect in the constitution of the United States, which requires even a constitutional attempt at amendment—except the supposed one of *unequal or unfair representation* none has been pointed out—But as three fifths of the slaves, were enumerated in apportioning the representation among the several states, at the time of the adoption of the constitution, and the direct taxes were apportioned in the same way; as the New England states have a representation in the senate far greater than in proportion to their *free population*—as no attempt has been made for this alteration, in the mode prescribed by the constitution, and as this could not be effected before the election to the next congress, it is impossible to believe that an attempt of this sort, at this time, can justify this extraordinary convention, or that it is its principal object. But there are other objects more alarming in their nature, and pernicious in their tendency. It was wisely provided by the constitution, that no state should enter into any compact or agreement with another *without the consent of congress*. It was probably foreseen that disappointed and ambitious men, would attempt to form associations prejudicial to the general welfare and dangerous to the Union of the States. That these men would excite local jealousies, and attempt geographical distinctions—and that despairing of governing the *whole*, they would attempt a severance that they might govern a *part*.

It was therefore prudent and proper, that these compacts and agreements should be under the controul of the *states* and the *people* represented in *congress*. It is therefore with great solicitude and concern that we have been led to enquire what "public grievances" can warrant the assembling of delegates of the states of New England, or what "affinity of interest" can authorise them to "devise means of preserving their own resources" to themselves. The respective states of New England, can now preserve all their resources, except such as are under the constitutional control of the United States. *Will they combine to take these?* Such a combination would be a resistance of federal authority. A civil

war would become inevitable; our enemy would profit by our dissensions, our union would be dissolved, our country conquered, and our liberty extinguished. Our country is engaged in a just and (of late) successful war. Our resources are abundant, our government is adequate, and our citizens are brave, enterprising and intelligent. Union alone, can secure us the blessings of an honorable peace. While our commissioners are negotiating with the most earnest solicitude for their country's welfare—while our army and navy are defending the soil and maintaining the honor and glory of our country; while our brave yeomanry are rushing like a torrent, from the mountains to the shore to meet and repel the invader, and the spirit of party is becoming absorbed in the spirit of patriotism, why should Massachusetts, great, powerful, respectable Massachusetts, form a combination which will defeat the hopes of the "friends of peace," and aid and encourage a powerful and vindictive enemy? With these views and feelings, the undersigned cannot but deeply regret, that a proposition so unpromising of good, destitute of important ostensible object, but full of distrust, jealousy and mischief, and calculated to alarm, divide and discourage the people, should ever have been adopted by the Senate of Massachusetts. Suspicions have been indulged that Massachusetts would take the lead of the New England states, in a combination to dissolve the Union; that as a preliminary step, a course similar to that contemplated in these resolutions would be adopted, and that a period of war would be selected for the purpose. By the adoption of these resolutions we apprehend that these suspicions will grow into a settled belief.

The raising an army of ten thousand men at the expense and under the command of the state, will have little tendency to diminish the alarm. However honorable and patriotic the motives for raising an army and refusing to place them under the orders and pay of the general government, we have strong apprehensions that the people of this commonwealth will have too much reason to believe that the honor to command, will not compensate for the burthen to pay; that a separate army comports too well with a separate sovereignty, and that these men may at some future period be employed to settle domestic quarrels or enforce local interests:

From the resolutions and preamble and circumstances attending the debate, the undersigned have strong reasons to apprehend that propositions for a separate peace, may grow out of a proposed meeting of delegates from the New-England states. Should such propositions from the British government be made to the convention, and should the terms, as they probably would, be very flattering to this section of the Union, the temptation of momentary gain might induce a compact with the enemy, introduce an army of foreign mercenaries, produce a civil war, which would end in a subjugation of both sections to the power of Great Britain.

Ambition has destroyed every other republic on earth. The United States stand alone, like a solitary rock in the midst of the ocean, surrounded and assailed by storms and tempests. In vain may we look for aid, except from Union, energy and HEAVEN: apprehending and believing, that from neither of these sources can we expect it, so long as we indulge in the adoption of such resolutions, we have prepared and signed the foregoing protest; and we pray that it may be entered on the journals of the senate.

John Howe, Mark Langball Hall, Walter Folger, jr Joseph Bemis, Samuel Hear, William Moody, John Holmes, John Gage, Edmund Foster, Daniel Kilham, J. Kinsley, Timothy Fuller, Albion L. Parvis.

Senate Chamber, Oct. 15, 1814.

[The following protest, subscribed by SEVENTY-FIVE MEMBERS of the house of representatives, was presented and read by Mr. Lincoln, of Worcester, in behalf of the minority; and after some animated discussion, in which the language and sentiments were vindicated by Messrs. Green and Lincoln, the majority voted that it was disrespectful to the house, and refused to receive and place it upon the journals. It is now presented to the people, who will decide upon its merits, and the measures to which it applies.]

#### PROTEST.

The house of representatives having, at the present session, in concurrence with the honorable senate, adopted the report of a committee, "to whom was referred the message of his excellency, with the documents accompanying the same;" and having passed sundry resolutions contained in that report—The undersigned, members of the said house of representatives, having, in their place, objected and given their decided negative to said report, and to the passage of all the said resolutions, save the first, proposed therein—do now feel further constrained, by a consideration of the character of the measure contemplated, by apprehensions of the consequences which seem inevitable therefrom, by a sense of duty to themselves, to their constituents, and to their country, to make the most solemn protest thereto, and respectfully to offer the same to accompany the records of the adoption of the report, upon the journals of the house.

The undersigned contemplate, with no less concern than the majority, the difficulties and dangers which are pressing upon every side our beloved country. They see foreign power attempting our national subjugation, and domestic factions tributary to its accomplishment. They would witness with dismay the condition of the people, but for the deep conviction, that the spirit of patriotism and of self-respect will be sufficient for their ultimate redemption. In the duty to unite in defending our territory and repelling invasion from the soil of freemen, no American can for a moment hesitate. The sovereignty of the nation must be sacred; the integrity of the union inviolate. No party or local considerations shall ever influence the minority in the house, to a dereliction of their public trust. They will unite with the virtuous and patriotic of every political designation, not in sentiment only, but in action, and to the utmost of their physical strength, in defending the commonwealth and the union, their territory and their governments, from every aggression, and in resisting and repelling alike, invasions of whatever character, upon the one or the other.

But while the minority in this house will cordially subscribe to every proposition, and zealously cooperate in every measure for the defence and protection of any portion of their country, they cannot be unmindful that they are parties to a national compact, and that under government their measures and efforts are to be directed. Little would be gained by resisting foreign hostility, at the expense of order and security within. The undersigned impute no unworthy motive to the majority; but they owe to the majority and to the people, a vindication of their objections to the measures about to be adopted, and an admonition of the fatal consequences which these measures seem calculated to produce.

To a proposition for raising troops for the service of the country, the undersigned could not object. On the contrary, they concurred in the reasoning, that to raise troops is wise and prudent, most effectual in operation and economical in the issue. The experiment so often made of sudden detachments of militia for short periods of service, has left no doubt of the preference for a permanent

corps, which may be disciplined by time, accustomed to obedience by command, and which should look for a discharge, only to the accomplishment of the object for which they were employed. It is to be required, however, that when troops are raised, it should be under the provision of the constitution; that though their operations may be local, they should be ennobled by a national character, that in defending the state they should be recognized as contributing to the service of the union. While congress are bound to provide for the "general welfare, and the common defence," Massachusetts should not hastily exonerate himself from the obligation, nor should her legislature burden the people by the assumption of unnecessary and unexpected exertions. The constitution, in providing that the president of the United States shall command the militia, while in actual service, has implied a responsibility upon the general government for their support and compensation. If this command be denied, neither the letter of the national compact, nor its spirit, by just construction, will sanction a claim to remuneration, and the expence of troops, otherwise employed must fall exclusively upon the state. Notwithstanding the organization of an independent state corps, the obligation to the union will exist. It is not denied that a constitutional requisition by the president, may be made. The state corps, it is conceded, cannot by the terms of its organization, be ordered into the service of the United States. The state, therefore, must be reduced to the necessity of contributing to the support of a detachment of their militia, in addition to the exclusive expence of a state army, or of refusing a compliance with a constitutional requisition, in direct violation of national duty, and to the dissolution of the union. Because then, the state corps of 10,000 men is contemplated to be independent, under any circumstances, of the general government; not liable to be called into the service of the United States, nor subject to the like orders and duties with the militia therein, agreeably to the provisions of the constitution; and because the tendency of such an organization of troops is also calculated to subject this commonwealth to an undue proportion of the public burdens, or to induce to a gross violation of the national compact, we do most solemnly protest against, and object thereto.

Against the resolution proposing a convention of delegates from the New-England states, and the resolutions connected therewith, the undersigned feel bound by every dictate of duty and every suggestion of patriotism, most earnestly to remonstrate. To these resolutions they have opposed the utmost of their own reason, the language of the constitution, and the solemn and warning admonitions of *Washington!* However disguised or designed, the obvious tendency of propositions for a partial consequence by delegates from some states, without participation or consultation with other states, is to prepare the way for a separation and division of the union. The suggestion of a peculiar interest in the states of New-England upon subjects of public grievance, is predicated upon the idea, that this nation has not a community of object, and is not connected by a similarity of obligation. The constitution of the United States has prohibited in express terms, "one state from entering into any agreement or compact with another" without the consent of Congress. If, as the result of the conference of delegates on the part of New-England, a compact for any purpose is intended, the proposition for such conference, is as gross an infringement of the constitution as would be the compact when made. It cannot be admissible to pursue means to an end, which it is wrong and illegal to attain. Nor is there just pre-

tence of necessity for this measure. The framers of the constitution wisely provided for its amendment. Should abuses exist, growing out of supposed defects in the instrument, the mode of reform is definitely prescribed, and if in this way they are not to be corrected, neither can they in any other, short of a change in the form of government. It is not to be supposed that the states of the union will yield to the dictates of a convention, what they would refuse to the constitutional application of the legislature. The undersigned, therefore cannot disguise their apprehensions that more must be designed, than is distinctly avowed. The reasoning of the report, is supported by the alarming assumption, that the constitution has failed in its objects, and the people of Massachusetts are absolved from their allegiance, and at liberty to adopt another. In debate it has been reiterated, that the constitution is no longer to be respected, and that revolution is not to be deprecated. The bond of our political union is thus attempted to be severed, and in a state of war and of common danger, we are advised to the mad experiment of abandoning that protection, which the combined energies of the nation might afford, for the selfish enjoyment of our present, though partial resources. The resolutions of the legislature, it is to be feared, will be viewed by other states, as productive of this consequence, that *Massachusetts shall govern the administration, or the government shall not be administered in Massachusetts!* Jealousy and contention will ensue. The constitution, hitherto respected as the charter of national liberty and consecrated as the ark of our political safety, will be violated and destroyed, and in civil dissensions and convulsions, our independence will be annihilated, and our country reduced to the condition of vanquished and tributary colonies to a haughty and implacable foreign foe.

LEVI LINCOLN, jun.—and 75 others,

## Cruise of the Peacock.

Copy of a letter from captain Warrington to the secretary of the navy, dated

U. S. sloop Peacock, New York, Oct. 30, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to inform you of the Peacock's arrival at this place, after a cruise of one hundred and forty-seven days, during which all your remaining orders of the 28th February ult. have been executed, except that which related to the Naze and coast of Norway and which was omitted in consequence of that whole coast being under a strict blockade by a combined squadron of English and Swedish ships. Although the Peacock's success has not been so great as we had sanguinely expected, it is a pleasing reflection, that our disappointment has been occasioned by the uncommon severe weather, (with constant gales from south-west to north west) which we experienced, from the time of striking soundings in the Irish channel, until we left the Shetland isles, and which had the double effect, of keeping in all their trade, and compelling us to be constantly beating off a lee shore.—We were four days between cape Clear and Waterford, in which time we made but three captures, the last of which, as she was of little value, we made a cartel of.—On the north west coast of Ireland we met with-

very little better success as the bad weather still continued. From the Shetland Islands we ran for the Ferro isles, and then returned in soundings along the Irish coast, crossed the mouth of the channel, and bay of Biscay, and made cape Ortegal between which and the rock of Lisbon we cruised seven days, seeing in that time but twelve sail, nine of which we spoke and found but two of them English—From thence we ran along the Portuguese coast, crossed the mouth of the Mediterranean and ran within a degree and a half of the Madeiras, for the purpose of falling in with their West India and Teneriffe trade. On the 1st of September we made the Canaries, and attempted in vain to procure water at Pentaventura and Lauzarota, at the latter of which places we landed some prisoners. As a supply of water was now indispensably requisite, I determined to run for the Cape de Veris, at one of which (St. Vincent's) after a week's work in digging and cleaning out wells, we obtained the requisite quantity, and then proceeded at an easy rate to the westward, steering alternately to the S. W. and N. W. to prolong our stay as much as possible, between the longitudes of 20 and 40 west, the track of all their East India, African and South American trade. Not a single vessel was however seen in all our run, and on the 6th of October we made the coast of Guiana, at the mouth of the Mariconi river, the next day we were off Surinam, from whence we ran for Barbadoes, which we made on the 9th, and continued cruising to windward of Dereda and Barbuda for a few days, and then steered for our own coast, which we made on the 28th, at seven, A. M. a little to the westward of cape Henlopen.

It gives me much pleasure so inform you that from the time of our leaving New York in March last, until our return, we have lost but one man (Mr. Denizen Baldwin, M. mate, a promising officer,) and that our crew is in fine health. I trust that you will not think we have unnecessarily curtailed our cruise, when I inform you we have but fifteen days provisions on board at short allowance. I enclose a correct list of our captures.

I am respectfully,

L. WARRINGTON.

The Hon. Wm. Jones,  
Secretary of the navy.

*A list of British vessels captured by the U. S. sloop of war Peacock, L. Warrington, esquire, commander, between the 28th of February and 30th October, 1814.*

Brig Sea Flower, from St. Johns, bound to Barbadoes, belonging to Bermuda, 87 tons, cargo codfish, 10 men, 2 guns, St. Geo. R. Hinson, master, Trinitians & co. owners, captured June 17th, off Grand Banks, value 20,000 dollars—burnt.

Brig Stranger from Buenos Ayres, bound to Greenock, belonging to Greenock, 150 tons, cargo hides and tallow, 13 men, 4 guns, Jas. Lawdon, master, R. Cockran and co. captured June 5th, off Flores, value 120,000 dollars—burnt.

Sloop Fortitude, from Liverpool, bound to London, belonging to Hastings, 88 tons, cargo salt, 6 men, Jas. Waters, master, R. Vardy and Burfield owners, captured off Waterford, value 10,222 dollars—sunk.

Brig Venus, from Bordeaux, bound to do, belonging to Irvine, 165 tons, cargo barley, oats, brandy and cork, 11 men, 2 guns, D. Kennedy, master, D. Kennedy & co. owners, 6 passengers captured off Younghall, value 40,000 dollars—sunk.

Brig Adonia, from Liverpool, bound to Quebec, belonging to Liverpool, 140 tons, cargo salt, 11 men, K. I. Hilditch, master, 3 passengers, captured off Cork—cartel for 38 prisoners.

Sloop Leith Packet, from Teneriffe, bound to Dublin, belonging to Campbelltown, 116 tons, cargo T. n. wine, 8 men, Jno. Watson, master, J. & Wm. Watson, owners, captured August 1st off Shannon, value 12,000 dollars—sunk.

Sloop William and Ann, from Glasgow, bound to Limerick, belonging to Rathley, 64 tons, cargo coals, 5 men, Robt. M'Puey, master, R. M'Puey and co. owners, captured Aug. 2d, off Junis Tuscan, value 50,000 dollars—sunk.

Sloop Peggy and Jane, belonging to Cumbria, 97 tons, cargo coal, crates and crown glass, 6 men, J. Duncan, master, J. Duncan owner, captured August 3d, off Tory island, value 15,000 dollars—sunk.

Barque William, from St. Andrews, bound to Greenock, belonging to Bristol, 97 tons, cargo 300 r. 13 men, M. Whitney, master, 5 passengers, captured August 14, value 35,000 dollars—burnt.

Ship sir Ed. Pellew, from Quebec, belonging to Greenock, 307 tons, partly loaded with lumber, 14 men, 1 gun, G. O. Kelly, master, 1 passenger, captured 15th August—cartel for 50 prisoners.

Brig Bellona, from Cetta, bound to Hamburg, belonging to Jersey, 258 tons, cargo brandy wine and verdigris, 14 men, 6 guns, H. Langlois, mast. r, M. Srs. Emory's owners, captured 1st August off Cape Ortegal, value 100,000 dollars—sunk.

Brig Triton, from St. Johns, bound to Lisbon, belonging to Teignmouth, 11 tons, cargo fish, 7 men, M. Harvey, master, Wm. Luckem Row, owner, captured August 23d, off Cape Finistere, value 25,000 dollars—sunk.

Brig Duck, from Pentaventura, bound to Teneriffe, belonging to London, 174 tons, barilla, 10 men, 2 guns, J. Stephenson, master, Geo. Fild, owner, 2 passengers, captured Sept. 2d, off Pentaventura, value 1,000 dollars—sunk.

Ship Mary, from Point a P'tre, bound to Halifax, belonging to Guadaloupe, 270 tons, cargo sugar, coffee, rum and molasses, 17 men, 1 gun, Jas. Gibson, Lewis De-priz, captured Oct. 12th, off Barbuda, value of 70,000 dollars—sunk.

Total value 494,222 dollars.

L. WARRINGTON.

*Extract of a letter from A. Sinclair, esq. commanding the United States' naval force on the Upper Lakes, to the secretary of the navy, dated*

U. S. S. Niagara Roads, off Erie, October 28th, 1814.

SIR—I am under the mortifying necessity of stating to you that the report mentioned in my last letter of the vessels left in the upper lake having been surprised and captured by boats of the enemy, has turned out to be correct. The boatswain and four men from the Scorpion made their escape, on their way to Kingston, and crossed lake Ontario in skiffs from the bay of Quinte to the Genessee river, from thence to this place. The man's story is a most unfavorable one, and such as I am loath to believe true, from the well known character of lieutenant Turner. He says the blockade of the Nautawasauga river was raised a short time after my departure—that the lieutenant who commanded the navy (and who had escaped in the woods when she was destroyed) had passed up to Mackinac in boats, and it was by him and his crew they were captured. The Tigress had been separated from him five days among the islands, in which time she had been captured. They came in sight of her laying at anchor, in the evening; the wind being light, they anchored some distance from her, without passing signals. In the morning there was only four or five men, and no officer on deck. The Tigress got under way, run down, fired into them, and were on board without any report ever being made to Mr. Turner, nor was there an officer of any grade on deck when she was captured. The wind was light, the Scorpion had the advantage of a long 12 pounder over the other, and could have re-captured her with much ease. The Tigress had made great resistance, but was overpowered by an overwhelming force. Her commander (sailing-master Champlain) and all her officers were wounded, as were many of his men, and some killed. I had given lieutenant Turner a picked crew from this vessel, with my sailing-master, and had added to both their crews 25 chosen men, borrowed from colonel Croghan, to act as marines. I had also left him a boarding netting; indeed, there was no precaution I did not take in anticipation of every effort, I knew the enemy would make to regain their

line of communication, on which their very existence depended.

I herewith enclose you my instructions to lieutenant Turner—after which I cannot express to you, sir, my chagrin at learning the little regard which appears to have been paid to them, and the evil consequences growing out of such neglect; consequences but too well known to you and to the government. You must first believe the infinite interests I had taken in the expedition from the moment I had been entrusted with the conducting it, and the sanguine hope I had formed of its complete success, and the benefits resulting from it to my country, to enable you to form an adequate idea of the mortification I now experience.

I have the honor to remain, with high respect, sir, your obedient servant,

A. SINCLAIR.

*Honorable William Jones, secretary of the navy.  
Copy of a letter from captain Sinclair, to lieutenant Daniel Turner, dated*

U. S. sloop of war Niagara, Nautawasago river Aug. 15, 1814.  
5111—Having accomplished the object for which the squadron came into this quarter, in the destruction of the enemy's whole naval force on this lake, I am on the eve of returning to lake Erie: but as it is all important to cut the enemy's line of communication from Michilimackinac to York, which is through the Nautawasago river, lake Sinclair, &c. and on which his very existence depends, you will remain here and keep up a rigid blockade until you shall be driven from the lake by the inclemency of the season, suffering not a boat or canoe to pass in or out of this river. I shall leave the Tigress with you. In case accident should happen to either one of the vessels, the other may afford her necessary assistance. Should you deem it proper to send the Tigress up to cruise a week or two, about St. Joseph's, in order to intercept the enemy's fur canoes between St. Marie's and French river, you can do so, as one vessel is sufficient to blockade this river.

I should recommend your immediately finding out anchorage to cover you from N. W. gales, as that is the only wind which can affect you in this bay. I see from the Nancy's Log Book, that the small island on the S. W. of this bay is such a place as you could wish, directions for which I herewith give you. The islands north of us, may also give you good anchorage; but always be sure of some good bottom before anchorage, as the loss of an anchor might prove of serious consequence to you. Should you find anchorage on both sides, I would recommend your changing frequently, and in a way not to be observed by the enemy, who might not only avail himself of your position to move out his boats in the night on the opposite side, but he might attempt surprising you by throwing a number of men on board. Against attacks of this kind, which he might be driven to by his desperate situation, as this blockade must starve him into a surrender by spring, I must particularly caution you. When the Tigress is here it would be well to be on the opposite shores—and sometimes to run out of sight, taking care to scour both shores as you return. I shall endeavor to annoy the navigation of the river by felling trees across its mouth in order that a portage must be performed there; which must be seen by you.

I wish you to take an accurate survey of this bay, and its islands, and if possible the one on the north of it, called Matschadash, observing all its islands, creeks, bays, shoals, anchorages, courses, distances, and soundings, particularly attending to the kind of bottom.

Should any thing occur to make it necessary, you can send the Tigress express to me. If we can keep

their boats from passing until October, I think the weather will effectually cut off all communication by any they have on float, and in the spring an early blockade will possess us of Mackinac.

You will be particularly careful in having communication with the shore, and when you send a party for wood, let it be on an island, under the protection of your guns, and a guard from both vessels. Wishing you a pleasant cruise,

I remain very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) A. SINCLAIR.  
Lieut. comdt. David Turner, U. S. sloop. Scorpion.

## Congress.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Thursday Nov. 3.*—The house was chiefly occupied this day with the volunteer bill, which was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

*Friday Nov. 4.*—The volunteer bill was recommitted to a committee of the whole, in which it was considerably discussed, and again reported to the house with some amendments.

*Saturday Nov. 5.*—Mr. Johnson, chairman of the committee to investigate the causes that led to the capture of the city by the enemy, informed the house that that committee had been industriously engaged in the collection of papers and facts—he said they had received 11 reports, containing 359 pages, and 210 letters, besides daily and almost hourly interviews with persons on the subject.

Mr. Farrow offered the following which was agreed to without a division. *Resolved*, That the committee of Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of laying a duty on all salary officers, and on the professional income of lawyers, solicitors and counsellors, and the legal proceedings of civil courts of justice.

An able legal discussion now took place on the report of the committee of claims on the petition of Thomas Cutts, which was unfavorable to the petitioner. Mr. Cutts, had purchased certain property at a marshal's sale which in due process of law he was dispossessed of by a third person—he therefore prayed the United States would reimburse the money he had paid to their officer. But the report of the committee was agreed to—81 to 58.

The remainder of the day was spent in discussing the volunteer bill—and the house adjourned at a late hour without a decision.

*Monday Nov. 7.*—The house was engaged the whole of this day in discussing the volunteer bill, which, from the quantity of talking about it, we suppose is important—except that at a late hour Mr. Fisk, of N. Y. reported a bill to establish a national bank, which was referred to a committee of the whole.

*Tuesday Nov. 8.*—Mr. McKim of Md. presented the memorial of sundry ship-owners and merchants of Baltimore, representing, that in consequence of the strict blockade of our bays and rivers, the private armed service is much discouraged, &c. and submitting so congress the expediency of authorising a bounty to be given for the destruction of the enemy's vessels. They state their opinion of the high effect of this sort of warfare on the enemy's commerce, and say that they are ready to give the best pledge of their sincerity in this belief, if encouragement be afforded, by entering largely into the enterprises against the commerce of the enemy. The memorial was read and referred.

The bill from the senate authorising the fitting out of not more than 20 vessels, to carry not less than 8, nor more than 14 guns; was read, and after considerable debate, in which several amendments were pro-

posed, and rejected by large majorities (except one offered by Mr. Ingersol to extend the *maximum* of force to 22 guns, at the discretion of the executive) was ordered to a third reading to-morrow.

*Wednesday Nov. 9.*—After the minor business had been disposed of, Mr. Eppes reported a bill to provide additional revenues &c. agreeably to the resolves of the house, already noticed in detail—and also amending the act laying duties on distilled spirits so as to continue it, and pledging it on some other tax to be levied in lieu of it, for the punctual performance of the engagements of the United States, and for establishing a sinking fund, &c. The bill was committed.

The bill from the senate to authorize the fitting out of certain small armed vessels was passed without opposition.

Progress was made in a good deal of other business.

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

*The Niagara frontier* We learn indirectly, but we think the information may be relied on, that the greater part of gen. Izard's army had re-crossed the Niagara to Buffalo about the first inst. The remainder was yet at fort Erie, expected soon also to cross, as they had destroyed the outer works. No mention is made of the enemy, nor have we heard distinctly of the late movements of our army. We have nothing new from *Sackett's harbor*, except that *Brown's* presence seems to make it safe. The citizens of some of the neighboring countries had been called out *en masse*. It has become very cold on this frontier, and a deep snow fell some days ago—the campaign is probably closed. Every thing is quiet on the *Champlain* frontier. Our fleet was about to be laid up. It was reported the British were preparing to build *four frigates*.

*News.* The Russian ship *Hannibal*, has arrived at New York, in 59 days from Bremen, with a full cargo of German goods. She brings London dates to the 2d of September, and Bremen papers of the 5th, but they contain nothing of importance, except in regard to the internal regulations of the different European states. The following are the heads of the news—

A considerable number of ship wrights, &c. were to leave England for Canada. A general belief prevailed in England that the negotiation at *Ghent* was broken off; and it is said that Messrs. Bayard, Clay and Gallatin would assemble at Brest on the 10th Oct. to return home. This is probable enough. The great European congress was to meet at Vienna, Sept. 8. The military establishments of the several powers seem prepared for expected difficulties thereat. The emperor of Austria continues Bonaparte's order of the Iron Crown, himself Grand Master. Wellington, with 40,000 men, is said to be in Belgium. The idea has gone forth that *Bonaparte*

may be troublesome, but grounds for is not stated.

Doleful complaints are made in Great Britain of the enterprize, gallantry and skill of our seamen. As a sample of the terror they have inflicted, insurance between *England* and *Ireland* which used to be *three-fourths of one per cent.* had risen to *five per cent.* We may exalt it to 15 before long.

The London Courier of Sept. 1, says that the sailing of the force assembled at Plymouth for America was stopped.

*LORD HILL.* Some rumors are afloat that lord Hill's expedition has been abandoned, the troops that were collected at *Cork*, &c. being dispersed—some sent to Holland. But we have no positive information of this matter. Accounts from Bermuda of the 19th ult. say he was not soon expected. Cockburn, was at Bermuda, but it did not seem that any expedition was fitting out.

*THE INDIAN BOUNDARY*, designed by the treaty of Greenville, (says the *Albany Argus*) commences at lake Erie, at the mouth of the Cayahogia, runs south to the head waters of the Muskingum, thence to fort Recovery on the Wabash, 98 miles W. by N. from Cincinnati, thence to the Ohio river, and thence on a course parallel to and near that river, to the Mississippi. The indian part embraces one third of Ohio, and near the whole of four territories, and comprises a tract of country, which, from its fertility, mildness of climate and equality of surface, Volney has denominated the future Flanders of America. It contains by computation 220 millions of acres, more than one third of our territory before the accession of Louisiana, which, at two dollars per acre, the present price of the public lands, would produce a revenue to the government of 440,000,000. Independent of political considerations, therefore, the *sine qua non* of the British commissioners, if acceded to, would deprive us and our posterity of one of the most certain and permanent sources of revenue.

*PUBLIC CREDIT.* The circumstances of the war have thrown a very unusual quantity of specie into the hands of the people to the eastward, and they are using the advantage for many undignified purposes. Before the war, a silver dollar was more of a rarity in those parts than a half eagle was in the middle states, and such will be the case again when trade resumes its wonted course. We propose to say something more on this matter a little while hence, and shew how those persons make a *gain* of injuring the *public credit*.

*THE LOAN.* We are proud to hear that the government has already obtained on good terms, without public advertisement, the whole, or nearly the whole of the loan, which in consequence of the approach of the enemy to the city in August last, was then only partly subscribed.——*Nat. Int.*

*CONNECTICUT.* The legislature of this state, after passing certain resolutions, (which shall be recorded) has appointed seven delegates to meet those of *Massachusetts*, &c. in convention at Hartford, in December next, to consult what measures it may be expedient for those states to adopt, in the present situation of the country, which shall not be inconsistent with the duty which they owe to the government of *United States*. The resolve passed the house of representatives—*yeas* 153, *nays* 36. The delegates are—His honor Cavanaugh Goodrich, hon. James Hillhouse, hon. John Treadwell, hon. Zephaniah Swift, hon. Nathaniel Smith, hon. Calvin Goddard, hon. Roger M. Sherman,



"BRITISH INFLUENCE." The following, said to be a letter from Paris, appeared in the *Boston Centinel* about two months ago; and the editor declared it was faithfully copied from the original which he had seen. It made a great noise at first, but hearing nothing of it since, we had consigned it to forgetfulness with the millions of similar tales that preceded it, long since dissolved into "thin air." But accidentally finding it among a parcel of scraps, we are induced to preserve the *precious morsel* to aid in the history of fiction.

When we first beheld it, the only thing that astonished us was—that something of the kind had not been published long ago!—as, immediately after the fall of Paris, several persons in the United States, hinted [to Lord Castlereagh] that such stuff might be profitably used here! We, therefore, expected a giant lie.

If the charges be true—he is a villain of the most finished character that withholds the proof—if they be false—what must we think of the *desperation* of the man that would palm such trash on the public!

We are thoroughly advocates for the freedom of the press, yet as firmly fixed in the opinion that publishers should be made responsible for the calumnies they utter; and for this libel the editor ought to be brought before that senate which he accuses of the basest corruption. The letter is as follows—

"PARIS, MAY 26, 1814.

"The treaty is nearly concluded, and we shall once more see all the world in peace, excepting our own country—thanks to the wisdom of the democrats and the partizans of BONAPARTE! Since the war has been declared, he has not EXERCISED one single act of amity or friendship, either towards the nation or any individual. It is very well known by every one here who has connection with the government, that it was by bribery that the vote for the war was obtained. A gentleman employed in the office of the department of foreign affairs, told me that he saw on the books the names of the senators bribed, and the sums paid each of them by SURMONTEIN. I hope in a short time to be able to procure a copy of it, to send to you. The country was sold by ANXERNOVE before he left Paris; and the war was decided upon; and in consequence he was made secretary of war, the better to accomplish the diabolical system. I hope the events which have taken place in Europe will enlighten the American people, and shew them their true interest, and that they will have resolution and patriotism enough to dismiss from their councils men who have so basely betrayed their country and the confidence that was reposed in them by their fellow citizens. This is the first step towards making an honorable and durable peace, which must be the desire of every true American.

THE STRANGER.—The board of war of Massachusetts purchased 30 of the 24 pounders, brought to Salem, in the prize ship Stranger.

TRADE. We have the pleasure to observe the late arrival of several Baltimore schooners (merchantsmen) to and from the places of their destination.

LICENSED VESSEL. A letter from London, dated July 9 says—The court of appeals have this day reversed the sentence of condemnation in the case of the Reward, Hill; and decreed ship and cargo to be restored on payment of the expenses on the part of the crown, not the captors expenses.

[The Reward above named, was a licensed vessel that sailed from Salem in Oct. 1812, bound for Lisbon, with a cargo of flour, was taken into St. John's (N. B.) and condemned.]

A GOOD OML.—Some weeks ago, (says a *Chillicothe*

paper) a party of governor Cass's pet Indians left Detroit for the purpose of making excursions on the river Thames. After remaining in that neighborhood some days, they collected and took prisoners forty-five of the British militia, among whom was one colonel. Having kept them a short time, these indians, animated by motives of humanity, permitted their prisoners to return to their homes, on their *parole of honor* not to appear in arms against the U. States or their allies until legally exchanged; at the same time taking care to detain the colonel as a hostage for the faithful performance of the contract on the part of the enemy. We understand that the colonel is in Chillicothe!

"NO PLEASING." The proposed national bank, but lately the grand desideratum of certain men, is now a dreadful thing. "Strike higher—strike lower!"—is all the outcry.

MR. BAYARD. A report prevails that the vacant office of secretary of state is held to be offered to Mr. Bayard. We hope it is so, and that he may accept it. He is an *American*. His return from *Ghent*, we apprehend, may be soon expected; and we venture to say, from a personal knowledge of the stamina of the gentleman, that no man in the United States will go further to resist the outrageous pretensions of the enemy than Mr. Bayard.

LOUISIANA. We have encouraging accounts of the patriotic spirit of the people of Louisiana. Of the American population, by far the greater and most efficient part, we had no doubt, but it appears also that the French are emulating them.

JAMAICA, Aug. 27. G. Hubert, Esq. has protested against the dangerous measure of employing American slaves in our invasion of that country which ministers have denied all knowledge of, but admit a discretionary power in our commanders to bring off such as may assist our operations, a power which we fear, will in some cases be extended farther than it ought.

Our West India committee have instructed our agent in England to represent to ministers the disadvantages our colonies will labor under in competition with the colonies of the continental powers as to the continental markets. [The markets of the United States would greatly benefit the British Islands.]

RHODE-ISLAND. The legislature of this state, now in session, have appointed Messrs Ben. Haggard and Daniel Lyman and cols. Marston and Lloyd as their delegates to the "New-England convention."

#### MILITARY.

We understand (says the National Intelligencer) that captain Leonard, the officer who surrendered fort Niagara to the enemy last winter, has been exchanged and is now under arrest. He will be tried, as soon as officers can be spared from field duties for that purpose.

#### NAVAL.

It is stated that two India ships have been captured by one of our privateers.

All the American vessels that have sailed for Canton since the war, had arrived there. But were closely watched off the Chinese coast by the British, and were chiefly laid up.

A number of the enemy have been made prisoners in the *petit guerre* on the Eastern coast.

Copy of a letter from captain Porter to the secretary of the navy dated

New York, Oct. 29, 1814.

SIR—I have the pleasure to inform you that the United States' Fulton the First, was this

morning safely launched. No one has yet ventured to suggest an improvement that could be made in this vessel, and to use the words of the projector "I would not alter her if it were in my power to do so." She promises fair to meet our most sanguine expectations, and I do not despair of being able to navigate in her from one extreme of our coast to the other. Her buoyancy astonishes every one; she now draws only eight feet three inches water, and her draft will be only ten feet with all her guns, machinery, stores and crew on board; the ease with which she can now be towed with a single steam boat, renders it certain that her velocity will be sufficiently great to answer every purpose, and the manner it is intended to secure her machinery from the gunner's shot leaves no apprehension for its safety.

I shall use every exertion to prepare her for immediate service; her guns will soon be mounted, and I am assured by Mr. Fulton that her machinery will be in operation in about six weeks.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant.

D. PORTER.

The honorable Wm. Jones,  
Secretary of the navy.

### National Bank Bill.

The bill reported in the house of representatives, "to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America," being too long for insertion *in extenso*, we have made the following abstract of its provisions for the information of our readers.

Sec. 1. A bank of the United States of America shall be established, the capital stock to be fifty millions, divided into 100,000 shares of 500 dollars each; subscriptions to be opened on the first Monday of at Boston, New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Richmond, Charleston and Pittsburgh, to continue open one week, at the end of which time the subscriptions are to be transmitted to the Philadelphia commissioners, who, if the total of subscription exceeds thirty of the fifty, shall apportion the same among the subscribers in a just and equal ratio, and cause lists of the same to be returned to the respective commissioners, &c.

Sec. 2. Any individual or body politic may subscribe any number of shares not exceeding 1000. Payment to be made in the following manner: one fifth part in gold or silver coin of the United States; three fifth parts in the same, or in the stock of the 11,000,000 loan, or of any future loan; and one-fifth part in gold or silver coin, or in treasury notes—and at the following times: at the time of subscribing, 20 dollars in specie, and 200 more in stock, &c. within four months thereafter, the further sum of 40 dollars in specie, and 100 in specie or stock; in six months from the time of subscribing, 40 dollars in specie, and 100 dollars in stock.

Sec. 3. At the time of subscription aforesaid the secretary of the treasury shall subscribe for the United States 20 millions of dollars in stock to bear 6 per cent. interest, redeemable in such sums and manner as the government shall deem expedient.

Sec. 4. The secretary of the treasury may redeem the treasury notes so subscribed to the banks by six

per cent. stock of an equal amount to be delivered to the bank.

Sec. 5. creates the subscribers, their successors and assigns, a body politic, with full powers, &c. subject to the limitations in the succeeding sections to exist and have being until the 3d day of March 1835.

Sec. 6. There shall be 25 directors to the bank annually appointed, viz. twenty by the stockholders, and five by the president of the U. States.

Sec. 7. As soon as \$13,200,000 in specie and stock shall be paid in, public notice shall be given by the Philadelphia commissioners, and within days thereafter the first directors shall be chosen, who shall proceed to elect a president to the institution.

Sec. 8 and 9, give the necessary banking powers, and establish the usual regulations contained in bank charters, limiting and defining their powers;

Sec. 10. Prohibits the bank from mercantile speculations.

Sec. 11. Prohibits the bank from lending to the government of the United States at any time more than 300,000 or to the government of any particular state more than 50,000, or for the use of any foreign power, without express authority by law.

Sec. 12, makes the notes of the bank receivable in all payments to the U. States.

Sec. 13. If at any time an undue pressure for specie is made on the bank, either for exportation, or with a wilful intention of sinister design to injure the bank, the president of the United States may, on being duly informed thereof, direct suspension of the payments in specie temporarily.

Sec. 14, exempts the stock (but not the real estate) of the bank from taxation.

Sec. 16. No new bank to be created during the existence of this; and grants powers to settle the affairs of the bank extended beyond the term of incorporation.

Sec. 16. Whenever required, the corporation shall perform all the duties now transacted by commissioners of loans in the several states.

*Extraordinary voyage.* The Russian ship General Suwarow, now at Portsmouth, is about to proceed on what may appear a most extraordinary voyage, being none other than the completion of two military and commercial establishments on the west coast of North America. The Russian government have, for nearly ten years past, had a fort, with a few pieces of ordnance mounted on the island of Rodlak, in 55, N. long 162, W. being the nearest point of the American continent to their establishment, at Kamschatka. Within these four years they have begun to form another establishment, on the neck of land called California, and this ship takes out ordnance and stores of every description, to give it an appearance of military strength. The trade the Russians carry on thither, which is very great, is wholly in furs, for which article they find a lucrative market in China, from whence they bring to Europe the produce and manufactures of that country, and are enabled, from their competition with each other, to afford it to the European continent at a cheaper rate, than in this country. The General Suwarow will also endeavour in the height of next summer, to discover a passage through Bhering's Straits, and, in a north westerly direction, to Archangel. A gentleman who is on board her declares, that on a former voyage of discovery, he was more than half way through the northern seas of Cape North to Archangel when the ship was stopped by the ice—this adventure left only about 400 miles unexplored, to complete the circuit of the world.—*London pap.*

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 11 OF VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 167.]

*Hec olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

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## Documents.

A gentleman observed in a letter to the editor, some time ago—"Accept my thanks for the impartiality with which you furnish the documents;" facetiously adding—"in this you seem *so straight* that, like the Indian's tree, you rather *lean* the other way,"—alluding to a greater apparent attention to insert the documents of the "federal states than those of the republican." The remark is *probably* just—if we have leaned on either side, it has been as insinuated. But this constant object has guided the editor as to the public papers of the several states—to give the preference to those that, from any circumstance, he apprehended would be most referred to: such for instance, as those of *Massachusetts* and *Connecticut*, inserted in the last and present number; and the proceedings of *Rhode-Island*, on the same matters, to appear in our next—as also an editorial article of considerable length and *statistical* remark, on "THE NEW ENGLAND CONVENTION."

Whatever the editor's private sentiments may be as to the shades of difference that divide honest *federalists* from the honest *republicans* (with which differences he never has *knowingly* interfered in this work)—the case is essentially changed when he has to treat of *factions jacobins* that war against the constitution, and appear ready to fight any body else than the enemy of their country—a faction as contemptible in numbers as for political depravity, but unfortunately self-placed at the head a great and respectable party, which it leads, through the *pride of opinion*, step by step, to aid and comfort the enemy; and ruin the United States, if permitted.—On these, we should "*frown indignantly*," as *Washington* specially directed and solemnly enjoined us to do—and in the next and some subsequent numbers, the subject will be discussed with all the force of remark in our power. THE WEEKLY REGISTER, undevoted to federalism or republicanism (as used for party designations)—will stand or fall, with the CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES. On this point we have no pretensions to *neutrality*—we are enemies to the enemies of the CONFEDERATE REPUBLIC.

## Legislature of New-Jersey.

*Gentlemen of the council, and*

*Gentlemen of the house of assembly.*

Soon after the adjournment of the legislature, and in conformity to the joint resolution of both houses, I visited the sea coast, and the shores of Delaware bay and river, and proceeded to make such arrangements for the defence of the exposed parts as I conceive the resources placed at my disposal would justify me in doing. A considerable number of pieces of field artillery have been taken from the interior, and placed at proper positions, and confided to the local militia, who have in some cases been formed into special corps for the purpose. As many small arms as could be spared, have been disposed of in the same manner, and the whole furnished with ammunition.

The events of the war have not made it necessary to call into service any portion of the militia on the authority of the state. Considerable bodies of mil-

litis, however, have been called into service by the commanding generals of the 3d and 4th military districts of the United States, a small detachment in August and the remainder in September. They are yet mostly in service. The patriotism displayed by a large number of uniform companies, who volunteered their services, and the alacrity and promptness with which those companies, as well as the detailed officers and soldiers, obeyed the call of their country; and the patience with which they have borne the hardships, and suffered the privations incident to a military life, entitle them to the highest respect and consideration.

Care has been taken to pay to the non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates, the extra allowance provided by the liberality of the legislature, as soon as it could be conveniently done after it became due. Further provisions on that subject will claim the immediate attention of the legislature. It is to be presumed that the militia will not be detained in service longer than shall be rendered indispensable by the movements of the enemy.

Although our militia system has carried us so far through the campaign with as little inconvenience as could have been reasonably expected, yet experience has pointed out some defects susceptible of correction. The uniform volunteer companies have become very important, and merit encouragement. The advances they have made in military acquisitions, together with their promptness to act on sudden emergencies, render them peculiarly useful.—How far it will comport with the public interest to provide by a state law, military corps of more durability than is compatible with the nature of militia service, is submitted to your consideration, and whether some addition ought not to be made to the arms and other military equipments belonging to the state, are subjects worthy of your consideration.

During the recess of the legislature, changes have taken place in Europe, which, at first view, excited an apprehension of serious injury to this country. The success of the allies in their war with France, was productive of a peace, which, early in the spring, left to our enemy an immense unemployed military force. Great Britain did not fail to avail herself of the advantage which event placed in her power, by sending out large fleets and armies to aid the forces already here in the subjugation of America, expecting to create dismay and overwhelm the country by a sudden vigorous effort of military skill and discipline. In this expectation, by the interposition of Divine Providence, she has been disappointed. The bravery of our soldiers and seamen, the skill and heroism of our officers and commanders, deserve the thanks and rewards of a grateful country.—America withstood the shock with a firmness becoming freemen. The ferocious savages on our frontiers, of whose alliance Great Britain unblushingly boasts, and for whose afflictions she expresses a fraternal sympathy, have atoned for their inhuman atrocities by death, exile, or submission. The brilliant achievements of our navy are daily adding new proofs of the superior skill and intrepidity of the gallant heroes on that element; while the slaughtered and discomfited armies of Britain, attest the valor of our troops, and heroic patriotism of the militia.

The progress of the negotiation of our commis-

sioners of peace, is such as was to be expected from the inordinate pride and injustice of the British ministry. To paralyze the efforts of the nation, the British government made an insidious offer of peace, and therein invited commissioners to Europe. After three months unnecessary delay, conditions are offered fit only to be accepted by a conquered people. It is well known that in the first stages of the controversy the enemy only assumed the dominion of the sea, but she now claims the sovereignty of the land. We are arrogantly required to dismantle our ships and demolish our fortifications, while the enemy is to retain his own unimpaired, and to surrender part of our territory, with other humiliating conditions, and restrictions, too degrading to repeat. Nothing short of a base surrender of the independence, gloriously achieved by the patriots of the revolution, will satisfy the pride, avarice, and ambition of the enemy. Long experience must at length convince every reflecting man, that our rights cannot be maintained by negotiation—that it is in vain to reason with tyrants. The controversy must be settled in the field—and the line of demarcation traced by the sword. Duty imperiously calls upon us to strengthen the national arm for national defence, nor have we any cause to despond. We have an invincible army, commanded by able generals, a gallant navy, and spirited patriotic militia daily increasing in military skill. The enemy have been repulsed in every attempt on our country but one. The only achievement of any moment, of which he can boast, is the wanton destruction of a few public edifices, in an inroad from which he could no other way escape chastisement but by abandoning his sick and wounded to the mercy of an insulted enemy. It is becoming more and more obvious that the plain and direct road to peace and future prosperity is a vigorous prosecution of the war. A manly united effort of the nation in one year would transfer the seat of negotiation from Europe to America. Although our country is able to contend with the collected force of the British empire, yet that force cannot be spared. The seeds of discord are too deeply sown in Europe, to be eradicated by a treaty extorted by the bayonet. Great Britain is already forming a camp of no small extent in the territory of an ally; ostensibly to watch the motions of a friend, but probably to shackles. In pursuit of her chimerical project of balancing Europe by placing four fifths in one scale, she will want the aid of a large portion of her resources, and unforeseen events may arise which may require the presence of her whole military force nearer home.

The enemies of American independence have yet one hope left, arising from a supposed inability of our government to command the funds necessary to its operation—it is apprehended that this difficulty will diminish as it is approached. If we look back for twenty years, we shall find that the wealth of the country has increased beyond all calculation. Immense fortunes have been made by individuals, and there is scarcely a man among us who has not doubled his estate, and many have added to it four, six, and even ten-fold. Can any wise man feel a reluctance in parting with a small portion of this gain, for the security of every thing dear to himself, his family and country? The government of a free enlightened people, cannot be poor while its members are rich. Property is the proper subject of taxation. The burthen will not fall on the poor, but on the rich who are able to bear it. The natural resources of the country are such as to command credit, and a few years of peace and commercial prosperity will renovate the most disordered state of our finances.

Perseverance in national defence will every day put our country on higher and surer ground. It is now

in our power to place the independence of our country on a foundation, that nothing short of Divine vengeance can shake. Whatever opinions may have been entertained as to the character of the war in its commencement, it is undeniably at this time, purely a war of defence. It is no new thing that a war in its progress may change its character—nothing is more common, and if any had doubts at first, they must now be convinced of the injustice of the enemy. The British commissioners instead of discussing the real subjects in controversy between the two nations, set up new, unheard of, and degrading demands on our national territory, so outrageously unjust and humiliating, that there is not a man to be found in our country who does not spurn them; and one of the most pernicious of these is given as a *sine qua non*. Can it be doubted then that we are engaged in a war for national defence, involving in its consequences the safety and independence of America? This being the case, it is impossible to contemplate any other state of things, than an unanimous determination to prosecute the war with vigor, until at least these exorbitant demands are relinquished, and our enemy disposed to listen to reasonable terms.

In every measure which you may adopt for the public interest, you may calculate on a ready and faithful co-operation on my part.

WILLIAM S. PENNINGTON.

New-Jersey, October, 1814.

## Legislature of Connecticut.

### GOVERNOR'S SPEECH:

*Gentlemen of the council, Mr. speaker and house of representatives*—The war in which the nation is unhappily involved, subjected this state to unusual embarrassments during the last campaign, and from a cause sufficiently known to the world. Other causes have augmented these embarrassments the present year. An unexplained and I may add unjustifiable attack upon the town of Stonington, followed by threats of the enemy to lay waste the sea-coast wherever assailable, necessarily called into service numerous bodies of militia. The resolve of the general assembly equally just and liberal in its provisions, which directed the commander in chief to discharge from the treasury of the state the wages of such troops as might be employed at the request of the general government, in the event of a failure on the part of that government to pay them, has thus far been carried into effect. The personal sacrifices of our fellow-citizens engaged in the service, although endured with patience have been sensibly felt; whilst the pay and subsistence of so large a force with the incidental expenditures, it will be readily perceived must have borne heavily upon the funds of the state. It was the expectation of the legislature that the sums required for these objects would either be regularly supplied in the first instance by the national government, or if advanced by the state, would be promptly reimbursed. I am compelled to inform you that this expectation is not fulfilled. Partial supplies were indeed furnished by the war department. These however did not commence with the campaign, and for a considerable time past they have been altogether withheld; particularly from that portion of our military force called out at the request of the national executive, and at the moment employed in protecting the ships and other property of the United States. The pretensions set up to justify this transaction have never before been urged in this state. They are in my judgment entirely incompatible with its rights.

But although the promised support was withdrawn

the service was not abandoned. My duty to the nation and the state forbade any other course than that which would contribute to the honor and safety of both. The documents regarding a procedure so unexpected will at a proper time be laid before you.

Under such circumstances, gentlemen, and thus unassisted, we are left to defend ourselves against a formidable and exasperated enemy. It becomes us to acknowledge the Divine hand in the protection hitherto afforded us, and with humble confidence in the same Almighty aid, to persevere in the honorable and resolute discharge of our duty.

To the troops of all descriptions employed in the defence of the state, the highest praise is due for a line of conduct every way creditable to them as citizens and as soldiers. Their love of order has been uniform, and their martial spirit exemplary on various and trying occasions. The assault upon Stonington was resisted with a firmness and intrepidity that merit unqualified applause.

Whether the state shall be defended, is a question on which I presume there is but one opinion. The most economical and efficient mode of accomplishing the object becomes an interesting inquiry. Whatever system of defence may be thought best adapted to our situation, I trust we are satisfied that to rely solely on the militia to guard our extended sea-coast is neither politic nor reasonable. It is a service oppressive to them and highly inconvenient and expensive to the state; nor ought the duties of a camp or garrison, unless in extreme cases, to be required of them. The same objection applies in degree to every other species of our military force as at present organized. Permit me therefore to suggest the expediency of raising a select corps, for the specific purpose of watching the movements of the enemy, and of resisting his approach, until the assistance of the ordinary forces can be obtained. The number of troops and mode of raising them, their particular organization and period of service, with the means of supporting such an establishment and of meeting the unavoidable expenses growing out of a state of war, will of course enter into your deliberations upon this subject.

But in any point of view the importance of improving the militia by every practicable method is evident. Those reforms which experience may have rendered advisable will not escape your observation. You will however allow me to recommend, what I have once before had the honor to mention, an increase of the artillery. By the act of congress passed in 1792, one-eleventh part only of the militia is reserved both for artillery and cavalry. We have a greater proportion of the latter than of the former and with much less occasion for them. It would be very desirable to preserve our excellent body of dragoons unbroken, if without reducing their number the artillery could be augmented. But according to existing regulations this is impossible. It is believed that by converting a portion of the cavalry into horse artillery, the advantages of both descriptions of force would in a good degree be combined, that the change could be effected with little difficulty, and that it would be cheerfully embraced by a competent number of that respectable corps. On the beneficial consequences of such an arrangement, no comment is necessary.

Orders have been issued for carrying into effect the several resolutions of the legislature respecting the proof of arms, mounting of ordnance, the purchase of munitions of war, and other objects connected with the service. The reports of the proper officers charged with their execution will be submitted to your examination.

You must have observed, gentlemen, with pecu-

liar satisfaction the patriotic efforts of our fellow citizens in this and other towns on the coast, in constructing fortifications for their immediate defence. To furnish the works with suitable ordnance, where it is not already provided, is the least reward you can bestow on these laudable exertions.

You will learn with equal satisfaction that important additions are made to the corps of volunteer exempts, and at those points where their services are the most required. The disposition thus to increase the effective force of the state is happily prevailing, and it is to be hoped will extend to every man capable of bearing arms, who values either his own security, or those institutions which are hallowed by time, and rendered inestimable by the unnumbered blessings they confer.

I have received and shall lay before you an official communication from the governor of Rhode Island, expressing the readiness of that state to afford us assistance "in case of invasion or imminent danger thereof" and soliciting from this state, under an exchange of circumstances, a like co-operation. A proposition, so friendly in itself, and which reminds us of those early associations formed by our common ancestors in times of great public calamity, is surely entitled to respectful consideration.

GEN. GREEN—The usual business of the session will engage your attention without a particular recommendation from me. Your chief concern will be directed to the critical aspect of our national affairs, and to its influence upon the present safety and future prosperity of this state. The occurrences which have taken place since the last session of the general assembly, can be viewed with no ordinary sensations. The sanguinary temper with which the war is prosecuted—a vast accumulation of debt—a ruined commerce and the consequent depression of public and private credit—extensive encroachments on the maritime frontier, and finally the invasion of the American Metropolis, attended with circumstances deeply wounding to our national honor, are among the misfortunes which have marked this eventful period. On the other hand, new and illustrious proofs of the consummate skill and bravery which characterize our seamen, and the undaunted resolution with which hostile aggression has in various instances been repelled from our borders, have not left us wholly without consolation, nor without recollection of that system of policy which, under God, would have established the security of this nation. We are continually furnished with evidence that although the spirit of conquest is foreign to the genius of our government, and to the moral habits of the people, the resources of the country under a wise and vigorous direction, are abundantly adequate to its defence. We had hoped at the commencement of hostilities, for such a distribution of these resources as that our own territory at least might have escaped violation. A different course was pursued, and we behold its result in the alarming fact, that a war waged by the national authorities is thrown for its support upon individual states. The legislature of the nation cannot be inattentive to this unprecedented state of things.—They will perceive not only the justice but the necessity of relieving the states from a burden, which it was the primary object of their union to avoid. In the mean time, gentlemen, the duties devolved upon us are arduous. They will be executed I trust with proportionate zeal and firmness. And may the Divine blessing attend our endeavours to preserve the important interests committed to our charge.

JOHN COTTON SMITH,

General assembly,  
October session, A. D. 1814,

## IMPORTANT REPORT.

*To the honorable the general assembly now in session.*

The committee to whom was referred the speech of his excellency the governor, with the documents accompanying the same; and also his excellency's message presenting a communication from the governor of Massachusetts:

## REPORT

That the condition of this state demands the most serious attention of the legislature. We lately enjoyed, in common with the other members of the national confederacy, the blessings of peace. The industry of our citizens, in every department of active life, was abundantly rewarded. Our cities and villages exhibited indications of increasing wealth, and the foreign relations of the union secured our safety and nourished our prosperity.

The scene is now reversed. We are summoned to the field of war, and to surrender our treasures for our defence. The fleets of a powerful enemy hover on our coasts, blockade our harbours and threaten our towns and cities with fire and desolation.

When a commonwealth suddenly falls from a state of high prosperity, it behoves the guardians of its interests to inquire into the causes of its decline, and with deep solicitude, to seek a remedy.

In the latter part of last century, a spirit of daring enterprize—impatient of restraint—regardless of the sanctions of religion—hostile to human happiness and aspiring to Supreme power—overturned many ancient governments, made Europe a scene of carnage, and threatened with ruin all that was valuable in the civilized world. The history of its progress and decline is familiar to every mind. Nations without the reach of the immense physical power which it embodied were tainted by its corruptions—and every state and province in Christendom has felt its baleful influences. By the pure principles inherited from our fathers, conducive at once to the preservation of liberty and order, this state has been eminently exempt, in its interior policy, from the modern scourge of nations. In thus withstanding this potent adversary of all ancient establishments, while many monarchies have been subverted, we have exhibited to the world the highest evidence, that a free constitution is not inconsistent with the strength of civil government, and that the virtue of the people is the best preservative of both.

Occupying a comparatively small territory and naturally associating, during the revolutionary war, with states whose views were identified with ours, our interest and inclinations led us, to unite in the great national compact, since defined and consolidated by the constitution of the United States. We had justly anticipated, from that union, the preservation and advancement of our dearest rights and interests, and while the Father of his country, and those other great and wise men, who, mindful of their high duties, and regardless of local and party considerations, consulted the happiness of the commonwealth—guided our councils, we were not disappointed in our expectations. The federal government, in which our own venerable statesmen were conspicuous, was revered in every nation. An American, in foreign lands, was honorable for his country's sake. A rich and virtuous population was rapidly reducing the limits of our extensive wilderness, and the commerce of America was in every

But a coalition, not less evident than if defined by the articles of a formal treaty, arose between the national administration and that fearful tyrant in Europe, who was aspiring to the dominion of the world. No means, however destructive to the com-

merce, and hazardous to the peace of this country were left unattempted, to aid his efforts, and unite our interests and our destinies with his. From this fatal cause, we are bereft of the respectable standing we once held in the councils of the nation, impoverished by a long course of commercial restrictions, involved in an odious and disastrous war, and subjected to all the complicated calamities which we now deplore.

Thus driven against our inclinations, from every object of our best hopes, and bound to an inglorious struggle to defend our dwellings from a public enemy; we had no apprehension, much as we had suffered from the national government, that it would refuse to yield us such protection as its scanty treasures might afford—much less could we doubt, that those disbursements, which might be demanded of this state would be passed to our credit on the books of the treasury. Such, however, has not been the course adopted by the national agents. All supplies have been withdrawn from the militia of this state in the service of the United States. The groundless pretext for this unwarrantable measure was, their submission to our officer assigned them by the commander in chief, in perfect conformity with military usage, and the principles of a request from the president himself, under which a part of them were detached. The injustice of that measure, by which we were compelled to sustain alone, the burden of supplying and paying our own force in the service of the United States—a service rendered necessary to defend our territory from invasion—is highly aggravated by the consideration that the danger which called them to the field, and the concentration of the enemy's forces on our coasts, have resulted from the ships of the United States having taken refuge in our waters. Were this the only instance evincive of the disregard of the administration to the just claims and best interests of this state—the only ground to fear that we are forgotten in their councils except as subjects of taxation and oppression—we should choose to consider it an instance anomalous and solitary—still yield them our confidence, and hope for protection, to the extent of their power, in this season of unusual calamity.

Protection is the first and most important claim of these states on the government of the nation. It is a primary condition essential to the very obligation of every compact between rulers and their subjects. To obtain that, as a principal object, Connecticut became a member of the national confederacy.—In a defensive war, a government would stand justified, after making a fair application of its powers to that important end—for it could do no more. But when a government hastily declares war without providing the indispensable means of conducting it—want of means is no apology for refusing protection. In such a case, the very declaration of war, is, of itself, a breach of the sacred obligation, inasmuch as the loss of protection by the subject, is the natural and inevitable consequence of the measure. When the war annihilates the only revenue of the nation, the violation of the original contract is still more palpable. If waged for foreign conquest, and the wreck of the national treasures devoted to a fruitless invasion of the enemy's territory, the character of this act is more criminal, but not more clear.

Whatever may be the disposition of the national executive towards this state, during the sequel of the war, such is the condition of the public finances, that constant and very great advances must be made from our state treasury, to meet the expenditures necessary for our own defence. But the utmost efforts of this state under the most favorable circum-

stances for raising revenue, would be hardly adequate to the costly operations of defending against a great naval power, a sea coast of more than one hundred and twenty miles in length. Much less, at this inauspicious period, when the distresses of the people are enhanced by the embarrassments of our monied institutions, and the circulating medium constantly diminishing, can any thing be spared consistently with our safety. Yet the national government are dooming us to enormous taxation, without affording any just confidence that we shall share in the expenditure of the public revenue. The invasion of Canada is perseveringly pursued, our coast left defenceless, and the treasures of the country exhausted on more favored points of the national frontier. To meet those demands and at the same time, to defend ourselves is impossible. Whatever we may contribute, we have no reasonable ground to expect protection in return. The people of this state have no disloyalty to the interests of the Union. For their fidelity and patriotism, they may appeal, with confidence, to the national archives from the commencement of the revolutionary war. In achieving the independence of the nation they bore an honorable part.—Their contingent in men and money has ever been promptly furnished when constitutionally required. Much as they lament the present unnatural hostilities with Great Britain, they have with characteristic obedience to lawful authority, punctually paid the late taxes imposed by the general government. On every lawful demand of the national executive, their well disciplined militia have resorted to the field—the public enemy when invading their shores, have been met at the water's edge and valiantly repelled. They duly appreciate the great advantages, which would result from the federal compact, were the government administered according to the sacred principles of the constitution. They have not forgotten the ties of confidence and affection which bound these states to each other, during their toils for independence, nor the national honor and commercial prosperity which they mutually shared during the happy years of a good administration. They are, at the same time, conscious of their rights and determined to defend them.—Those sacred liberties—those inestimable institutions civil and religious, which their venerable fathers have bequeathed them, are, with the blessings of Heaven, to be maintained at every hazard, and never to be surrendered by tenants of the soil, which the ashes of their ancestors have consecrated.

In what manner the multiplied evils, we feel and fear, are to be remedied, is a question of the highest moment, and deserves the greatest consideration. The documents transmitted by his excellency the governor of Massachusetts, present, in the opinion of the committee, an eligible method of combining the wisdom of New England, in devising, on full consultation, a proper course to be adopted, consistent with our obligations to the United States. The following resolutions are therefore respectfully submitted.

Signed by order,

HENRY CHAMPION, Chairman.

General assembly, Oct. 1814.

In the house of representatives, the foregoing report is accepted and approved.

Attest. CHAS. DENISON, clerk.

Concurred in the upper house.

Attest. THOMAS DAY, secretary.

*Resolved*, That seven persons be appointed delegates from this state, to meet the delegates of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, and of any other of the New England states, at Hartford, on the 15th

day of December next, and confer with them on the subjects proposed by a resolution of said commonwealth communicated to this legislature, and upon any other subjects which may come before them, for the purpose of devising and recommending such measures for the safety and welfare of these states, as may consist with our obligations as members of the national union.

General assembly, October session, 1814.

Passed in the house of representatives.

Attest. CHAS. DENISON, Clerk.

Concurred in the upper house.

Attest. THOMAS DAY, secretary.

A true copy.

Attest. THOMAS DAY, secretary.

[The other resolution relates to the transmission of the report to the governors of the New-England states.]

## In Senate of Massachusetts.

October 18th, 1814. The hon. Mr. Hill, this day moved—"that a committee be appointed to enquire into the facts in relation to the occupation of a large tract of territory in the district of Maine belonging to this commonwealth, by the enemy; to consider the expediency of expelling him therefrom, and of the most ready and effectual manner of doing it."

The necessity of adopting such a course was strenuously urged by the mover, and the hon. Messrs. Paris, Moody, Kinsley and Holmes, and was opposed by the hon. Messrs. Mills, Sergeant, Thorndike and Otis.

In favor of its adoption, it was said by the mover, that the enemy had taken possession of more than one third of the district which he represented; that their conduct had been such as to render their continuance truly alarming, and that the people whom he represented, had expected that the primary object of the present session was to provide measures immediately to regain possession of our invaded territory—he hoped they would not be disappointed in that expectation; that the legislature would not abandon that section of the commonwealth while a disposition was manifested to render the most ample protection to other parts. He had noticed, with surprise, that this subject, which to him seemed of the greatest importance, had passed unnoticed until this late day in the session, and that nothing but a sense of duty to his constituents could have induced him to trouble the board. He hoped the enquiry would be made, and had no doubt gentlemen would then be satisfied that some effective measures ought immediately to be adopted to relieve a large portion of the citizens of this district, who were now under the control of the enemy, and that he considered this course particularly necessary, as he understood the governor had intimated to his colleague (hon. Mr. Kinsley) that no troops should be sent to their assistance at present. The same reasons were urged by other gentlemen in the minority, but without success. The senate refused to make the enquiry, or to take any measures to give relief to this oppressed section of the commonwealth.

The hon. Mr. Hill, moved on the succeeding day, a reconsideration of the vote, whereby the senate refused to make any enquiry or adopt any measures relative to the occupation of a part of the district of Maine by the enemy; but after debate, THE CONSIDERATION WAS DENIED!

THE WASP, after a Frolic, took a Reindeer, then like the band of Asoon, [Shakspeare's birth place] could the notes of Yankee harmony, to Johnny Bull. If captain Pickley should return to France, as it is probable he may, after reaching a few more of the enemy, what will the Frenchmen think of him and us?

## Pirates of Barataria.

*Copies of letters from commodore Patterson to the secretary of the navy, dated*

New Orleans, 10th October, 1814.

Sir—I have very great satisfaction in reporting to you, that the contemplated expedition against the pirates, so long and strongly established among the western islands and waters of this state, of which I had the honor to inform you in my letter of the 10th ult. has terminated in the capture and destruction of all their vessels in port—their establishments on the islands of Grand Terre, Grand Isle and Cheniere Caminada, and the dispersion of the band themselves. The successful issue of this attack upon them will, I trust, prevent their ever collecting again in force sufficient to injure the commerce of this state.

The force of the pirates was twenty pieces of cannon, mounted, of different calibres, and, as I have learnt since my arrival, from eight hundred to one thousand men of all nations and colors.

I have brought with me to this city six fine schooners and one felucca, cruizers and prizes of the pirates, and one armed schooner under Carthaginian colors found in company and ready to oppose the force under my command.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit a detailed account of this expedition, which, I hope, will prove satisfactory to the department, as also a copy of a letter from *Lafitte*, the chief of the pirates, to captain Løkyer, of H. B. M. brig *Sophia*, which forms the conclusion of a correspondence entered into between the English commanders in the Gulf of Mexico and the Floridas, and the pirates, copies of which his excellency governor Claiborne informs me he transmitted to the department of state. This correspondence shows the importance of the expedition and the important species of force we have prevented the enemy's receiving by their proposed alliance with the pirates, and added to our own.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration and respect, your obedient servant,

DANIEL T. PATTERSON.

The hon. WM. JONES,  
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

New-Orleans, October 10, 1814.

Sir—I have the honor to inform you that I departed from this city on the 11th ult. accompanied by colonel Ross, with a detachment of seventy of the 44th regiment of infantry—on the 12th reached the schooner *Carolina*, at *Plaquemine* and formed a junction with the gun vessels at the *Balize* on the 13th—sailed from the south-west pass on the evening of the 15th and at half past 8 A. M. on the 16th made the *Island of Grand Terre*, (*Barataria*) and discovered a number of vessels in the harbor, some of which shewed Carthaginian colors—at 9 perceived the pirates forming their vessels, ten in number, including prizes, into a line of battle near the entrance of the harbor, and making every preparation to offer me battle—at 10, wind light and variable, formed the order of battle with the 6 gun vessels, viz. Nos. 5, 23, 156, 162, 163 and 65, the *Sea-Horse* tender, mounting 1 six pounder and fifteen men, and a launch mounting 1 twelve pound carronade; the schooner *Carolina* drawing too much water to cross the bar—at half past 10 perceived several smokes along the coast as signals, and at the same time a white flag hoisted on board a schooner, at the fore, an American flag at the main-mast head, and a Carthaginian flag (under which the pirates cruise) at her topping lift; replied with a white flag at my main; at 11 discovered that the pirates had fired two of their best schooners; hauled down my white flag and made the signal for battle—hoisting with it a large white flag bearing the words “pardon to de-

serters,” having heard there were a number from the army and navy there, who wished to return if assured of pardon, and which the president's proclamation offered till the 17th. At a quarter past 11 gun-vessels No. 23 and 156 (the latter bearing my pendant) grounded, and were passed agreeably to my previous order, by the other four which entered the harbor; manned my barge and the boats belonging to the grounded vessels, and proceeded in, when to my great disappointment I perceived that the pirates had abandoned their vessels, and were flying in boats, in all directions. I immediately sent the launch and two gun barges with small boats in pursuit of them—at meridian took possession of all their vessels in harbor, consisting of six schooners and one felucca, cruizers and prizes of the pirates, one brig, a prize, and two armed schooners under the Carthaginian flag, both in the line of battle, with the armed vessels of the pirates, and apparently with an intention to aid them in any resistance they might make against me, as their crews were at quarters, tompons out of their guns, and matches lighted. Colonel Ross at the same time landed, and with his command took possession of their establishment on the shore, consisting of about forty houses of different sizes, badly constructed, and thatched with palmeto leaves.

When I perceived the enemy forming their vessels into a line of battle, I felt confident from their number and very advantageous position; and their number of men, that they would have fought me; their not doing so I regret; for had they, I should have been enabled more effectually to destroy or make prisoners of them and their leaders; but it is a subject of great satisfaction to me, to have effected the object of my enterprize, viz. capturing all their vessels in port, and dispersing the band without having one of my brave fellows hurt.

The enemy had mounted on their vessels twenty pieces of cannon of different calibre; and, as I have since learnt, from 800 to 1000 men, of all nations and colors.

Early in the morning of the 20th, the *Carolina* at anchor, about five miles distant, made the signal of a “strange sail in sight to the eastward;” immediately after, she weighed anchor, and gave chase, the strange sail standing for *Grand Terre*, with all sail; at half past 8 the chase hauling her wind off shore to escape; sent acting lieutenant Robert Spedden with four boats manned and armed to prevent her passing the harbor; at 9 A. M. the chase fired upon the *Carolina*, which was returned; each vessel continued firing during the chase, when their long guns could reach—at 10 the chase grounded outside the bar, at which time the *Carolina* was, from the shoalness of the water, obliged to haul her wind off shore, and give up the chase—opened a fire upon the chase across the island from the gun vessels—at half past 10 she hauled down her colors and was taken possession of by lieutenant Spedden—she proved to be the armed schooner called the general Bolivar, under the Carthaginian flag—by grounding she broke both her rudder pintles, and made water—hove her off in the course of the day, and at day-light on the 21st sent out a small prize schooner to lighten her—took from her her armament, consisting of one long brass 18 pounder, one long brass 6 pounder, two 12 pound carronades, small arms, &c. and twenty-one packages of dry goods, and brought her into port; and as I could not wait for the repairs necessary for her rudder, ordered her to this port for adjudication. I am well convinced that she is one of the vessels belonging to, or connected with the pirates, as signals of recognition for her were found on board one of the pirate's cruizers, and at the time she was dis-



covered, she was standing directly for Grand Terre, which she still endeavored to gain, after being chased by the Carolina, not knowing of our being in possession of it; she fired several shots at the Carolina, after the latter had shewn her colors.

On the afternoon of the 23d got under way, with the whole squadron, in all seventeen vessels—(but during the night one schooner under Carthaginian colors escaped)—on the morning of the 24th entered the south-west pass of this river, and on the 1st inst. arrived opposite this city with all my squadron.

The amount of the prizes and prize goods will probably be considerable; but at present cannot be ascertained.

Three of the schooners are admirably adapted for the public service on this station, being uncommonly fleet sailers and light draught of water, and would be of infinite public utility.

I cannot speak in too high terms of commendation of the good conduct of the officers, seamen and marines whom I have the honor to command; nothing could exceed the zeal shewn by all on this occasion.

Great credit is due to Lieutenant Louis Alexis and Mr. Thomas Shields, purser, for gallantly leading in the face of the enemy; the former in the Sea-horse tender; and the latter in the launch, when they had every reason to believe the enemy would open their whole battery upon them, supported by gun vessel No. 5, astern of them, commanded by Mr. J. D. Ferris; Mr. Shields very handsomely volunteered his services on this expedition, and has from his being a seaman rendered me great assistance in taking charge of and bringing one of the prizes to this city.

Lieutenant Thomas A. C. Jones, particularly distinguished himself by boarding one of the schooners which had been fired, and extinguishing the fire after it had made great progress; a quantity of powder being left in her open cabin, evidently designed to blow her up; he is also with lieutenant Norris, and acting lieutenant Thomas S. Cunningham, entitled to my thanks for the severe duty performed by them in open boats for several days and nights.

Acting lieutenant Spedden merits particular notice for the handsome manner in which he led the boats to cut off the General Bolivar, and afterwards bringing her into port.

I am also greatly indebted to lieutenant Alexis, acting lieutenants Spedden and M'Keever, sailing masters J. D. Ferris, George Ulrich, and William Johnson, for their indefatigable exertions in fitting the prizes for sea; to acting lieutenant M'Keever, also, for his extreme attention to the duties devolving on him from my pendant being hoisted on board No. 23, under his command. I beg leave, sir, to seize this opportunity of recommending these officers to your particular notice, and to solicit a confirmation of their present rank for acting lieutenants Robert Spedden, Isaac M'Keever, and Thomas S. Cunningham.

It affords me great satisfaction to inform you that the most cordial co-operation of Col. Ross, and the detachment of his regiment, in every measure adopted or duty performed, the utmost harmony existing between the two corps during the whole expedition, himself, officers, and men sharing in every enterprise or arduous duty where their services could be useful.

Had it been possible for the Carolina to have entered the harbor, or prudent to have drawn her officers and men from her, when anchored in an open roadstead, and where I had every reason to expect

the appearance of enemy's cruisers, I should have derived great aid from Captain Henley, his officers and crew, who all expressed the strongest desire to partake of our toils, and any danger the enemy might be to encounter. I have no doubt the appearance of the Carolina in the squadron had great effect upon the pirates.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration and respect, your obedient servant,

DANL. T. PATTERSON.

*The honorable W. JONES,*  
*Secretary of the navy, Washington.*

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

VERMONT, *Montpelier* Nov. 3.—“The Massachusetts, resolutions have been before us, and the committee to whom they were referred consisting of 3 republicans and 8 federalists from the house, and 3 federalists from the council, have unanimously reported against the adopting them and appointing delegates, and when the report came before the house, it was unanimously accepted.”

MASSACHUSETTS. The British with a contemptible force at *Castine*, hold peaceable possession of about one fourth of the territory of *Massachusetts*, with her “70,000 militia.” Every thing seems settled into a royal provincial government!

NEW-HAMPSHIRE, it appears, will not be represented in the congress at Hartford. A majority of the council who must authorize a call of the legislature, to appoint delegates, is republican. There will only therefore, be a representation from three states; in all, at this time, about as populous as the state of New-York.

CAMDEN, (Me.) A very rich vessel bound for *Castine*, said to be worth 20,000 pounds, sterling, was brought into Camden, on the 31st. ultimo. Shortly after a frigate, a sloop of war and bomb vessel appeared off the place and demanded the goods, or their value; under the penalty, on refusal, to destroy the town. But the goods had been carried 30 miles into the interior, the British commander gave them three days to consider of his demand, at the same time making prisoners of the selectmen. In the interim some militia had collected—and the enemy retired without firing a gun and without the goods, but carrying off the selectmen as hostages for the payment of money demanded.

NANTUCKET AND BLOCK ISLAND.—Capt. Creighton, commander of the flotilla at Newport, (says the Rhode Island *American*) has issued a naval notice forbidding all boats and vessels, of every description belonging to or sailing from Block-Island, to enter any of the harbors or ports of this state. This measure has been adopted, in consequence of the traitorous communication the people of Block Island are supposed to hold with the enemy's squadron.

And lieutenant M-gee, commanding at Newbedford has issued the following—“No vessel belonging to Nantucket or Block Island, will be allowed to enter the port of Newbedford; and all vessels belonging to said places will depart in ballast only.”

On the operation of these orders, we have the following under date of Providence (R. I.) Nov. 5, noticing the proceedings of the legislature—On Thursday, a complaint was made to the house, by the Block Island members, that they had been stopped at Newport by the naval officers on that station, (agreeably to a late order for the examination of all Block-Island boats) and detained some time. A Newport member immediately moved the appointment of a committee, to prepare a statement of

facts, on which to ground a warrant for the apprehension of the United States officers, who had been guilty of this "outrage" on the honorable members from Block-Island—which was done. Yesterday, this committee reported three affidavits, stating the facts respecting the detention; and, on motion, the house resolved, that said detention was a breach of its privileges; to which succeeded a long desultory conversation, wherein various projects were submitted for healing its wounded dignity, and for punishing the authors of this "flagrant outrage." The whole subject was, however, finally postponed to the next session. A committee was appointed to draft an act "for the better security of the members."

**BLOCK ISLAND,** which is represented in the legislature of Rhode-Island, is the rendezvous of the enemy, and the place where they obtain supplies of provisions and water.

**GHEENT NEGOCIATION.**—The following resolve has passed the Virginia house of delegates—121 to 22. Those in the negative appear to have wished to insert "extravagant" for *arrogant*, and "degrading" for *insulting*, as marked in *italic*.

*Resolved*, That the general assembly of Virginia regard the terms proposed by the commissioners of Great Britain at the late negotiation at Ghent, as the basis of that negotiation, with the liveliest emotions of indignation as *arrogant* on the part of Great Britain, and *insulting* to the United States, meriting instantaneous rejection, and demanding the united exertions of every citizen of these states in the vigorous and efficient prosecution of the war, until it shall be terminated by a just and honorable peace.

**AFFAIRS AT DETROIT.**—From the *Cayuga Patriot*.—The following information is derived from a gentleman direct from Detroit.

The 600 Indian warriors consisting for the most part of Shawanoes, Miamies and Potawatomes, who accompanied gov. Cass from Greenville to Detroit, in August last, and who then agreed in future to direct the tomahawk against the enemies of the United States, have proved faithful, having been employed on two expeditions into Canada. The first was to Oxford on the Thames—the last to the Long Point settlement. The object of these expeditions was to diminish the resources of the enemy. The Indians in no instance offered personal violence to the inhabitants of Canada, but their unconquerable thirst to plunder could not be wholly restrained—At Detroit they were quite averse to discipline, often forcibly seizing the rations issued to the neutral Indians. Gov. Cass finding them unprofitable to the service dismissed them.

The hostile Indians (Chippawas and Sanagas) had recently committed several atrocious murders in and about Detroit. A party of these fellows came into the town, professed friendship—drew rations, tomahawked four persons and made off with themselves. So bold had they become, that they attempted to drive off a drove of cattle in full view of the fort, the guns of which were actually opened upon them before they could be compelled to relinquish their booty. The almost impervious nature of the woods in the rear of Detroit rendered pursuit impracticable, a few only of the fugitives were overtaken and killed. The want of mounted corps to scour the surrounding country was so much felt as to induce governor Cass to write in gen. M'Arthur at Urbana, to hasten on with his disposable force with all possible expedition. The latter arrived at Detroit on the 2d October, three days previous to the departure of our informant, with about 700 mounted riflemen. The Indians were then in considerable numbers lurking in the woods. Travelling had become extremely dangerous; boats had been frequent-

ly fired on between Detroit and Malden, and two men killed within two miles of the latter place—a third was taken prisoner by two savages, but rescued himself in the night by killing his captors while asleep. There were very few regular troops at Detroit, not sufficient even to man the fort.

**FEMALE PATRIOTISM.** The ladies of Charleston, S. C. are famed all over the world, for their spirit of patriotism in the war of the revolution. Their good deeds are embodied in the history of our country. It is delightful to observe that the same devotion to freedom, is yet paid by the fair of that city, in relieving the wants and administering to the comforts of their defenders. One of them lately made a donation of one hundred shirts to the militia stationed there. The good example, we trust will be followed by others.

**SALT.** A Charleston paper observes that 70,000 bushels of salt were recently sold at *Amelia*, for 70 cents per bushel; and that several gentlemen from *Kentucky* had contracted to deliver that article in the upper districts of the state at 2.50 cents per bushel. The price in Charleston, was (Nov. 3) about 5 dollars a bushel, and about the same in Baltimore. There are many manufactures of salt on the seaboard, New-York and parts adjacent to it, with the whole of the western country, have plenty of it from the salt springs.

**TRADE.** Thirty sail of vessels with salt, crates, wine, dry goods &c. arrived (inland) at Savannah, for the southward (*Amelia*) on the 50th ult.

With the English squadron in I. I. Sound, there is and has been for a considerable time, a number of trading vessels under the agency of a Mr. Barclay, laden with dry goods, &c. &c. "his majesty's" navy has come to a pretty pass—*glorious* in robbing hen roosts and smuggling.

**SMUGGLING.** Very extensive smuggling of late prevails on the eastern maritime and inland frontier. By such disgraceful means it is that these states are overflowed with specie. Men of "high standing" are engaged in. The depravity of these creatures is beyond any thing we ever expected to find in the United States. It would be well for the people to make it a principle to buy nothing that comes from that quarter. For myself, I never will knowingly contribute one mite to the revenue of *Great Britain* or the profits of his friends in America, if I can help it. I would rather pay double for domestic goods, and wear my coat twice as long, to balance the extraordinary expenditure.

**BRITISH NAVAL FORCE.** The following is the amount of the British Naval force to July 1, 1814:—At sea, 85 ships of the line, 11 of 44 guns, 115 frigates, 84 sloops and 5 yachts, 6 bombs, 128 brigs, 17 cutters, 33 schooners, gun vessels luggers, &c.—Total 489—In port and fitting, 37 of the line, 5 of 44 guns, 20 frigates, 28 sloops &c. 2 bombs, 49 brigs, 9 cutters, 14 schooners &c.—Total 163. Guard ships, 3 of the line, 4 of 50 guns, 3 frigates, 5 sloops. Total 16. Hospital ships, prison ships, &c. 29 of the line, 2 of 50 guns, 2 loops—Total 33—Ordinary and repairing for service, 73 of the line, 10 from 50 to 44 guns, 79 frigates, 40 sloops, &c. 4 bombs, &c. 15 brigs, 1 cutter 1 schooner, &c. Total 225. Building, 23 of the line, 4 of 48 guns, 9 frigates, 17 sloops, &c. 2 brigs. Total 55. Grand total 981.

All these cannot secure the trade between *England* and *Ireland*, against the Americans, residing 3000 miles off!

**LOUISIANA.** Some years ago—when Spain (then the ally of *France*, and thereby hangs the tale) obstructed the navigation only of the *Mississippi* river, certain gentlemen, deeply impressed with the importance of that right to the people of the west, who

would have declared immediate war for it, estimating it to be worth, as they said in the senate of the United States, "ten thousand lives" and "one hundred millions of dollars," are so much infected with notions of "restoration," and not satisfied with what has been done in *Europe*, such as re-establishing the *inquisition* and the *feudal system*, that they would also give up and restore the whole of *Louisiana*, which was honestly purchased and honestly paid for, and which is now an integral part of the government *Tempora mutantur et non mutantur cum illis*. However, though it seems that *Great Britain*, out of pure love for *Spain*, is willing to give back this state to the arms of its "legitimate sovereign," it also appears, that gov. *Claiborne* and gen. *Jackson*, with the people of *Louisiana*, and of the west generally, are so completely under "*French influence*," as to prefer the government of the United States to that of the amiable lord *Castlereagh* and magnificent admiral *Cockburn*! What a pity that such delusion should exist! How great the misfortune that the people have not embraced the terms of the glorious lieut. col. *Nicolls*!! or of the hon. captain *Percy*, city of *Lafitte*, the murderer and pirate, and senior officer of "his majesty's" forces in the gulf of *Mexico*!!

The citizens of that part of *Louisiana*, called *West Florida*, have flown to arms with the soul of one man, to meet the "restorers" on the beach, and punish the insolence of the invader. They have marched at a moment's notice, on the requisition of gen. *Jackson*, without a man found lagging behind. This is bad news for the "restorers." However, the worst wish we have for them is, that they were fairly in the interior, and within reach of the rifles of *Tennessee* and *Kentucky*, directed by "old hickory," as they call our noble commander in that quarter of the country. He as well knows how to settle accounts with Indian Englishmen as English Indians.

**BALTIMORE.** The following, from "his majesty's" printing office at *Bermuda*\* as the article is headed, is the queerest and most lying account of the late attack upon *Baltimore* that we have yet seen, some "domestic manufactures" excepted:

"Sept. 23.—It appears from report, that after destroying *Washington* and taking possession of *Alexandria*, the small body of brave men under general *Ross* made an attack on *Baltimore*; the enemy had sunk vessels, and but two or three small craft with bombs could approach: they succeeded, however, in driving the *Americans* from the fort; having to contend with a very superior force, eventually retired, as the occupation of the town, which might have been gained, would be a poor compensation for the sacrifice of many valuable lives."

**TENNESSEE.** The people of *Tennessee* have covered themselves with glory, by the alacrity with which they have taken arms to meet the enemy. A late *Knoxville* paper says—"The strength of the militia of this state, as returned to the war office, is about 25,000 men, later returns in the adjutant's office, we learn, by the *Nashville* papers, make it 27,000, "rotten and sound." The requisition of 5000, now made, in addition to those who have already marched, will take all the militia of this state, fit for service, who have not been engaged in it. The sons of *Tennessee* have thus proved themselves worthy citizens of the American republic: and we hazard nothing, when we give it as our belief, that, should the cause of their country require it, they will again and again, with unabated zeal, render their service."

Quiet those who grumble so much to the eastward when partially called upon to defend their own town, reflect upon the preceding. The following from a *Nashville* paper gives the detail:

"The late requisition of 5,000 militia, from this state to join gen. *Jackson*, are ordered to rendezvous, the 3,000 from *West Tennessee*, at *Columbia*, on the 13th of next month—the 2000 from *East Tennessee*, at *Knoxville* on the 13th of next month, brigadier general *Smith* will command one brigade; and brig. gen. *Coulter* the other.—The whole under the command of maj. gen. *William Carroll*.

So soon as the above troops are mustered into service, *Tennessee* will have furnished since the commencement of the present war with *Great Britain*, volunteers and militia,

In 1812.	2200
In the Creek war at different periods about	10,000
Now stationed in the Creek nation	1,000
Militia on the march to join gen. <i>Jackson</i>	2,500
Mounted volunteers now on the march to general <i>Jackson</i>	2,500
Present requisition	5,000

Grand total 23,200

Besides about 2,500 regulars, the greater portion of which are now in service."

**NORTH CAROLINA.** Nine barges of the enemy entered *Currituck* inlet on the 19th inst. and after destroying three small vessels and some property on shore, retired before the militia could be collected to chastise them.

**PAROLE!**—A cartel sloop has arrived at *Boston* from *Halifax*, with 14 passengers and 10 prisoners—and also three black men; [75, 76, 80 years old] captured in the attack upon *Baltimore*, transported to *Halifax* and paroled!!

From the accounts brought by this vessel, there seems little prospect of a speedy release of our people at *Halifax*. They are generally confined in prison.

**VERY IMPORTANT!** From a *Boston* paper. A son of the duke of *Clarence* (and grandson of the king of *England*) is a midshipman on board the *Newcastle*, lord *Stewart*, now cruising in *Boston* bay. He is about 12 or 14 years of age, and is an aid to his lordship. He was lately on shore at *Provincetown*.

**NEGROES.** It is said there are about 1500 *Chesapeake* blacks at *Halifax*, who mostly now find employment, laborers being in demand. *Boston* paper

**COLS. GIBSON AND WOOD.**—Governor *Tomplins* has given to posterity a remembrance of these gallant men, killed in the sortie at fort *Eric*, by calling two new forts, erected for the defence of *New-York*, by their names.

**TO IRISHMEN.**—A spirited and elegant address "to *Irishmen*," appears in the *New-York* papers, signed by Messrs. *Mac Neven* and *Sampson*, calling on these, their countrymen, to organize a corps for three months service. The following pithy extract will give the substance of their appeal:

"Our appeal is to the constant; our call is on the brave! Such only are invited whose hearts can answer to the call: broken like the rest, in fortune, we have neither bribe nor patronage to offer, nor any thing to shew, but the dangers of the field. Nor shall we solicit or cajole. Zeal and affection must be the common stock; with these qualities the poor is rich enough; without them the rich are too poor. We have no interest but the safety of our country; no ambition but to march with its defenders. Three lapps, if in doing so, we avenge the wrongs of our dear native land!"

**DESERTERS.** From the *Albany Argus*. Most of the deserters from the *British* army, whom we have seen, are not *Englishmen*. They are  *Germans, Frenchmen, Italians, Portuguese* and *Spaniards*. Some of them are *Frenchmen*, who according to their own account, were inveigled into the *British* army in *France*, under pretence of fighting to restore the *Bourbons*, being attached to that dynasty; and were afterwards brought off against their consent. That such men should desert is not only natural, but justifiable. Some of these men are silk manufacturers, others have been bred in vineyards, and may do well in *Kentucky* and *Ohio*, where the cultivation of the grape is daily extending. Among the *British* subjects who have deserted, we have noted men of almost all trades, but especially a number of *Scottish* and *Irish* weavers, some of whom found immediate employ at several of our manufacturing establishments.

Some of the deserters, not *British* subjects, have enlisted in our army, and we should take care that our soldiers all fare as well as to food, lodging and clothing, as the *British*, that deserters should never regret the change.

**AMERICAN PIPES.** (says the *Columbian*) are made of the usual clay in many parts of the neighboring states, in considerable abundance. This is one of the manufactures the *English* are copy

gelling us to establish. There is also an institution at Greenbush, and another at Pittsfield, where we (or they) have been compelling a number of people (Englishmen and Germans, Swiss, Russians, Danes, &c. &c. in the British service) to resort for subsistence, to the amount of 2000, the most of whose labor is bestowed on the manufacture of pipes of stone or slate from the quarry. At the cautionant of Greenbush 1100 of these pipe-makers from Europe are kept, of whose workmanship some specimens may be seen in Scudder's Museum.

**ARGUMENT!**—The following strange propositions have appeared in the *Boston Daily Advertiser*. They are *charitably* ascribed to a half-crazed lawyer—

"The great American people can never admit that they are second in the conflict. Rome often made a disadvantageous peace. France, Great Britain, Austria and Russia have often done the same. All nations have in turns done it when the fortune of war was against them. But we, though engaged in a *noaked* and rash war—though it costs us a million for every hundred thousand dollars it costs the enemy—though she takes provisions from us which we take away from her—though our trade is annihilated and hers fills every sea—though our credit is gone and hers higher than ever—yet we persevere we will to our own destruction.

"Our enemy asks infinitely less than our government expected. They wrote our commissioners they expected Britain would demand all the fisheries, the relinquishment of the *India trade*, and *Louisiana*. But when she asked neither, astonished at her moderation, and suspecting she is influenced by fear rather than by equity, taking counsel from their own hearts rather than from her enlarged views, they suppose she is afraid, and cry out that her demands, so infinitely short of their expectation, are exorbitant. They will not listen to them.

"Surely Heaven will never favor such a turbulent and unjust spirit. Surely this people, however deceived at first, will never support their rulers in such a war, when so equitable a peace might have been obtained."

**MISTAKEN LENITY!** The laxity and moderation with which we have treated those persons taken up as spies or traitors has been frequently rewarded by the basest ingratitude. The execution of a few villains at the commencement of the war would have saved the lives of hundreds of honest men. "The glorious uncertainty of the law," by the aid of "well-qualified" judges and lawyers, has almost rendered the word *traitor* obsolete, so far as regards punishment to be inflicted for it—and spies taken aboard, or are permitted to escape, without hindrance.

The two British officers lately taken up near *New-London*, who pretended they were exchanged, it appears had broken their parole—but the militia general who had them in charge permitted the gentlemen to escape before their real character was ascertained, though it required only a few days to establish the fact.

A late *Pittsburgh* paper says—*Joseph C. Berth*, who, in January 1812, in company with nine others, broke open the house of the collector of this district and who was severely wounded with a pistol shot, by Mr. Sully, and afterwards smuggled into Canada by certain desperate individuals of this town, accompanied the British fleet, on their late expedition, as a pilot, and was made prisoner.

*Joel Ackley*, who was for a long time a resident in this village, and who last summer was committed to goal in Albany, for having furnished Col. Murray with a plan of this place and Burlington, &c. and released in consequence of some neglect on the part of the prosecution, was a pilot for the enemy on land.

**MILITARY.**

**FOREIGN NEWS.** *London dates to Sept. 8.*—3000 men, under Maj. Gen. Keane, were on the point of embarking at Plymouth, Sept. 3, for America—they were considered as the "advance of the main army that was to proceed for the same destination under Lord Hill." Other troops for the expedition had assembled at Portsmouth, of which the names of the several corps are given—it appears they are to be accompanied with a brigade of artillery, furnished with "mountain guns." It is supposed his lordship is to come out in the *Valiant*, 74, and it now appears pretty certain that he may be expected on our coast. There is much talk in the papers about the negotiation at Ghent; but nothing positively stated. It appears, however, that the commissioners there had had some warm words, and that they made a settlement of differences, (as to their personal disputes) at a splendid entertainment. Our privateers on the British coasts have vexed *John Bull* to the south—he sends out ship after ship to catch them; but the Yankees understand the

"*Munnal exercise of heels*" too well for his cruisers. The alarm they have created is really astonishing. Letters from *Gottenburg* received in *New York*—state it as the general expectation at that place, that the continental powers, at the congress at Vienna, would unite a strong protest against the entire blockade of the whole American coast by the British government.

**FROM THE NORTH.**—General Brown took command at Sackett's harbor on the 31st ult. His division, in fine health and spirits, must have reached that place from the 10th to the 15th inst. The first brigade, 2000 effectives, passed through Rome on the 7th. The British fleet was in port, November 1. Sir George Prevost was at Kingston, and was said to have 15,000 men, preparing to attack the harbor. Our fleet was finely stationed to receive him. On the 5th inst. fort Erie, according to previous arrangements, was blown up—and the balance of our troops crossed to take up winter quarters near Buffalo. We have nothing certain of the force of the British on the Niagara.

**From Detroit** we have seen several accounts of murders by the Indians in the immediate neighborhood of the place. Mr. Arthur, with 650 mounted men was to proceed for Saquis (120 miles from Detroit) on the 22d ult. to attack a body of them in that vicinity.

**From the south** we have two reports that general Jackson has had a second battle with the British, in which he lost 100 men killed and 160 wounded; they losing 400 men killed—but no time, place or other circumstance is mentioned. *It may be true.*

The Seminole Indians have raised the tomahawk—they have received orders from the "bulwark of religion" to strike. They are the most savage tribe in the south. Measures have been taken by the Georgians to chastise them.

Captain *Larabee*, distinguished in the battles of Tippecanoe and Brownstown, (in the latter of which he lost his left arm) has been appointed Assistant Inspector general of the 10th military district, with the rank of major. So far as depends on the *United States*, we are getting things into the state they should be for the protection of Baltimore, Washington, &c.

**GENERAL STRICKER.** The resignation of major general Smith of the Maryland militia, commanding the division that embraces Baltimore city and county, and the counties of Frederick, Harford and Cecil, &c. has already been noticed. To fill that vacancy the governor and council have appointed Mr. *Robert Gouldie Harper*. This, of necessity, produced the resignation of brigadier general Stricker (the senior brigadier in the division) whose conduct during the late trying times is the praise of all men. Where this business will stop we know not; but fear it may end in the full disorganization of one of the finest corps of militia in the world. The following are general Scott's general orders on the occasion:

**GENERAL ORDERS.**

*Adjutant general's office head quarters, Baltimore, 11th November 1814.*

It is with much regret that major general Scott has officially to announce to the troops under his command, the resignation of brigadier general John Stricker, late commander of the third Maryland brigade, now in the service of the United States. This regret is unfeignedly expressed, from the high sense entertained of the military and meritorious services rendered by the late brigadier, as well during our revolutionary struggle, as on a late important and trying occasion, when, at the head of his gallant and disciplined brigade, he met the enemy in the neighborhood of this city. Baltimore will long recollect what is due to her gallant defender, and in him the nation will recognize a public benefactor.

Brigadier general Stricker will please accept the thanks of the commanding general for his strict observance of general orders, and for the unwearied attention to duty and discipline, which has so high-

ly characterised the brigadier and the brigade, since they came under the orders of the major general commanding.

The third brigade of Maryland militia will be mustered for discharge on the 18th inst. in the mean time, or until a brigadier shall be appointed, the senior lieutenant colonel will assume the command, and appoint pro tem. the necessary staff, who shall be entitled to the pay and other allowances of their respective officers.

By order of major general Scott, commanding,  
R. G. HITE,  
Assistant adjutant general.

*Expedition up the Missouri.—St. Louis, Sept. 24.*

The party who ascended the Missouri by water, about the time major Taylor's command ascended the Mississippi, amounted to forty-five men, under the command of captain Edward Hempstead. The mounted men under the command of general Dodge, including 40 or 50 Shawanoes, might perhaps amount to 300, viz. captain John Thompson's troop from St. Louis, captain Daugherty's troop from Cape Gerardeau, captain Cooper's troop of Boon's Lick settlement. The whole having formed a junction at the upper settlement, proceeded to the Miami fort, a little below fort Osage, on the south side of the Missouri. The Indians had deserted the fort and were scattered in the woods, but were soon collected and brought to this place to the number of 152 men, women and children. The mounted men of St. Louis and Cape Gerardeau have gone on to Cape a Grai.

These Miamies of Plankashaws, are reduced to the most abject poverty and wretchedness. It will be recollected they were sent to the west by governor Harrison, in order to detach them from the prople band. They came to the Mississippi, and from thence wandered to the Missouri, from whence they have now been taken.

Some say they have covertly assisted in the murdering and plunderings on the frontiers. Others say, they are a nation who have evinced a friendly deportment towards the United States since the commencement of the war.

It is confidently said, that the British force at Rock River are 12 artilleryists and 60 or 80 boatmen, who act as a fencible corps, with about 700 Indians.

Six soldiers were lately shot at *Plattsburg* for desertion. The passing over this crime at first, has rendered such executions too frequent.

The *National Intelligencer*, gives an opinion, that the proposal for classing the militia of U. S. (see page 137) will not be adopted.

Adjutant and Inspector General's Office,  
Washington, 18th November, 1814.

GENERAL ORDER.—A general court-martial, for the trial of major-general JAMES WILKINSON, will assemble at some suitable place in the village of Utica, state of New York, on the 5d January next.

The court will be composed as follows, viz:

Maj. Gen. HENRY DEARBORN—President.

MEMBERS.

Major General *Morgan Lewis*,  
Major General *George Izard*,  
Brigadier General *J. Bloomfield*,  
Brigadier General *John P. Boyd*,  
Brigadier General *D. Bissell*,  
Brigadier General *E. W. Ripley*,  
Colonel *Jonas Simonds*, 6th infantry,  
Colonel *J. Kinsbury*, 1st infantry  
Colonel *P. P. Schuyler*, 13th infantry,  
Colonel *James Burn*, L. D.  
Colonel *Robert Purdy*, 4th infantry,  
Colonel *D. Beareley*, 15th infantry.

SUPERNUMERARIES.

Colonel *Denny M' Cobb*, 45th infantry,

Colonel *George M' Feltz*, 25th infantry,  
Lieut. col. *W. S. Talmadge*, 46th do.

*E. A. Buncher*, army judge advocate.

By order of the secretary of war.

JOHN R. BELL,

Inspector General

ACTION AT LYON'S CREEK.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-quarters of the northern army, camp near fort Erie, October 23d, 1814.

The indisposition of brigadier general Bissell has prevented till this morning, his report of the handsome affair which took place on the 19th, between a detachment of his brigade, and a superior force of the enemy.

The object of the expedition entrusted to the brigadier, was the seizure of some provisions intended for the British troops. He marched from Black creek on the morning of the 18th, with parts of the 5th, 14th, 15th, and 16th infantry, a small party of dragoons, and a company of riflemen, the whole 900 men. After driving before them a picket, of which they made the commanding officer prisoner, they encamped for the night, throwing beyond Lyon's creek two light infantry companies, under captain Dorman, 5th, and lieutenant Horrel, 16th infantry, and the riflemen under captain Irvine; a picket on the Chippewa road, commanded by lieutenant Gassaway, was attacked by two companies Glen-gary light infantry, which were beaten back with loss. On the morning of the 19th, the detachment was attacked by a select corps of the enemy, not less than 1200 strong. The light infantry under captain Dorman, and Irvine's riflemen, sustained the whole fire of the enemy for fifteen minutes, during which time the 5th and 14th were formed—the 5th was ordered to turn the enemy's right flank, while the 14th charged them in front. This was executed in the most gallant manner by colonel Pinckney of the 5th and major Barnard of the 14th, who greatly distinguished himself by the officer-like style in which he conducted his battalion. The enemy were compelled to a precipitate retreat, and hid themselves once more behind their fortifications.

Brigadier general Bissell particularly mentions the skill and intrepidity of colonel Snelling, inspector general, colonel Pinckney, commanding the 5th regiment, major Barnard, 14th infantry, major Barker, 45th infantry acting with the 5th, captain Dorman, captain Allison, (whose horse was shot under him) and brigadier major, lieutenant Prestman, of the 5th. Lieutenant Anspaugh, of dragoons, was conspicuous by his alertness in communicating the brigadier general's orders during the action. It is with the highest satisfaction, that the commanding general tenders to the brave officers and troops of the 2d brigade of the right division, his thanks for their good conduct on this occasion. The firmness of the 15th and 16th regiments commanded by colonel Pierce, and who were posted as a reserve, proved, that had the resistance of the enemy afforded them an opportunity of going into action, they would have emulated the valor of the commanders of the 5th and 14th. A number of prisoners were taken, among whom a picket of dragoons with their horses; a large quantity of grain also fell into our hands. The brigadier, after completing the orders he had received, and burying the few of our brave soldiers who fell in the action, and the dead of the enemy, which were left on the ground by the latter, returned to Black creek. To the cool and intrepid conduct of brigadier general Bissell, the general offers the praise he has so justly entitled himself to.

By order of major general Izard,

C. K. GARDNER, adj. gen. northern army.

*Camp Frenchman's creek, October 22, 1814*

SIR—I have the honor to report, that in obedience to your orders of the 18th instant, I proceeded with about 900 men of my brigade, a company of riflemen, under captain Irvine, and a small party of dragoons, under lieutenant Anspaugh, by very bad roads and creeks, the bridges over which were broken down, to Cook's mills, on Lyon's Creek, a branch of the Chippewa, and encamped for the night: near that place the enemy had stationed a militia piquet of 20 men, commanded by a captain who made their escape on our approach, the captain excepted, who was taken. Their piquet of regulars found at this place was driven in, and I threw across, at that place, (the only one at which it was practicable) the two elite companies under captain Dorman, 5th, and lieutenant Horrel, 16th infantry and the riflemen under captain Irvine; our advanced piquet on the Chippewa road, commanded by lieutenant Gassaway was attacked in the night by two companies of the Glengary light infantry, who were beaten off with the loss of one man only. On the morning of the 19th, we were attacked by the enemy in force; from the best information amounting to more than 1200 men composed of the 82d and 87th regiments of foot, detachments of the 100th, 104th, the Glengary light infantry, a few dragoons, and rocketteers, and one piece of artillery; the whole commanded by the marquis of Tweeddale, colonel of the 100th.

The light corps under captain Dorman and Irvine's riflemen, sustained the whole fire of the enemy for about fifteen minutes, with the greatest gallantry, until the other troops were formed and brought to their support.

The 5th regiment under colonel Pinckney, aided by major Baker of the 45th, attached to that regiment, was ordered to skirt the woods and turn the enemy's right flank, and if possible to cut off the piece of artillery.

Maj. Bernard with the 14th, was ordered at the same time to form in front, advance to support the light troops and charge the artillery; the 15th regiment under major Grindage, and 16th under colonel Pierce were ordered to act as circumstances might require.

The well directed fire of the elite corps, riflemen, and gallant charge of the 14th, soon compelled the enemy to give ground, and on discovering that his right flank was turned by the intrepid move of the 5th under colonel Pinckney, he retreated in the utmost confusion, leaving some killed, wounded and prisoners; we pursued to a ravine some distance from the scene where the action commenced; not knowing the ground, I did think proper to push them further; but, soon after reconnoitered the country and discovered they had retreated to their strong hold at the mouth of the river about seven miles distance.

To the officers and men engaged great credit is due for their zeal and intrepidity, and to those who had not an opportunity to come into action, for the promptitude with which they obeyed our orders. All did their duty; but the handsome manner in which major Bernard brought his regiment into action, and the gallant conduct of the elite, under captain Dorman deserve particular notice. I am much indebted to that distinguished officer, colonel Snelling, (inspector general), for his able services, through the action, and much praise is due to my aid, captain Allison, (whose horse was shot under him) and brigade major lieutenant Prestman, for their intrepid and useful services in every situation. Lieutenant Anspaugh of the dragoons rendered me much service in communicating my orders. It is justly due, and I must be permitted to add that every officer and private behaved with that skill and gallantry,

which will do honor to the American arms. We found in the mills at that place, about 150 or 200 bushels of wheat, belonging to the enemy, which I ordered to be destroyed. The enemy having retreated to his batteries on the Chippewa; in obedience to your orders, I returned, leaving the causeways, bridges, &c. entire. I annex for your information, a return of killed and wounded.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant.

(Signed) D. BISSELL, brig. gen.  
Maj. gen. George Izard, command'g northern army.

Acute nervous attacks must be my apology for the delay and imperfections of this report. D. B.  
*Report of the killed and wounded of the 2d brigade under the command of brigadier general Bissell, in the affair of the 19th October, 1814.*

5th Regiment—Killed, 5 privates; wounded—1 captain, 1 subaltern, 1 sergeant, 1 corporal, 9 privates—total 19.

14th Regiment—Killed, 1 sergeant, 6 privates, wounded, 1 subaltern, 2 corporals, 16 privates—total 26.

17th Regiment—Wounded, 1 private—total 1.

16th Regiment—Wounded, 1 subaltern, 1 sergeant, 1 corporal, 6 privates, 1 prisoner—total 10.

Riflemen—Wounded, 1 subaltern, 2 corporals, 3 privates—total 11.

Grand total—Killed, wounded and missing 67.

*Names of the officers wounded.*

5th Regiment—Captain Bell, ensign Whitehead, severely.

14th Regiment—Lieutenant Becket, severely.

15th Regiment—Lieutenant Thomas, slightly.

Riflemen—Lieutenant Spurr, severely.

#### NAVAL.

*Queer news!*—A Quebec paper states, that in the action on lake Champlain, the American fleet was driven for shelter under our batteries, by commore Downie; that the British flag ship struck on a sunken rock, in rounding to for the purpose of lying her broadside to the American commodore; and that the Lianet (the enemy's 2d vessel) grounded in going into action!

Among the vessels that have lately sailed from the United States "without permission" for the British coasts, is a fine brig from Kennebec, called the *Macdonough*. She was built in 30 days. When the rendezvous was opened at Portsmouth for the private armed ship *America*, 300 brave fellows presented themselves in the course of one hour, to "lend a hand" in blockading the British ports. The late successful cruises of our privateers have excited a spirit to the eastward that will be severely felt by the enemy.

The late United States' sloop of war *Frolic*, now called the *Florida*, is off the eastern coast.

It is stated that the Saturn and another razee have left the neighborhood of New London for the Delaware, to intercept the *Guerriere*, com Rodgers, who, they have learnt, is nearly ready for sea. The captain of one of these vessels, would have thought himself sufficient for this object—three years ago.

Admiral Cochrane sailed from Halifax, (says a *New York paper*) promising to give "the Southern men another warming," after which he should return to the Northward, and take possession Newport for winter quarters.

A Bermuda paper of Oct. 19, says—Capt. Kenah, of the *Etna* bomb, lost his life in an attack on some militia in the Potomac.

The *Carthaginian* privateer Retaliation, from a cruise of 90 days, laden with dry goods, &c. has arrived at Charleston. She was bound for St. Mary's, but discovering off that port several British vessels of war, made for Charleston.

A Boston paper observes—Nearly 300 British seamen have been brought in prisoners by our privateers, within these few weeks; and double that number paroled at sea.

The *Cossack* of Baltimore, has arrived at Boston from Charleston, with a very valuable and seasonable cargo.

Owing to severe weather on our coast, several of

our small vessels captured by the enemy to the eastward, have been forced to seek our ports, where their crews surrendered themselves prisoners.

**SCORPION AND TIGRESS.**—*Montreal, Oct. 15, 1814.* His excellency sir *George Prevost* issued the following general order, at Cornwall, U. C. the 7th inst.

"His excellency the commander of the forces has received from lieutenant-general *Drummond*, a report from lieutenant colonel *M'Donnell*, dated *Mackinaw*, the 9th September, conveying the gratifying intelligence of the capture of two armed schooners, *Tigress* and *Scorpion*, which the enemy had stationed at the *Detour*, near *St. Joseph's*, for the purpose of cutting off all supplies from the garrison at *Mackinaw*.

This gallant enterprize was planned and executed by lieutenant *Worsley* of the royal navy, and a detachment of 50 of the Royal Newfoundland regiment, under the command of lieutenant *Bulger* attached for this service to the division of seamen under that officer.

The United States sch. *Tigress* was carried by boarding at nine o'clock on the night of the 3d inst. and the sch. *Scorpion* at dawn of day on the morning of the 6th inst.

The skilful conduct and intrepidity, displayed in the execution of this daring enterprize, reflects the highest credit on lieutenant *Worsley* of the royal navy, and the officers, seamen and soldiers under his command. Lieutenants *Bulger*, *Armstrong* and *Randenhurst*, of the royal Newfoundland regiment, are noticed by lieutenant colonel *M'Donnell*; as also *Mr. Dickson* and *Livingston* of the Indian department, who volunteered their services on this occasion.

The enemy's loss was three seamen killed, and all the officers of the *Tigress* and three seamen severely wounded.

The *Scorpion* mounted one long 24 pounder and a long 12; the *Tigress* one long 24 pounder. They were commanded by lieutenant *Turner* of the American navy, and had crews of 30 men each.

The British loss is two seamen killed.

Lieutenant *Bulger*, Royal Newfoundland regiment and several soldiers, slightly wounded.

(Signed) EDWARD BAYNES, *Adj. Gen. N. A. Michilimackinac, 7th Sept. 1814.*

[Here follows a long letter, says a Boston paper, from *Michilimackinac* describing the joy of the above event. The sailors, it says, employed in the expedition was 18, and with the troops embarked in four batteaux. They rowed 45 miles. When the prizes were brought into *Mackinac*, they were greeted with the acclamations of thousands.]

Extract of a letter from captain *Arthur Sinclair*, commanding the U. S. naval force on the Upper lakes; to the secretary of the navy, dated

*Eric Roads, 11th of November, 1814.*

Sailing master *Champlin*, who commanded the *Tigress*, has arrived here in the cartel from *Mackinac*, with some of the wounded. He has his thigh shattered by a grape shot, and has not yet been able to make out a detailed report of his capture. He appears not to have been surprised, but defended his vessel very bravely, killing and wounding a number of the enemy, who overpowered him with 150 sailors and soldiers, and 250 Indians, the latter headed by *Dickson*. The *Scorpion* was overpowered as mentioned in my letter of the 27th ult. The conduct of the enemy to our prisoners thus captured, and the inhuman butchery of those who fell into their hands at the attack of *Mackinac*, has been barbarous beyond a parallel. The former has been plundered—almost every article of clothing they possessed—the latter had their hearts and livers taken out, which were actually cooked and feasted on (and that too in

the quarters of the British officers, sanctioned by col. *M'Dowell*) by the savages.

This Carnibal act, which has capped the climax of British atrocity, and must ever be viewed with indignant horror by the Christian world, will be sworn to by two respectable ladies, who came down in the cartel and who were witnesses to it. I am further assured by *Mr. Astor*, who was detained there with his cartel for near two months, that it was not disowned by the garrison of *Mackinac*, and that when remonstrance was made by some who had not lost all sense of feeling and honor, they were threatened with arrest by the colonel, if they checked the indians in any of their wishes. One of the prisoners was inhumanly murdered, by one of their militia, to decide a dispute between him and an indian, of who had the best claim to the reward of his body or scalp, and no notice was taken of it by the colonel. To relate to you, sir, all the acts of horror which have been practised upon those unfortunate victims who fell into the enemy's hands on the 4th August would go far beyond the limits of a letter.

*Eric, Nov. 11.* Arrived on Sunday last, the cartel schooner *Union*, R. *Martin* master, 16 days from *Mackinaw*, and 3 days from *Detroit*, with furs and peltry, the property of *John J. Astor*. Besides several other passengers, came sailing-master, *Mr. Champlin*, late commander of the *Tigress*, who we are happy to learn, is in a fair way of recovering from the wounds he received in gallantly defending his vessel. Lieutenant *Turner*, and most of the officers and men of the captured schooners, have been sent to *Quebec*. Lieutenant *Worsley* was at the head of the expedition sent against the *Scorpion* and *Tigress*. After the block house and *Nancy* were blown up at *Notowasaga*, he coasted round from that place, in boats and canoes with 22 men, and arrived safe at *Mackinaw*. He immediately applied to lieutenant colonel *M'Dowell*, for 100 of the Newfoundland regiment, (mostly fishermen) and said he would bring in the two American schooners. Unfortunately for us he succeeded.

The *Union* was detained at *Mackinaw* 38 days, until the schooners made a trip to *Notowasaga*, and returned with provisions. During this time her crew were closely watched. The commanding officer placed sentinels over the vessel, who were permitted to plunder with impunity. When *Mr. Champlin* and 4 seamen, (all paroled prisoners) were put on board the cartel, lieutenant colonel *M'Dowell* refused to order on board any provisions, saying he supposed *Mr. Astor* had a sufficiency.

The passengers from *Mackinaw* speak in high terms of the humane and gentlemanly conduct of *Mr. Robert Dixon*, at the same time they depict the conduct of lieutenant colonel *M'Dowell* as illiberal, rascally and contemptible. The principal agent of *Mr. J. J. Astor*, says that lieutenant colonel *M'Dowell* is unquestionably the greatest savage he saw on the island.

About ten days previous to the cartel leaving *Detroit*, general *McArthur* with about 700 mounted men, and a few indians, had gone on a secret expedition. Governor *Cass* has gone on a visit to the state of *Ohio*.

#### STINGS OF THE WASP.

Copy of a letter from sailing-master *Geisinger*, of the United States' sloop of war *Wasp*, to the secretary of the navy, dated

*Savannah, November 4, 1814.*

SIR—I have the honor to acquaint you of my arrival at this port in the British brig *Atalanta*, of 8 guns, prize to the United States' sloop of war *Wasp*, captured off the *Madeiras* on the 21st September.

Captain *Blakely's* official despatches will be deli-

vered to you by Mr. Robert R. Stewart, of Philadelphia, who left L'Orient, passenger in the Wasp. He will be detained here a day or two in order to give some testimony respecting the prize, and will immediately proceed to Washington.

The Atalanta was formerly the American schooner Siro, of Baltimore, captured in the bay of Biscay, by the British sloop of war Pelican. Her cargo consists of brandy, wine, silks, fruits, &c.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,  
DAVID GEISINGER.

Honorable William Jones, secretary of the navy.

The Wasp has been one of the most successful of our cruisers. By the accounts below it appears she has sunk a second sloop of war, and made many additional captures. It is supposed that since her departure from the United States, she has destroyed enemy's property to the value of two hundred thousand pounds sterling! She sailed from L'Orient, in fine condition, on the 27th Aug. and between that date and the 22d September, (when the Atalanta left her) made five valuable prizes besides the Atalanta, which she sunk or burnt. A letter from an officer on board of her says, her complement of 173 men, have an average age of only 23 years, "the greatest part so green, that is, so unaccustomed to the sea, that they were sea-sick for a week;" and adds, "the Wasp is a beautiful ship, and the finest sea-boat, I believe, in the world; our officers and crew, young and ambitious—they fight with more cheerfulness than they do any other duty. Captain Blakeley is a brave and discreet officer—as cool and collected in action as at table."

The following particulars are from the *Savannah Republican*

On the 1st September, at half-past 6 o'clock, P.M. the United States' ship Wasp discovered three sail to the lee bow—at 7 discovered a sail to windward, which proved to be a brig of war, with a signal at her fore-top-gallant mast head. The Wasp was immediately prepared for action, and chased the enemy till a quarter past 9 o'clock, when she hailed the enemy and asked what vessel it was; but receiving an answer not at all satisfactory, gave the enemy a gun, which was returned by a broadside from him. The Wasp then took a position on the lee quarter of the enemy, and poured a broadside into him, which brought down his fore and aft main sail, and soon after his main-top-sail followed—the action then became general—50 minutes past 9 the Wasp being to windward—at 10 the enemy ceased firing—he was then hailed from the Wasp to know whether he had surrendered—to this enquiry no answer was given, but fired a gun and a few muskets from his tops—which was returned by the Wasp by several guns. The Wasp a second time demanded of the enemy if he had surrendered, to which he answered that he had; and observed that he was in a sinking condition—the Wasp's boats were instantly lowered down, but at that moment a man of war brig was discovered within musket shot; and two others to leeward of her—the prize was abandoned—the Wasp made sail and prepared for another action—at 11 o'clock the brig gave in stays, and gave the Wasp a broadside and then stood off together with the other two for the prize which was supposed to be sinking from the many signal guns they fired on board of her. The broadside which the Wasp received from the second brig cut away her main-top-sail-back-stay and damaged the top considerably.

Killed on board of the Wasp in the first engagement, Mr. Martin, boatswain, Henry Staples, 2d quarter gunner—wounded, James Snelling.

List of vessels captured by the United States' ship Wasp, from the 27th August to 22d September, 1814:

August 30th captured British brig Lutice, with a cargo of pork, &c. burnt her.

31st, boarded the brig Bony Cerd from Seville, bound to London, with Merino wool, fruits and wine, scuttled her.

Sept. 1, fell in with a convoy from Gibraltar, of 16 sail, under the Armada 74, and a bomb ship—succeeded in cutting off a transport loaded with naval and military stores, &c. set her on fire in sight of the convoy.

12th September, captured the British brig Three Brothers with a cargo of wine, &c. burnt her.

13th, captured the brig Bacchus, from Newfoundland to Gibraltar, destroyed her.

September 23d captured the British brig Atalanta of 8 guns, with a valuable cargo, from Bordeaux bound to Pensacola.

NAVAL VICTORY.—British accounts. *Truro*, Sept. 8, 1814.—By the *Lady Arabella* packet, which arrived at Falmouth on Wednesday from Lisbon, but last from Cork, we learn that about an hour before the packet left the latter place, H. M. brig Castilian, 18 guns, arrived there, having on board the captain, and surviving crew of H. M. late brig Avon, of 18 guns, which had sunk after a desperate action with the American ship of war Wasp, of 22 guns, which sheered off on the Castilian's coming up.—The Avon lost 30 men in killed and wounded. The slaughter on board the Wasp was also conjectured to be very great.

From the *Boston Coffee-House Books*—The gentlemen state, that they saw in the papers at Halifax, a more particular account of the action between the Wasp and Avon, which mentioned, that the Castilian fell in with them at the close of it, and had but a few minutes to remove the officers and crew, before she went down; that on the Castilian coming up, the Wasp sheered off, being too much disabled to risk another engagement. It was also stated, that the Avon had not struck, but was reported to have had her colors nailed to the mast, and went down with them flying.

London, August 22.

AMERICAN PRIVATEERS. The directors of the Royal Exchange and London Assurance Corporations, strongly impressed with the necessity for greater protection being afforded to the trade in consequence of the numerous captures that have recently been made by American cruisers, represented the same to the lords commissioners of the admiralty on Wednesday last, and on Saturday received an answer, of which the following is a copy:

Admiralty Office, Aug. 19.

SIR—Having laid before my lords commissioners of the admiralty, the letter of the 12th inst. signed by you and the secretary of the London Assurance Corporation, on the subject of depredations committed by the American privateers therein mentioned, I am commanded by their lordships to acquaint you, that there was a force adequate to the purpose of protecting the trade, both in St. George's Channel and the Northern Sea, at the time referred to.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

J. W. CROKER.

After giving the names of some vessels captured, the same paper adds—"Should the depredations on our-commerce continue, the merchants and traders will not be able to get any insurance effected, except at enormous premiums on vessels trading between Ireland and England, either by the chartered companies or individual underwriters; and as a proof of this assertion, for the risks which are usually written 15s. 9. per cent. the sum of five guineas is now demanded."

London, Sept. 1. It is the intention of the admiral



gally, in consequence of the numerous captures made by the Americans, to be extremely strict with the captains who quit their convoy at sea, or who contrary to orders, sail without convoy. Prosecutions of masters of ships for neglect of this description, have already commenced, as will be seen by the subjoined extract of a letter:—

*Lloyd's August 31, 1814.* The lords commissioners of the admiralty have been pleased to inform the committee, that they have given directions to their Solicitor to prosecute the masters of the following vessels, viz.: Mr. Stuart, of the *Arabella*, lately arrived at Liverpool from St. Domingo and Jamaica, for sailing without convoy; and Mr. Ruddle, master of the *New Frederick*, from Malta to Hull, for deserting the fleet under convoy of his majesty's ship *Milford*, in June last.

(Signed) JOHN BENNETT, Jun.

*Ontario, &c*—A letter from Sackett's harbor gives the following account of the strength of the mammoth ship of the British on lake Ontario:—"She has 34 long 32 pounders on her lower deck; 34 long 24 pounders on the middle deck, 20 carronades 68 pounders on the spar deck, and 14 carronades 32 pounders besides. Sir James is, also, building a large frigate at Kingston.

*Copy of a letter from captain Gordon to the secretary of the navy, dated*

NORFOLK, 8th Nov. 1814.

Sir—I have to report to you the loss of one of our tenders [the *Franklin*] commanded by Mr. Hamersley, master's mate, after a very gallant defence of an hour and a half, against a tender and fourteen barges and boats of the enemy, off Back River Point, on Sunday last.

From the late depredations of the enemy's boats upon the bay craft in Back river, and having also extended their operations into Hampton Roads for the first time these twelve months, I was induced on Saturday evening last, to order the two tenders and four of my boats off Back river for the purpose of convoying several bay craft which had been reported to me in that river and bound to this place, with positive orders to the officers to avoid separation in the night, and return to Hampton Roads with the craft without delay. Unfortunately, however, they were unavoidably separated in the night; the boats, owing to a rough sea, returned into Hampton, and the *Franklin* is reported to have separated from the *Despatch* at 11, P. M.

Lieutenant Saunders, of the *Despatch*, finding in the morning, from the ignorance of his pilot and a light wind, that he had drifted near the enemy's ships in Lynnhaven, and that they were manning their boats to attack him, immediately manned his sweeps and made a signal for our boats, who were under Old Point, and also the *Franklin*, that lay nearly becalmed up the bay and considerably to the eastward. The boats immediately joined the *Despatch*, and, a little breeze springing up, the enemy's boats and tenders after exchanging a few shot gave over the chase and directed their attention to the *Franklin*. They came up and surrounded her about 10, when the firing commenced, and were repulsed until half past 11, when she was carried by board-

ing. I, of course, have no report from the *Franklin*, but have sent lieutenant Neale with a flag to ascertain the fate of her gallant officers and crew, which consisted of about thirty five; and as there is a master's mate and three seamen at present prisoners of war in Norfolk, I have authorised lieutenant Neale to make any temporary exchange the commanding officer at Lynnhaven may appear disposed to accede to, with an assurance that on any practi-

cable arrangements which might be entered into, such as paroling the whole until a communication could be made to the commissary general of prisoners for an exchange, I would lose no time in making the necessary application for that purpose.

Owing to some changes among the boats and tenders while in the roads, I am unable to ascertain, at this moment, the precise number of the *Franklin's* crew, but judge them to be about thirty one men, besides Mr. Hamersley, her commander; one midshipman (Mr. Cook) and two acting as masters mates and pilots.

I have much satisfaction in assuring you, that every exertion was made by lieutenant Saunders to unite his whole force, until the whole of the enemy's had effectually cut them off from the *Franklin*; and from the report of the inhabitants who were on the beach and witnessed the gallant defence of that vessel until completely surrounded, and carried by the boarding of five heavy boats at the same moment, and after having beaten off their tender and two heavy launches, at different periods of the action, I cannot refrain from soliciting your attention to her meritorious though unfortunate commander, should he have survived the action.

I have the honour to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

CHARLES GORDON.

The honorable Wm. Jones,  
Secretary of the navy, Washing'ton,  
*Copy of a letter from capt. Gordon to the secretary of the navy, dated*

Norfolk, 9th Nov. 1814.

Sir—I have the honor to enclose herewith, the report of Mr. Hamersley, commander of the United States' tender *Franklin*, from which it appears she was not carried by boarding, as reported by the citizens of Hampton, and, fortunately, did not lose a man; though from the enemy's own account to lieutenant Neale, she contended for an hour and a half against fourteen boats and a tender in all mounting five 18 pounders and carrying two hundred and twenty men, commanded by sir Edward Hamilton of the frigate *Havanna*.

The circumstance of Mr. Hamersley being a prisoner would, of course prevent him from stating other particulars in his report. Capt. Doyle, the senior officer at Lynnhaven, and sir Edward Hamilton, are reported by lieutenant Neale to have behaved in the most gentlemanly manner, and have made a temporary exchange of our midshipman, Mr. Cook, and three men, for the prisoners now in Norfolk, until finally settled by the commissary general of prisoners. The names and rank of the prisoners remaining unexchanged, together with those four exchanged in a temporary manner by capt. Doyle and myself, shall be forwarded without delay.

I have the honor to be, &c.

CHAS. GORDON.

Honorable Wm. Jones,  
Secretary of the navy, Washington.

#### THE ENEMY IN THE DELAWARE.

The British force at present in the Delaware consists of one 74, one razee, one frigate, 2 brigs, one schooner of 14 guns, and four small vessels as tenders. They have captured some bay craft, and also re-captured a prize to the *Patapsco* of Baltimore. Preparations are made by general Gaines to receive them, if they shall venture on shore.

#### THE ENEMY IN THE CHESAPEAKE.

Since our last have had some of their small vessels as high up as Poplar island, and are said to have captured about fifteen small craft.

That part of the prisoners taken near Baltimore in September last, who were sent to Bermuda, have reached their homes. Those from Halifax may be soon expected.

## Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

*A Proclamation.*—The two houses of the national legislature having, by a joint resolution, expressed their desire, that in the present time of public calamity and war, a day may be recommended to be observed by the people of the United States as a day of Public Humiliation and Fasting, and of Prayer

to Almighty God, for the safety and welfare of these states, his blessing on their arms, and a speedy restoration of peace—I have deemed it proper, by this proclamation, to recommend that *Thursday the twelfth of January next* be set apart as a day on which all may have an opportunity of voluntarily offering, at the same time, in their respective religious assemblies, their humble adorations to the Great Sovereign of the Universe, of confessing their sins and transgressions, and of strengthening their vows of repentance and amendment. They will be invited by the same solemn occasion, to call to mind the distinguished favors conferred on the American people, in the general health which has been enjoyed; in the abundant fruits of the season; in the progress of the arts, instrumental to their comfort; their prosperity and their security; and in the victories which have so powerfully contributed to the defence and protection of our country; a devout thankfulness for all which ought to be mingled with their supplications to the Beneficent Parent of the human race, that He would be graciously pleased to pardon all their offences against Him; to support and animate them in the discharge of their respective duties; to continue to them the precious advantages flowing from political institutions so auspicious to their safety against dangers from abroad, to their tranquility at home, and to their liberties, civil and religious; and that He would, in a special manner, preside over the nation, in its public councils and constituted authorities, giving wisdom to its measures and success to its arms, in maintaining its rights, and in overcoming all hostile designs and attempts against it; and finally, that by inspiring the enemy with dispositions favorable to a just and reasonable peace, its blessings may be speedily and happily restored.

Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, the sixteenth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, and of the Independence of the United States, the thirty-eighth.

JAMES MADISON.

## Proceedings of Congress.

The usual detail was neglected until too late for this paper—but the *history* of proceedings shall be compressed in our next. Not much business has been done, except to pass the loan bill and the act to authorise the fitting out of certain small armed vessels. The house have the bill to establish a national bank before them, on the principles to constitute which a great diversity of opinion exists—however, we rather believe it will pass pretty nearly as reported, with the addition of several other places where subscriptions shall be received.

See next article.

The senate have had before them bills for classing the militia, and authorising the president to call them out for the defence of the frontiers. They are interesting and may be inserted at length. They have had also before them a bill making further provision for filling the ranks of the army—which allows the enlistment of free persons above the age of 18 years without the consent of the parent, master, guardian, &c. in writing, provided masters of apprentices shall receive a certain portion of the bounty, &c. The 3d section increases the land bounty to 320 acres—the 4th provides that any person who shall according to law, furnish at his own expence a recruit for the army, to serve during the war, shall thereafter be exempt from militia duty; a motion to strike out the provision as to minors was lost—ayes 11—nays 21.

From yesterday's *National Intelligencer*.

THE NATIONAL BANK BILL.

After a very able debate, yesterday, the house of representatives decided, by an immense majority in favor of Mr. Calhoun's amendment. The effect of this vote is, supposing the bill to be further amended (as is probable) in conformity to the views expressed by Mr. Calhoun, to give to the bank bill the following features: the capital to be fifty millions; subscriptions to be opened monthly in certain proportions, the whole amount of subscription to be paid in at the time of subscribing—in the following proportions of specie and paper—six millions in specie, and forty-four millions in Treasury notes, hereafter to be issued in such proportions monthly as the bank will absorb; the United States to hold no stock in the bank, no control in its direction, nor any legal right to demand loans from the bank.

Thus amended, it is our belief the bill will pass the house of representatives. Its fate in the senate; with its present provisions, is perhaps questionable.

*Foreign Intelligence*.—The fate of Norway is still undecided.—In a great battle fought with the invading Swedes, 15,000 men are said to have been killed on both sides—in which side the victory was is not stated. Switzerland was in a very disturbed state.—Saxony is anxious for the restoration of her king, and is said to be encouraged in the notion by Austria, to thwart the designs of Prussia. Denmark appoints a member to the great congress at Vienna. The "emperor Napoleon" was about to establish a "court gazette" at Elba, &c. write his own life and a history of his times, &c. His wife, Maria Louisa, openly manifests her attachment to him, and an idea has gone abroad that Austria may enlarge the space of his empire. He has 1200 men under him at Elba, as a royal guard.—Zallegrand represents France at Vienna. The following placard was lately posted on one of the gates of the palais royal:—"An old fat hog, 8d twenty years in England, valued at Eighteen Louis, to be disposed of for One Napoleon." Belgium will possibly soon be the theatre of war—Wellington is there with a great force, and the Hanoverians were hastening to join him—France, we believe, will not give up these provinces, without another war. Austria has her war establishment complete—Bavaria is increasing her army, and the Hessians are up to their full complement—the king of Naples is organizing and increasing his army, as he says, to act against the *Barbary* powers; it appears quite plain that a new war is expected in Europe. The French are careful to protect their manufactures against their dear friends, the British, in every way. The pope has ordered the restoration of the feudal system, through his states. Charles IV has returned to Spain, and that country yet remains unsettled.

Rome, July 25.—The report still prevails that Parma, Modena and Guastalla, will be ceded to Bonaparte, and that in future he will reside on the continent. The public prints express the hope that this may be a mere rumor.

London dates to the 15th yet keep Lord Hill in England—it seems he waits for the result of the congress at Vienna.

Norfolk, Nov. 4. Four British prisoners, consisting of a midshipman and three men, belonging to the Madagascar frigate, capt. Doyle, were brought over from Hampton yesterday, and delivered into the custody of the marshal at this place. They were taken on board an eastern shore craft, captured by the enemy some days previous, and ordered to Faugier Island, but which grounded in passing Egg-Island Shoals. The skipper (who remained on board) watching a favorable opportunity jumped into the punt along side, and paddled for the shore but soon after returned with several armed men, who retook the vessel and made the crew prisoners.

New Bedford Oct. 28. Last evening arrived sehr. Clementine, from Dennis; about 10 o'clock yesterday morning, near Wood's hole, was boarded by a boat from the privateer Retaliation, with five men, who ordered the captain and crew, consisting of persons, to "pick up their duds and go ashore." While pretending to be complying with their orders, the crew of the Clementine watched a favorable opportunity, and each seized his man, and secured them, and have delivered them to the commandant of the garrison at Fairhaven.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 12 of VOL. VII.] BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1814. [WHOLE NO. 168.

*Hec olim meminisse juvabit.—VIRGIL.*

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## Legislature of Rhode-Island.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Tuesday, Nov. 1.* House met pursuant to adjournment, at 10 o'clock, A. M. and proceeded to elect the hon. James Burrill, jr. speaker and Thomas Burgess, esq. clerk.

At 12 o'clock, his excellency the governor, by his private secretary, Thomas Burgess, Esq. communicated the following message and accompanying documents.

*Gentlemen of the Senate, and*

*Gentlemen of the House of Representatives.*

We meet again with less sanguine hopes of the restoration of peace and prosperity than we indulged at the last session. All the flattering expectations induced by the meeting of ambassadors at Gheist have been disappointed, and we are to look forward to the longer continuance of an unhappy war. Though the original causes or pretexts of the war are now abandoned by our administration, and they are willing to make peace with Great Britain without requiring any stipulation on her part, on the subjects of blockade or impressment, yet peace cannot, in the opinion of our government, be restored on the terms proposed by the enemy. It is exclusively the province and the duty of the general government to decide on our foreign relations—they only can declare war or make peace, yet I may be permitted to express my regret that the negociation had not been permitted to proceed to such further length as to have ascertained with more precision the real pretensions and demands of England.

Present appearances forbidding us to anticipate the speedy restoration of those blessings which peace alone can restore, it becomes our duty to look at the actual state of things and to prepare for those exertions, privations and sufferings through which, in the righteous providence of God, we may be called to pass. You will perceive in the correspondence between the executive of this state, and the department of the general government, a continued exertion on our part to induce their attention to our exposed condition, and to prevail on them to extend to us that support and assistance which, by the terms of the national compact, and by every consideration of prudence, as well as justice, they were bound to have afforded; and you will as readily discover, on their part, repeated and continued delay, and finally an implicit refusal or an acknowledgement of their inability to comply with our requests. On the part of this state we have exhibited a constant readiness to conform to the views of the general government, and to co-operate with them, agreeably to the constitution, to the extent of our power, and it is not understood that the general government itself has discovered or complained of any unwillingness or reluctance in us; yet, notwithstanding our constant importunity and our readiness to act in concert with the officers of the United States, our requisitions are uncomplished with, and, so far as depended on the general government, our situation has continued as defenceless as at the commencement of the war.

You will perceive by the correspondence, that the government have, in fact refused to make the

necessary advances for expenses which their own officers have ordered and approved of, and that the utmost extent of the promise of the secretary at war is, that if we will advance the money, they will apply it to our defence.

In this unheard of and unforeseen condition of things, the general assembly are called on to make further arrangements for the defence of the state.

The larger states of course have more abundant means. In this state, which has paid, and continues, to pay, such immense sums into the national treasury, our means, by way of direct taxes owing to the very limited extent of our territory, must necessarily be much circumscribed. The taxes already in operation, and those proposed at this session, must draw from us a sum of money one half of which if applied to our own necessities, would increase, in a very respectable degree our means of defence. The direct tax on houses and lands alone, will undoubtedly exceed the sum of sixty nine thousand dollars, no part of which have we any assurance, is intended to be applied to the purposes of our particular defence.

But I forbear further to enumerate our grievances, our sufferings and dangers—the catalogue might be swelled to a frightful size, and instead of furnishing us with motives for exertion might sink us into despondency.

I shall always be ready to concur in every measure proposed by the general assembly for the defence of our native land, and our invaluable liberties, and, I trust the people, notwithstanding the extent of their losses, and the discouragement of the times, will be found worthy of their privileges and of their former prosperity. Having done all we can do, we must look for a blessing upon our arms and our cause to Him who alone ruleth among the nations of the earth.

In pursuance of the act passed at the last session, authorising me to borrow on the credit of the state, a sum not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, a loan has been opened at the several banks and proposals have been sent to different towns. The success of this measure has not fully equalled my hopes; a part only of the loan has been obtained, and a particular statement of its progress will be made out for your information in the course of the session.

In compliance with the resolutions on that subject, at a special session of the legislature in September, a draft has been made from the militia and chartered companies, to make up the states quota of five hundred men, under the requisition of the president of the United States of the 4th of March, and they are ordered into service accordingly—and the senior class will soon be organized agreeably to the laws passed for that purpose.

In addition to the ordnance already stationed at several points, field pieces have been provided for Little Compton, Tiverton, Warren, East Greenwich and North Kingstown, with some supplies of ordnance stores, and I have the satisfaction to acknowledge the receipt, from the United States, by the order of brigadier-general Cushing, of six field carriages for heavy cannon.

I have the pleasure of being able to inform you that at some late inspections and interviews of the militia which I have attended, I had the satisfaction

of finding an evident improvement in discipline, and particularly in the quality and good order of their arms. There is also a very commendable zeal and alacrity excited among the officers, and a corresponding emulation among the men. We may be permitted therefore to believe, that in case of an invasion, our militia will support the character for discipline and bravery which they acquired in the war of the revolution; and that, as they have now become almost our sole military dependence, they will not disappoint us in the hour of trial.

From the neglect and disregard of our wants which we have experienced from that quarter to which we naturally look for assistance, I have been induced, for the supply of some of the indispensable requisites for taking the field, to issue orders to the quarter-master and commissary-generals to make such preparations in their several departments as our scanty resources admit.

It is my duty particularly to mention the situation of the men belonging to the state corps. The neglect on the part of the United States, to make provision for the payment of their wages has reduced many of them to very distressing circumstances.—Some have families, and all will require a supply of clothing, without which it will be impossible they can do their duty through the approaching cold season.

On the 4th instant I was informed by the secretary of war, that general Swift would visit this state, to inspect the fortifications and to advise as to the erection of other works. General Swift has since arrived, and in company with him I have visited the shores at the head of the bay and Rhode Island and Tiverton, near the Stone Bridge. What further steps will be taken by the government in consequence of this measure, I have not been informed of. In some parts of the state the citizens have cheerfully volunteered their services in erecting batteries and field works, to a very considerable extent, and owing to their very meritorious exertions, additional security has been given to some important and exposed positions.

Under our great pecuniary embarrassments, the patriotic labor of the people was particularly acceptable, and deserves the approbation of the legislature.

I communicate for your more particular information, my correspondence with the secretary of war, and also with governor Strong and governor Smith, on the subject of mutual aid of the militia, in case of invasion.

I also lay before you a communication from gov. Strong, with several resolutions of the legislature of Massachusetts, which, from the importance of the subject, and the respectability of that state, claim, and will, I have no doubt, receive your early and serious attention.

I cannot close this communication without advertising to some of the many reasons which the people of this state have for gratitude and thankfulness to the Giver of all good, who in the midst of judgment has remembered mercy. By His goodness we have reaped of the fruits of the earth, our health and our lives have been preserved, and shores protected from invasion, and our laws and civil and religious liberties continued. WILLIAM JONES.

Providence, October 31, 1814.

DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANYING THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.  
Copy of a letter from his excellency governor Jones to the secretary at war, dated

Providence, September 23, 1814.

SIR—I take the liberty of asking your attention to the subject of the correspondence which took place early in July last, between general Armstrong, then secretary at war, and colonel Searle adjutant-general

of this state; colonel Searle having been sent by me to the seat of government to confer with the president of the United States upon the very exposed and defenceless situation of this state, received a written communication from the secretary dated July 9, stating the intentions of the government and the disposition already made, or contemplated, in relation to the defence of the state, and that among other things, six 6 pounders, on travelling carriages, would be forthwith sent us. These guns have not been received, and I have reason to believe have been detained at New-York, by order of general Lewis, under some mistake (as I presume) relative to their destination. I have to request, therefore, that the necessary orders may be expedited to have these guns sent on without delay. I am informed that the carriages are now ready for delivery, at Norwich, in Connecticut, in the hands of the commissary, M. Tracy.

I would ask your attention to our very exposed condition and unprepared state of defence in many respects, and the absolute necessity of our being furnished immediately with cannon, ammunition, tents and camp equipage. I have repeatedly had the honor of stating these deficiencies, and requesting a supply—and I hope no time will be lost in forwarding them here, or in placing such quantities at the disposition of general Cushing, that, on requisition being made, they may be seasonably supplied.

I have the honor to be, &c.

WILLIAM JONES.

Honorable secretary at war, Washington.

Copy of a letter from the secretary at war to his excellency governor Jones, dated

War Department, October 4, 1814.

SIR—Your letter of the — day of September, enclosing a copy of the proceedings of the town-meeting of Newport,\* is received. The just and patriotic sentiments expressed by your excellency, and which seem equally to animate your fellow-citizens, have been seen by the president with pleasure and approbation.

Notwithstanding the pressure on the government from all quarters, and the peculiar pressure of the enemy on this district, this department has not been inattentive to the situation of Rhode-Island, or unmindful of the very great importance of the harbor of Newport. A report has been just made by general Swift, which goes entirely to support the propriety of your opinion as to the necessity of fortifying those positions which command the passage from the island to the main. He himself will be ordered on to your state, and every possible effort will be made by the government to procure the necessary cannon and munitions of war.

From the present state of the treasury much dependence must be placed on the local authorities and the banks of your state to furnish temporarily those funds, which it will be necessary (for the U. States) to expend for their own immediate protection.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your obedient servant,  
JAS. MONROE.

His excellency William Jones.

Copy of a letter from his excellency governor Jones to the secretary at war, dated

Providence, October 3, 1814.

SIR—In consequence of the very exposed situation of this state, the sea coast and bay forming an extensive water line, on either side of which we are assailable at various points, and from the increasing danger of invasion, with the fatal consequences at-

\*The copy of proceedings here alluded to was not enclosed by his excellency.

tending such an event, in our present situation; I am induced to renew my application for a supply of cannon with other requisites necessary for the efficient operation thereof—with these we should be able, I am confident, to make a successful resistance—and without them, in the event of an attack, the most disastrous consequences are to be apprehended.

I am informed by general Cushing, to whom I have applied for the loan of cannon for our use, that there are none at his disposal—since which, from inquiry, I am advised from a source entitled to credit, that there are at Concord, in Massachusetts, forty pieces of 12 and 18 pound cannon, on travelling carriages, in complete order, with fixed ammunition, &c. These being of a description suitable for the protection of our assailable points, and not having it in our power to provide such, I am compelled earnestly to request (if not inconsistent with your other arrangements) that an order to the proper officer may be given, to deliver me, for the use of this state, fifteen or twenty pieces of 12 and 13 pound cannon, with the requisite munitions thereto.

I have the honor to be, &c.

WILLIAM JONES.

*Honorable James Monroe,  
secretary at war Washington.*

*Copy of a letter from the secretary at war to his excellency governor Jones, dated*

War Department, October 14, 1814.

Sir—Your excellency's letter of the 3d inst. has been received. The cannon referred to in your letter of September 23, have been ordered to Newport, and will be subject to such disposition as you may deem advisable.

General Cushing has authority and will make the necessary arrangements for supplying ammunition, tents and camp equipage.

The subject of fortifications on the sea-coast of Rhode Island has been referred to gen. Swift, chief of the engineer corps. He has been directed to repair to that quarter, to confer with your excellency, and report the necessary arrangements for additional defences.

No new works have been recently authorised except where the town or state requiring such works have loaned the money for that object. Should means be placed within the control of this department, an officer of engineers will be designated to superintend the fortifications, and the works immediately commenced. Should it be ascertained that there are disposable cannon at Concord, as you have been informed, arrangements will be made to sending them to Rhode Island with proper munitions.

JAMES MONROE.

*His excellency William Jones, Governor of Rhode-Island.*

P. S. Orders have been given to have sent to Rhode Island six 12 pounders and six 18's if they can be spared from Massachusetts.

*Copy of a letter from major-general Dearborn to his excellency governor Jones, dated*

Head-quarters, District No. 1, Boston, Oct. 20, 1814.

Sir—The secretary of war having informed me that your excellency had applied for the loan of some 12 and 18 pounders, and stated to him that you had understood that the United States had a considerable number of such pieces at Concord, in this state, it becomes my duty to state to your excellency, that there is no such ordnance belonging to the United States at Concord or at any other place in this state or New-Hampshire, excepting such pieces as are necessarily attached to the different fortresses, or have already been loaned for the use of the militia. It would afford me pleasure to have had it in my power to comply with the direction of the secretary

of war, to furnish the ordnance proposed, and it is with regret I find it impracticable to fulfil his intention.

I am, sir,

With due respect,

Your obedient humble servant,

H. DEARBORN.

*His excellency governor Jones.*

*Copy of a letter from his excellency governor Strong to his excellency governor Jones,*

Boston, October 17, 1814.

Sir—I am requested by the two houses of the general court of this commonwealth, to transmit to your excellency the enclosed letter, signed by the president of the senate and speaker of the house of representatives of this state, and also a copy of the resolutions to which the said letter refers, with a request that the same may be laid before the legislature of your state.

I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

CALEB STRONG.

*His excellency the governor of the State of Rhode-Island.*

Boston, October 17, 1814.

Sir—Your excellency will herewith receive certain resolutions of the legislature of Massachusetts, which you are respectfully requested to take the earliest occasion to lay before the legislature of your state, together with this letter, which is intended as an invitation to them to appoint delegates, if they shall deem it expedient, to meet such others as may be appointed by this and other states, at the time and place expressed in these resolutions.

The general objects of the proposed conference, are, first, to deliberate upon the dangers to which the eastern section of the union is exposed by the course of the war, and which there is too much reason to believe will thicken round them in its progress, and to devise, if practicable, means of security and defence which may be consistent with the preservation of their resources from total ruin, and adapted to their local situation, mutual relations and habits, and not repugnant to their obligations as members of the union. When convened for this object, which admits not of delay, it seems also expedient to submit to their consideration the inquiry, whether the interest of these states demand that persevering endeavors be used by each of them to procure such amendments to be effected in the national constitution as may secure to them equal advantages, and whether, if in their judgment this should be deemed impracticable under the existing provisions for amending that instrument, an experiment may be made without disadvantage to the nation for obtaining a convention from all the states in the union, or such of them as may approve of the measure, with a view to obtain such amendments.

It cannot be necessary to anticipate objections to the measure which may arise from jealousy or fear. This legislature is content, for its justification, to repose upon the purity of its own motives, and upon the known attachment of its constituents to the national union and to the rights and independence of their country.

We have the honor to be, with the highest respects, your excellency's humble servants,

JOHN PHILLIPS, *President of the senate of the commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

TIMOTHY HIGGELOW, *Speaker of the house of representatives of said commonwealth.*

*His excellency the governor of the State of Rhode Island.*

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Saturday, November 5.

The following report of the committee on the governor's message was read and received:

*The committee to whom were referred the message of his excellency the governor and the documents therewith communicated, ask leave to report upon so much thereof as relates to the important subjects brought into view by the communications received by his excellency from the secretary at war and from the governor, the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives of the state of Massachusetts—*

The legislature and the whole people of this state already but too well know how frequently and fruitlessly they have petitioned the federal government for some portion of those means of defence for which we have paid so dearly, and to which by the constitution we are so fully entitled. Our most pressing petitions and representations to the head and various departments of the general government have often gone unanswered, sometimes have been answered by unmeaning professions and promises never performed, but generally by telling us to protect ourselves. The result is, that at this moment we have fewer means of defence—less show of protection afforded by the government than we had ever at any period during a state of peace.

Directly after the war was commenced, the greater part of the United States' troops then in the forts of this state, were ordered to a service more interesting to the general government than our defence. All the troops, also, which have been enlisted by them during the war, within this state, and amounting to many hundreds, have been wanted for other purposes—although many of them were enlisted with an understanding that they were to serve near their families and for defence of their native state. The gun boat flotilla pretendedly kept in our harbors has in reality been employed to entrap unguarded citizens into a distant and unpropitious service. In a word, the whole United States' military force, stores and property within the state at this moment, instead of affording any means of defence, do but serve to increase our danger by offering a temptation to the enemy.

But while thus withdrawing from us all but the shadow of defence, and totally disregarding their duty and our just rights under the constitution; that government is constantly demanding and taking from us those resources and revenues which, by the constitution, we granted expressly to enable them to afford us that protection. More than fifty thousand dollars the secretary of the treasury states to have been already received into their treasury on taxes upon this state during the last year; besides some thousands retained as the pay of their assessors and collectors. The amount also, which they have drawn from this state in duties cannot be less, and we believe is much more, than half a million of dollars upon an average, annually, during the war. In addition to this, they have had from our banks and citizens some hundreds of thousands of dollars upon loans and treasury notes. A small part of all these funds drawn from us might, if prudently applied, have placed us in a state of security. It cannot be necessary for the committee to go into further detail: A full view of our situation is presented to us in the two last letters of the secretary at war. In one of them, making some general professions upon the subject of our defence, he adds, that "No new work has been recently authorized except when the town or state requiring such works have loaned the money for that object. Should means be placed within the control of this department, an officer

of engineers will be designated to superintend the fortifications, and the works immediately commenced." In his other letter, the secretary, after acknowledging our claims to defence, the importance of our harbors, and the necessity of further fortifications, and promising a supply of cannon and munitions of war, concludes in substance, as in his other letter, that "From the present state of the treasury much dependence must be placed on the local authorities of the banks of your state to furnish temporarily those funds which it will be necessary (for the United States) to expend for their own immediate protection." And where are our funds which the secretary thus pointedly takes care to inform us must be expended by the United States? Where are those funds? Have not the United States already got them, nearly to the uttermost farthing? We have paid punctually the heavy taxes imposed upon us by the government, and suffered them to draw into their treasury the large revenues granted by us only as the price of our defence. All these revenues, more than sufficient for our protection, they have received, not as a sacred trust to be constitutionally applied to that object, but as their rightful tribute, to be expended at their will. It has been expended in ruinous attempts to conquer the provinces of the enemy, who by these means has been brought to threaten and assail ourselves, and then we are told, "give us your funds and we will expend them for your own immediate protection—will build fortifications for you and supply you with cannon and munitions of war."

Another semblance of protection is held out to us. The secretary gives orders to the military prefect of the district to receive into service as many of our militia as his excellency the governor shall think proper to call out for the defence of the state.—Where are they to go, and what to do? without cannon, forts or the munitions of war, which the secretary tells us are absolutely necessary, but which he also plainly tells us cannot be furnished unless we supply the funds with which they are still to be purchased. Such has been the answer given to us as often as we have petitioned for defence. When the regular garrison troops were ordered away from the state, requisitions were made upon us to turn out our citizens to supply their places in the United States' forts and under their officers. Such unwarrantable and unconditional demands, being seriously opposed in this and other states, were for a time apparently abandoned; but in reality the government at that moment formed the design of compelling us by necessity, unconstitutionally to surrender our citizens as regular troops, to the command of such officers as they might appoint over them; and in order to bring us to this necessity, for a long period we were left without any other evidence of the existence of a president or government of the United States, than what we derived from the burthens imposed and the calamities brought upon us by them. And so perseveringly was this project against our rights pursued, that the president of the United States himself, in one of his public messages, openly, and with great chagrin, complained of the policy of the enemy in leaving this section of the country unassailed and unevaged. At length the design of bringing our militia under the command of minor United States' officers appeared to be relinquished, and intimations were given to one of our sister states, who had checked that design, that it was relinquished. But soon the same plan is discovered in another form. We are divided into military districts; and a kind of military prefect is placed over each, a military commander over states instead of troops. And to these military prefects, the president without any warrant from the constitution, imparts a portion of

his executive authority—creating thus an office unknown before and undefined. This plan seemed to promise better success. Owing to the worthy and respectable characters of the district commanders to whom this state is assigned, our chief magistrate, ever watchful and solicitous for our welfare and security, and with a view to conciliate and purchase the protection of government by any concessions not absolutely dangerous to our rights, has, with the advice of the council, allowed, as an act of his own, the state corps, and the drafted militia to be under the direction of a United States' colonel, stationed in Newport, although there are scarcely United States' troops enough under his command to form a single full company. Nor would there ever be any difficulty in co-operating for our defence, if designs hostile to our rights were not too palpably manifested. In another state, where the militia remonstrated against being put under the command of United States' officers, the chief magistrate was informed by the secretary at war that they could not be paid unless so surrendered. What! cannot the president issue his orders to officers of the militia, constitutionally appointed, as well as to officers of his own appointing over them, contrary to the constitution? The same secretary has given the answer—The president thinks it inconvenient and dangerous. Thus the great privilege which the states, in forming the constitution, would not trust to the new government they were about to create, and which they expressly retained and reserved to themselves, as their security against encroachments from that new and untried government—this same privilege the government we have created now informs us they consider to be dangerous and inconvenient.

We are not alone in these calamities. Our sister states of the south have been almost equally oppressed and abused.—They are beginning to assert their rights; and with us they will never suffer our common rights, under the constitution to be prostrated by a government we have ourselves created. Why should we dwell longer upon the unwarrantable treatment we receive—the unconstitutional attempts upon our constitutional rights.—Our condition is stripped of all doubt and uncertainty. Our chief resources have been and still are to be taken as tribute: but for our defence we are to look to ourselves.

Placed in this situation, the general assembly did, at their last session, unanimously request the governor to communicate with the executives of our neighbouring states upon the subject of our common defence—proffering ours and requesting their co-operation in this object. Those states feeling equally with us in the common misfortunes, and the necessity of united exertions, have reciprocated our proffers of mutual assistance, and have invited us to appoint delegates, to meet those appointed by them, to confer upon our defenceless and calamitous situation, and to devise and recommend wise and prudent measures for our relief.

The committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution.

*State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations.*

In general assembly, October session, A. D. 1814.

WHEREAS this general assembly, having long witnessed, with regret and anxiety, the defenceless situation of this state, did, at their last session, request his excellency the governor to communicate with the executives of our neighboring sister states upon the subject of our common defence by our mutual co-operation; and whereas those states, feeling equally with us the common misfortunes, and the necessity of united exertions, have appointed, and invited us to appoint, delegates to meet and confer upon our calamitous situation, and to devise and re-

commend wise and prudent measures for our common relief:

*Resolved*, That this general assembly will appoint four delegates from their state, to meet at Hartford, in the state of Connecticut, on the 15th day of December next, and confer with such delegates as are or shall be appointed by other states upon the common dangers to which these states are exposed, upon the best means of co-operating for our mutual defence against the enemy, and upon the measures which it may be in the power of said states, consistently with their obligations to adopt, to restore and secure to the people thereof, their rights and privileges under the constitution of the United States.

B. HAZARD.—*For the committee.*  
On the question, shall the resolution above recited be adopted and passed, the yeas and nays were called and ordered to be entered upon the journals of the house—yeas 39, nays, 23.

*Daniel Lyman, Samuel Ward, Benjamin Hazard, and Edward Manson, Esqrs.* were appointed delegates to attend the Hartford convention.

A protest was presented against the resolution to appoint delegates to the Hartford convention, by those who voted against the resolution. It was decided not to enter it on the journals of the house on account of its indecorous language and foul aspersions on the motives of the majority.

[This protest, so complained of, shall appear in the REGISTER, though the house refused its insertion in their journal.]

An act granting pay to the state troops called out by gen. Stanton, passed.

C. G. Champlin, Esq. was elected a member of the council of war, in the place of Benj. Ruggles, Esq. resigned.

A resolution passed authorizing the governor to procure clothing for the soldiers in the state service.

The business of the session being completed, the legislature adjourned to the third Monday of February next, when they will convene at East Greenwich.

## Proceedings of Congress.

IN SENATE

*Saturday, November 5.* Mr. Giles, from the committee on military affairs, reported the following bill, which was read and passed to a second reading.

A bill to authorise the president of the United States to call upon the several states and territories thereof, for their respective quotas of thousand militia, for the defence of the frontiers of the United States.

*Be it enacted, &c.* That the president of the United States be, and he is hereby authorised and required to call upon the several states and territories thereof, for their respective quotas of thousand militia, to serve for the term of two years, from the time of meeting at the place of rendezvous, unless sooner discharged, that is to say:

From New-Hampshire, thousand:

From Massachusetts, &c.

Sec 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the whole number of militia of each state and territory, shall be divided into classes, in such manner, as that one man from each class, shall, in the whole, amount as nearly as may be, to the number required from such state or territory; and after such classification, each class shall furnish, by draft or by contract, one effective able bodied man, to serve in the militia for the term of two years as aforesaid, unless sooner discharged. Provided nevertheless, That if any state or territory shall, within months after the passage of this act, raise its quota of militia, or any

part thereof required by this act, in any other manner, for an equal or longer term of service, the same shall be received into the service of the United States in substitution of the same number of the militia called for by this act, and in that case, the draft shall so far cease to take effect. And the draft shall also cease to take effect in every case in which any class shall furnish a militiaman by contract as aforesaid.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be lawful for the president of the United States to issue his orders to such officers of the militia as he may think proper, to divide the whole militia of each state and territory into classes, and to make drafts therefrom according to the provisions of the 2d section of this act. And for the purpose of equalizing, as much as possible, the contributions of the respective classes, in all cases, where any class shall furnish a militiaman by contract, it shall be the duty of such militia officer or officers, in laying off the respective districts comprehending each class, to apportion the same, as nearly as possible, according to the value of property, and the number of militiamen subject to draft within each district.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act, with equality and justice to all descriptions of the militia, it shall be the duty of every officer commanding a company of infantry, to enter upon his muster-roll every person subject to militia duty within the beat or district comprehending his company, whether of artillery, cavalry, grenadiers, light infantry, volunteers, or by whatever other denomination distinguished, including all non-commissioned officers and musicians; which muster-roll he shall make out on oath, and return to the officer commanding the battalion or regiment to which he belongs; whereupon all the militia of every description, entered upon such muster-roll, shall, in like manner, be subject to classification for the purpose of draft, or contribution required by this act; and in all cases of making the draft, where the person drafted shall heretofore have faithfully performed any tour of duty in the militia since the commencement of the war, either as a volunteer or drafted militiaman, whether upon the requisition of the United States, or of any state or territory, he shall be entitled to a deduction for the whole of his former term of service, as aforesaid, from the term of service required by this act; and it shall be the duty of the officer making such draft, at such time, to make a true and faithful report to the department of war of all persons drafted by him, who shall previously have performed a tour of service as aforesaid, specifying the nature and duration of such service; whereupon it shall be the duty of the secretary for the department of war to cause discharges to be granted to all such persons, according to the principles of the aforesaid provisions.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the president of the United States be and he is hereby authorised and required to organize the militia of each state and territory, called forth in virtue of this act, into divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions, and companies, as the numbers from each state and territory shall render necessary and proper, conformably to the laws and regulations respecting the military establishment of the United States; and it shall be lawful for the proper authority of each state and territory to appoint and commission all officers which may be required to complete such organization.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That every officer, non-commissioned officer, or private, of the militia, who shall fail to obey the orders of the presi-

dent of the United States in carrying into effect any of the provisions of this act, shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding—years pay, nor less than—months pay, and such officer shall, moreover be liable to be cashiered by sentence of a court martial, and be incapacitated from holding a commission in the militia for a term not exceeding—at the discretion of the said court; and such non-commissioned officer and private shall be liable to be imprisoned, by a like sentence, on failure to pay the fines adjudged against them being respectively for one calendar month for every 5 dollars of such fine.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the militia while employed in the service of the U. States in virtue of this act, shall not be compelled to serve beyond the limits of the United States, nor beyond the limits of the state or territory furnishing the same, and the limits of the adjoining state or territory; except that the militia from Kentucky and Tennessee may be required to serve in the defence, and for the protection of Louisiana.

Sec. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the militia aforesaid, whilst in the service of the United States, shall be subject to the same rules and articles of war, as the troops of the United States; and in like manner, shall be allowed the same pay, clothing, rations and forage; and entitled to the same privileges and immunities, in all respects, as the troops of the U. States.

Sec. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That after the classification of the militia as aforesaid, any three classes within any state or territory, which shall furnish according to law, two effective able-bodied recruits, to serve in the army of the United States during the war, shall thereafter be exempt from the militia service required by this act; and to aid them in this respect, such recruits shall be entitled, respectively, to receive the bounty in money and land, which is allowed to other recruits respectively for the army of the United States; and in all cases where recruits shall be furnished as aforesaid, the same shall be delivered to some recruiting officer in the service of the United States, who shall immediately give his receipt therefor, on account of the classes furnishing them, and shall forthwith report the same to the department of war, specifying in such report, the names and description of such recruit, respectively, and the description of the classes of the militia furnishing the same; whereupon it shall be the duty of the secretary of the department of war, to grant, without delay, to such classes, a certificate of exemption from the militia service required by this act; which certificate shall, to all intents and purposes, be good and available to them for their absolute exemption therefrom.

Sec. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That in case the recruits furnished under the provisions of this act, in addition to the recruits now authorised by law, should amount, in the whole, to a greater number than sufficient to fill the present military establishment, it shall be lawful for the president of the United States to receive such recruits into the service of the United States, notwithstanding such excess; and to form them into regiments, battalions, and companies, as the numbers, of such excess may render necessary, conformably to the regulations of the present military establishment; and the president of the United States is hereby authorised and required to nominate, and by and with the advice of the senate, appoint as many officers to command such recruits as may be necessary for the purpose, conforming in all respects to the laws and regulations respecting the organization of the present military establishment, and the appointment and relative rank of officers therein. And the officers hereby au-



advised to be appointed, shall be placed on the same footing in all respects, with the officers of the same grade in the present military establishment.

[On Saturday last, this bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.]

Thursday, November 10.—The senate were engaged nearly the whole day in the discussion of the bill making further provision for filling the ranks of the army of the United States.

[The first section of this bill provides that recruiting officers shall be authorized to enlist into the army of the United States any free, effective, able-bodied man between the ages of eighteen and fifty years.

The second section respects so much of former acts as requires the consent in writing of the parent, master or guardian, to authorize the enlistment of persons under twenty-one years of age, provided masters of apprentices who enlist shall receive a certain portion of the bounty money, &c.

The third section allows to future recruits three hundred and twenty acres of land, in lieu of the land bounty now allowed by law.

The fourth section provides "that any person subject to militia duty, who shall, according to law, furnish a recruit for the army, at his own expense, to serve during the war, shall thereafter be exempt from militia duty during the war." (See Sec.)

The question now depending in the senate is on a motion, by Mr. Dana, to strike out the vital part of the second section as above described.

[The motion to strike out, was lost on a subsequent day.] It is believed the bill will pass the senate without material amendment.

The following bill was also reported to the senate, on the 8th inst. by Mr. Worthington, chairman of the militia committee. A bill further in addition to the act, entitled "An act more effectually to provide for the national defence by establishing a uniform militia throughout the United States."

*Be it enacted, &c.* That in addition to the officers directed to be enrolled by the first section of an act, entitled "An act more effectually to provide for the national defence by establishing a uniform militia throughout the United States," each and every free, able-bodied, white, male citizen of the United States, and the territories thereof, who is or shall be between the ages of sixteen and fifty years, shall severally and respectively be immediately enrolled in the militia, by the captain or commanding officer of the company within whose bounds such citizen shall reside, and when enrolled and notified according to law, shall be bound to arm and equip himself, and to do and perform all the duties, and be subject to all the penalties in cases of neglect, as now are, or shall hereafter be, provided for by law; but the government of the militia of the United States, except that such citizen shall not be subject to be drafted into the actual service of the United States while he remains under the age of eighteen years.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That each and every free, able-bodied, white, male citizen of the United States and territories thereof, of the age of sixteen years, and under the age of forty-five, who by the laws of the United States or any other state or territory thereof, have been exempted from common training for the purpose of discipline, or from militia duty generally, whether free, able-bodied, white, male citizen, of the age of forty-five years, and under the age of fifty years, except officers of the gospel, shall be immediately enrolled in the militia by the captain or commanding officer of the company within whose bounds such citizen shall reside, and when so enrolled and notified according to law, such citizen shall be bound to arm and equip himself, and to do and perform all the duties, and be subject to all the penalties in cases of neglect, as now are, or shall hereafter be, provided for by law; but the government of the militia of the United States, except that such citizen shall not be subject to attend the training of militia for discipline.

Thursday, November 10.—The senate having resumed the consideration of the bill to authorize the president of the United States to call upon the several states and territories thereof, for their respective quotas of eighty thousand, four thousand and thirty militia, for the defence of the frontiers of the United States.

Mr. Gore of Mass. moved that the bill be referred back to the committee who reported it, with the following amendment:

That the committee be instructed to so modify the bill, that it shall provide for calling into the service of the United States from time to time, in execution of the provisions of the constitution, and according to the mode heretofore practiced, thousand militia, to serve for terms not exceeding six months, with an option to the several states, in lieu of such detachments of militia, to raise and furnish for the service of the United States, for the term of two years unless sooner discharged, bodies of state troops, equal in number to their respective quotas of militia; such state troops to be organized and armed and equipped according to law, their officers to be appointed by the respective states, their services to be limited within the states in which they shall be raised, or within an adjoining state, to be subject to the rules and articles of war, and to receive the same pay, clothing, rations and forage, and to be entitled to the same privileges and immunities as the troops of the United States.

After a long debate, the question on this motion was negatived by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Daggert, Dana, Gaillard, German, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, Lambert, Mason, Thompson, Vanuun—14.

NAYS—Messrs. Bibb, Bledsoe, Brent, Brown, Chase, Condit, Frazier, Giles, Lacey, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Smith, Tilt, Taylor, Turner, Walker, Wharton, Worthington—5.

The question on the final passage of the bill was then decided as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Bibb of Geo. Bledsoe, Brent, Brown, Chase, Condit, Frazier, Gallard, Giles, Lacey, Morrow, Roberts, Smith, Tilt, Taylor, Turner, Walker, Wharton, Worthington—19.

NAYS—Messrs. Anderson, Daggert, Dana, German, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, Lambert, Mason, Thompson, Vanuun—12.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Thursday, Nov. 10. Mr. Calhoun offered for consideration the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the committee on military affairs be directed to enquire into the expediency of changing the present mode of supplying the army by contracts to some other better calculated for a state of war, and that they lay before to report by bill or otherwise.

Resolved, That the secretary of war be directed to inform the house whether the army of the United States is trained by any one uniform system of discipline; and if not, what are the causes which have prevented it.

Mr. Calhoun said it was not necessary to state to the house, that next to having an army, to have it well equipped and well trained was an object of the greatest importance. He had been informed, from a source to be relied on, that the present mode of supplying the army, whilst it subjected the public to expensiveness by the contractors, was frequently on great emergencies found wholly inefficient. One of the most important enterprises in the south would have failed in consequence of the deficiency of the contractor, had not the difficulty been overcome by the great energy of the commanding general on that occasion. There was, he had also understood, a variance in the discipline of the army, in consequence of five or six different systems employed in the training of the army. So great was the variance, that no large body of our army, Brown's command perhaps excepted, could be properly exercised together.

The resolutions were agreed to.

The bill to authorize the secretary of state, during the present war, to make an additional allowance to masters of vessels for bringing home sick and distressed American seamen, was read a third time, passed and sent to the senate.

Mr. Fiske, by general consent, made a report from the committee of ways and means on the amendment proposed by the senate to the three million loan bill. [This amendment proposed to allow to pay the interest and gradually redeem the principal of this loan, a portion of the internal duties now existing, or to be hereafter imposed.] The committee of ways and means recommended a disagreement to this amendment of the senate.

The same dissent of the senate was disagreed to without a division on the consideration, that the committee of ways and means had before them the propriety of establishing a sinking fund, to place all the public debt on the same basis, &c.

Friday, Nov. 15. Mr. Fiske reported a bill to provide additional revenue for defraying the public credit, by laying duties on sales at auction, on the postage of letters, on licenses to retailers of wine, spirituous liquors and foreign merchandise, on earnings for the convenience of persons and on placed harness; which was referred and committed.

The speaker laid before the house a report from the war department, stating, that few or no material papers were lost, during the late invasion of the enemy.

A message was received from the senate insisting on their amendment to the three million loan bill, and inviting a conference. On motion of Mr. Fiske, the house insisted on their disagreement, and accepted the invitation of the senate to a conference.

The order of the day on the bill making further provision "for filling the ranks of the regular army by classifying the free male population of the United States" having been called over— (The consideration of the bill was postponed until Tuesday next, as the senate had before them a bill for similar purposes.)

Mr. Harris, submitted for consideration the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee of ways and means be instructed to enquire into the expediency of providing by law that any kind of money which may be paid by the government to the troops in the service of the United States, for military services, shall be receivable in payment from the people for their taxes.

This resolution was referred as proposed. Mr. H. brought forward on account of certain payments made to the militia of Tennessee in Chitticoke bank notes, which the tax gatherers were not authorized to receive in payment, and on which the people had to lose 10 per cent. of their amount to get off.

Mr. Dickson, from the committee of concurrence on the disagreement of votes of the two houses relative to the bill authorizing the purchase or building of and more than 20 small armed vessels, made a report recommending the house to strike out the words "twenty guns and insert sixteen; so as that the vessels to be built or purchased, shall not carry less than 8 nor more than 16 guns.

The proposition was agreed to, and the bill has passed both houses.

Saturday, Nov. 12. Mr. Hall of Geo. submitted for consideration the following resolutions:

1. That the committee of ways and means be directed to enquire into the expediency of authorizing the secretary of the treasury to issue notes, convenient for circulation, to the amount of millions of dollars, under such checks as may be thought best calculated to detect counterfeitists in which alone, and gold and silver, shall all taxes, duties, imposts, or debts due or which may hereafter become due to the U. S. be paid.

2. That the treasury notes which may be issued as aforesaid shall be a legal tender in all debts due or which may hereafter become due between citizens of the United States, or between citizens of one state, or a citizen and subject of any foreign state or power.

3. That the secretary of war, under direction of the president, shall cause to be purchased in each state and territory, and in each collection district thereof, as nearly as circumstances will permit, supplies for the army and navy of the United States, to the amount of the taxes to be collected from each state, territory or collection district.

4. That any individual, or body politic, or corporate, at the expiration of twelve months from the date of the treasury notes by them held, and annually thereafter, may fund the same, and receive in lieu thereof, 6 per cent. stock.

5. That, after paying the annual amount of principal and interest of the existing public debt, and the interest which may accrue on the stock to be created by funding the treasury notes to be issued by the secretary of the treasury, the whole amount of taxes, duties, imposts, and sales of public lands, may be pledged for the redemption of the notes which may remain in circulation.

Upon each of these resolutions, Mr. H. made a number of remarks. He said they embraced, together, a system he verily believed was the only one which would relieve the United States from their present difficulty, and support the public credit in future. The want of a circulating medium was generally felt, and indeed without it the people in the interior would be unable to pay their taxes, deprived as they were of a market for their surplus produce. Bank paper of one section of the country was in a state of depreciation in another, and unless some medium of general credit was immediately established, incalculable evils would result, &c.

The question on consideration of these resolves was taken separately, at the instance of Mr. Oakley.

The house agreed to consider the 1st, 3d, 4th, and 5th, but refused to consider the second, by the following vote, as taken by yeas and nays.

For considering it	42
Against it	95

After some remarks from Mr. Gaston to which Mr. Hall replied, the resolutions were laid on the table.

A bill was received from the senate, entitled "an act making further provisions for filling the ranks of the army of the United States." This bill was twice read and referred to the same committee of the whole house, to whom it committed the classification bill of this house.

Mr. McKim of Md. offered for consideration the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the committee of ways and means be directed to enquire into the expediency of imposing a duty on all goods and merchandise imported into the United States, which under existing laws may be admitted to entry free of duty.

Mr. McKim said the resolution would explain itself, and he would only add, that it presented a mode of bringing a small amount of duty into the treasury without any inconvenience to the public. The resolve was agreed to.

Mr. Eppes made the following report from the committee of coinage.

"The managers on the part of the senate and on the part of the house of representatives at the conference on the amendments of the senate disagreed to by the house of representatives to the bill entitled "an act to authorize a loan for a sum not exceeding three millions of dollars," report, that the senate do recede from their amendments to the said bill, except so much thereof as strikes out the last clause of the 5th section, and do agree as a substitute therefor to the two following sections, &c.

"Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That in addition to the annual sum of eight millions of dollars heretofore appropriated to the sinking fund, mortgage and permanent funds shall, during the present session of congress, be provided and appropriated for the payment of the interest and reimbursement of the principal of said stock created by this act.

"Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That an adequate and permanent sinking fund gradually to reduce and eventually to extinguish the public debt contracted and to be contracted during the present war, shall also be established during the present session of congress.

The report having been read, it was on motion of Mr. Eppes, ordered to lie on the table, until the bill should be returned from the Senate. It was subsequently taken up, and the report agreed to.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill to establish a national bank—which being read through, the committee rose and reported progress, &c. and the house adjourned.

*Monday, Nov. 14.* Mr. Troup from the committee on military affairs, reported a bill to authorize a donation in land, to persons in the military or naval service of the enemy, who shall come within the limits, and claim the protection of the government of the United States. Twice read and committed.

After some other business, the house went into committee of the whole on the bill to establish a national bank—and the first section being read (which goes to establish the bank, appoint the commissioners to receive subscriptions, and regulate their conduct, &c.) Mr. Fisk gave the reasons of the committee why they had confined the books of subscription to a few cities and towns\* which was because they were supposed to be the chief depositories of specie and sanguinous wealth, &c. Mr. Sharp moved to add Lexington, Ky. Mr. Robertson proposed New Orleans—and they were added and commissioners thereat appointed—as were also Nashville, Washington city, Raleigh, Savannah, New Brunswick, N. J. Uden, N. Y. Portsmouth, N. H. Hallowell, Me.—and "Pittsburg" was stricken out and *Chillicothe* inserted in its place. Mr. Lewis then moved that the principal bank be at Washington city, instead of Phila-

delphia, as proposed in the bill—negotiated, only 36 rising in favor of it. Mr. Gaston after a speech of considerable length, favorable to the establishment of a national bank, but not upon the plan proposed, moved to strike out "filthy" nations for the capital and inert

*Monday.* *Condit* moved to reduce the shares to 100 dollars each, rejected, only 36 rising in favor of the proposition. The 2d section of the bill was then read, a considerable diversity of opinion was manifested, of little importance to the real merits of the business, and after some time indulged in expressing them, the committee rose after a session of five hours, reported progress and the house adjourned.

*Tuesday, Nov. 15.* Mr. Eppes offered the following resolution. *Resolved*, That the committee on military affairs be instructed to enquire into the expediency of authorising the secretary of war, on the application of the commanding officer of any detachment of the militia, to furnish the necessary clothing to such of the private soldiers of the militia as may require it, and to deduct the same from their pay. The motion was agreed to.

*Wednesday, Nov. 16.* Mr. Troup from the committee of military affairs, reported that there was no occasion for any provision in respect to furnishing the militia with clothing, as contemplated by the resolve adopted yesterday—such a provision being already in existence.

After some other business, the consideration of the bill to establish a national bank, was taken up in committee of the whole.

Mr. Calhoun, then in a very ingenuous and elaborate speech (as observes the National Intelligencer) common justice to which requires it to be published at full length, laid before the house his views on this subject, and the reasons why he should propose a total change in the features of the bill. The motion he now made was one of limited character, but such a one as he proposed to follow up other amendments, or by distinct legislative provisions, which should together embrace a plan of which the following is a brief outline: The capital of the bank, remaining unchanged at fifty millions, the payments of subscriptions to this capital stock to be made in the proportion of one-tenth in specie (which he afterwards varied to six-fifteenths) and the remainder in specie, or in treasury notes to be hereafter issued; subscriptions to be opened monthly in the three last days of each month, beginning with January next, for certain proportions of the stock until the whole is subscribed—payment to be made at the time of subscribing; the shares to consist of one hundred instead of five hundred dollars each; the United States to hold no stock in the bank, nor any agency in its disposal, nor control over its operations, nor right to suspend specie payments. The amount of treasury notes to be subscribed, viz. fifteen millions of the amount to be placed in the hands of the agents, appointed for the purpose, or in the hands of the present commissioners of the sinking fund, to go into the stock market, to convert the treasury notes into stock; another sum, say five millions, to be applied to the redemption of the treasury notes becoming due at the commencement of the ensuing year; the remaining twenty millions he proposed to throw into circulation as widely as possible. They might be issued in such proportions monthly as to be absorbed by the subscriptions to the bank at the end of each month, &c. This operation, he presumed, would raise the value of treasury notes perhaps 20 or 30 per cent. above par, being the value of the privilege of taking the bank stock, and thus afford at the same time a bonus and an indirect loan to the government; making unnecessary any loan by the bank until its extended circulation of paper shall enable it to make a loan which shall be advantageous to the United States. The treasury notes to be issued to be redeemable in stock at 6 per cent. disposable by the bank at its pleasure, and without the sanction of government; to whom neither is the bank to be compelled to loan any money. This, it is believed, is, in a few words, a fair statement of the *project* of Mr. Calhoun, which he supported by a variety of explanations of its operations, &c. the merits of the bank, when in operation, to be received exclusively in the payment of all taxes, duties, and debts to the United States.

The operation of this combined plan, Mr. C. conceived, would be to afford, 1. Relief from the immediate pressure on the treasury; 2. A permanent elevation of the public credit; and, 3. A permanent and safe circulating medium of general credit. The bank should go into operation, he proposed, in April next. He concluded his exposition by a motion, the effect of which is to deprive the United States of any share in the stock of the bank, and to change the proportions of specie and paper in which it shall be payable to one-sixth in specie, and nine-tenths in treasury notes.

The house of representatives have been occupied up to Thursday, Nov. 23, inclusive, in discussing the bill to establish a national bank, except as noticed below. The detail is tedious, and of very little interest to the majority of our readers. It is not yet settled, but it appears probable that Mr. Calhoun's amendments without essential alteration, will prevail. Some notice of the yeas and nays, for reference sake, may be taken hereafter. On Monday, Nov. 21.—The committee to whom was referred the enquiry as to the expediency of repairing the public buildings at Washington, destroyed by the enemy, reported favorably, and offered a bill for that purpose which was twice read and committed. It appears from the report of the committee, that the whole first cost of the buildings injured by the enemy was

\*Note—Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Richmond, Charleston and Pittsburg.

\$1,215,110 10; and that the same, averaging several estimates, may be repaired for 438,000—the capital for \$250,000.

*Thursday, Nov. 23.* A message was received from the senate announcing their passage of the bill "to authorise the president of the United States to call on the several states and territories for their respective quotas of 89,430 militia for the defence of the frontiers of the United States; which bill was twice read and committed to the same committee of the whole to whom was referred the bill for filling the ranks of the regular army, by the classification of the free male population of the United States.

The following report was received from the secretary of war:

*War Department, Nov. 22, 1814.*

The secretary of war, to whom was referred the resolutions of the house of representatives of the 10th inst. requesting information whether the army of the United States was trained by any uniform system of discipline, and, if not, what were the causes that have prevented it, and whether any legislative provision was necessary to effect the same, has the honor to report—

1. That no uniform system of discipline has heretofore been practised in training the armies of the United States, either in line, by battalion or company.

2. That in the opinion of the secretary of war, it would be advisable to institute a board of general and field officers, to digest and report to this department a system of discipline for the army of the United States, which report, when approved by the president of the United States should be carried into immediate effect under the orders of this department.

3. That the sanction of congress, by a resolution of the senate and house of representatives, to this measure, if not absolutely necessary, in consideration of the powers already vested in this department by law, would nevertheless have a very salutary effect.

JAMES MUNROE.

Hon. Speaker of the

House of Representatives.

The report was, on motion of Mr. Calhoun, referred to a select committee.

After which the bill to establish the bank was again taken up, but the secretary of the senate being introduced, announced the decease of the Vice President of the U. S. with the resolve inserted below, in which the house unanimously concurred, and appointed a committee accordingly.

IN SENATE—*Wednesday Nov. 23*—About the hour of meeting, a report having reached the senate chamber of the death of the vice president of the United States, the members from Massachusetts, Mr. Varnum and Mr. Gore, proceeded to his lodgings to ascertain the fact; and on their return, having announced the fact to the senate, the following proceeding took place, on motion of Mr. Bledsoe.

The senate, being informed of the death of their distinguished fellow-citizen ELBRIDGE GERRY, Vice President of the United States.

*Do resolve,* That a committee be appointed, jointly with such committee as may be appointed, on the part of the house of representatives, to consider and report measures most proper to manifest the public respect for the memory of the deceased, and expressive of the deep regret of the congress of the U. States for the loss of a citizen so highly respected and revered.

Ordered, That Mr. Gore, Mr. Varnum, Mr. Smith, Mr. Anderson and Mr. Gaillard be a committee.

On motion of Mr. Bledsoe, ordered, that the secre-

tary inform the house of representatives of the decease of the Vice President of the U. States, and communicate the foregoing resolution.

## "New England Convention."

No. I.

"DISCOURTENANCING WHATEVER MAY SUGGEST EVER  
"A SUSPICION THAT IT [THE UNION] CAN IN ANY  
"EVENT BE ABANDONED; AND INDIGNANTLY FROWN-  
"ING UPON THE FIRST DAWNING OF EVERY ATTEMPT  
"TO ALIENATE ANY PORTION OF OUR COUNTRY FROM  
"THE REST, OR TO ENFEBLE THE SACRED TIES  
"WHICH NOW LINK TOGETHER THE VARIOUS PARTS."  
WASHINGTON.

"Should the congress possess spirit and independence enough to place their popularity in jeopardy by so strong a measure, [as to declare war,] the legislature of *Massachusetts* will give the tone to the neighboring states; will declare itself permanent, until a new election; *invite a congress of delegates* from the federal states, and create a *separate government* for their common defence and common interests."

JOHN HENRY.

If any man had really doubted what JOHN HENRY stated, as to the design of *Great Britain* to effect a separation of these states, or of the *willingness* of her jacobins at *Boston* and some other places to engage in the plan—the late proceedings in the legislature of *Massachusetts*, with the spirit of the press and general tone of observation and remark in that quarter, must convince him that the emissary told the truth, as far as he went, and inspire a confidence that he might have disclosed *particulars* of more immediate importance. It would be well for the readers of the REGISTER to turn to Vol. II. page 19, and give an attentive perusal to his discourses, and compare his movements with things that transpire.

The *madness* of these jacobins shews the superior power of *ambition* to *avarice*, even in a class of person, who, as the *Dutch* merchant said, "would scorch their sails by trading with hell, to make a penny." For, however depraved I may believe them to be, I have a better opinion of their intellect than to suppose they possess an idea, that *Massachusetts*, or, the "nation of New England"\* if they please would be *benefitted* by the revolution they aim at. They know it would produce POVERTY, MISERY AND SLAVERY to the people. But what are these, provided the *elect*, the "*legitimate*," have office, and power and emolument, and "ARE CALLED OF MEN RABBI?" So anxious are they to rule, that they seem rather willing to be *dog-whippers* [pardon the (*low*) words, reader, they suit my idea of them] to king *George*, than private citizens of the freest, most enlightened and happiest country in the world.

\*On several occasions of public rejoicing, they have fired *five* guns, as a national, or *New England*, salute. A thousand other incidents, with the general scope of their writers, point to the same thing.

†That a revolution is *designed* is beyond all doubt. A few, some half-a-dozen of the leaders may have other objects, but the bulk of the jacobins look to it as the result of their proceedings. The *Boston Centinel*, of the 9th inst. noticing the appointment of delegates by *Connecticut* and *Rhode Island*, says they are the second and third "*pillars of a new federal edifice*." However, this "edifice" is likely to be nothing more than a *three legged stool*. *New-Hampshire* has neglected, and *Fermont* refused to come under it.

The people at large have little idea of the perfect degeneracy of the British jacobins at *Boston*. The following incident is so completely characteristic of it that I cannot refuse to insert it:—A respectable merchant of *Baltimore* proceeded to *Boston*, twelve or eighteen months ago, on important business, which he was anxiously engaged to settle with the least possible delay. He was often assailed on political subjects, which he avoided discussing, observing that he came to do business; when his mind was relieved of that, if he had leisure, he would talk with them on politics as long as they pleased. Well, said they, *but what are your's*? "A merchant," affecting not to understand their allusion: "yes—yes—but what are your politics?" "That of an *American*," said the merchant. "It is then as we suspected; you are a d—d democrat," said the "moral and religious" jacobins of *Boston*. The *Baltimorean*, on this, observed, he had not the least objection to be considered a "democrat," but that the qualifying term should not be applied to him. He was "understood," and the word was as meanly apologized for as it had been impudently used.

As I observed on a former occasion, there is nothing in my nature that has affinity, moral or social, with these jacobins that lead the people to ruin. I consider them as sold to *ambition* and the *envy*; irreclaimable, and not worth the trouble, if they could be reclaimed. But the body that follows the knot of knaves, through the *pride of political opinion*, and mistaken idea of *sticking to their party*, is loathsome; and no reasonable effort should be left untried to deceive them and bring them to a pause. This body is the *federalists* of the eastern states; real disciples of *Washington*, and sincere friends to their country; who, by all the various means of faction, have went on step by step until they have nearly arrived at the precipice where destruction waits.

Let it be perfectly understood, that I no more admit the jacobins alluded to to be *federalists*, than to aver that *Mary Ann Clark* is a *virgin*. I consider the *faction* and the *lady* as "common sewers" of pollution; and a *federalist*—*unless a man attached to the constitution of the United States*—cannot be more justly offended with my remarks upon them (the said jacobins) than a modest woman ought to be, if I called that infamous creature a strumpet. There is, intrinsically, as much difference between the one as the other.

I also wish it understood, that, while I would guard against it, I do not apprehend any serious result from the proposed meeting at *Hartford*, other than the aid and encouragement it may give to the enemy. *New Hampshire* stands aloof; *Vermont* has absolutely refused; *Connecticut* has restricted her delegates, and the great state of *New York* has taken a stand that says, "thus far shall thou go and no further." It may be well here to remark, that some time ago, (from two to three years) a person that seems destined for the *Robespierre* of *New-England*, if the plans of his brethren be perfected—the creature who declared in his place in the *senate* of *Massachusetts*, that he was ready to receive the government of England "*monarchy and all*," was sent on a mission to *New-York* to induce that state to join what was then to be denominated the "*northern confederacy*." But it *would not do!*—and, that recently, in October last, a convention was invited at *Albany* to feel the pulse of the party, which was slemderly attended, and closed in smoke. The late unanimous resolve of the legislature of *New-York*,

\* "The name of *AMERICAN*, which belongs to you, in your national capacity must always exalt the just pride of patriotism," says *WASHINGTON*.

to stand by the government and repel the base propositions of the enemy at *Genet* (see page 123) connected with other proceedings of the session, speaks a language that cannot be misunderstood or misinterpreted. It is the language and the conduct of the best times of the revolution; and has exalted *New York* to the first rank in patriotism, as she is superior in population, wealth and resources. But to return to the subject. There is nothing in the proposed convention to excite my fears further than that measure may add to the duration of the war. They have been acting upon the principle *ever since they had no prospect of getting into legitimate power*. They want offices, and as the people will not grant them, they might, "as above excepted," "build castles in the air" and inhabit them in idea, surrounded by all the paraphernalia of royalty itself—but here they must stop. *The stamina*, the bone and nerve of *Boston* itself, is with the constitution. The *bayonet* pays less respect to the tongue of a lawyer on the purse of a merchant, than to the sinewy arm of the yeoman. The speculations of the counting house or chicanery of the bar are nothing in the field of battle.

It is not my design to point out the horrors of the CIVIL WAR that must follow the projects of the jacobins, if the people do not "frown indignantly" upon them. Let the honest man, who, directly or indirectly, countenances their proceedings, come to a pause—and retire within himself, a few minutes, to reflect upon the state of things as they will inevitably be. Let him suppose one half the fighting men of *New-England*—his neighbors and friends, nay, his own sons, arrayed with deadly weapons in their hands against each other, mutually slaying one another, and desolating the country by fire and sword. My pen cannot do justice to the terrible subject—the most fertile imagination cannot picture to itself the horrors that must be realized. For, be it remarked, that though a majority of the men of wealth and influence are apparently with the jacobins, the body of the people, the hardy farmers and mechanics, among whom are thousands who do appear on the "lists of voters" cunningly made up, will not easily become the slaves of *England*. The alliance the jacobins seek will destroy them; and dreadful will be the vengeance of the people on the miserable wretches that shall introduce insolent foreigners to settle *domestic* questions of right! Look at it, men of *New-England*—"your children will be fattened with the blood of your sons," murdered by the hands of other sons! The darkness of night will be chased away by the flames of your villages; and the shrieks of the virgin, mingling with deep groans of the matron, fill up the hours devoted to repose! Even the dead shall be denied sepulchre, and the stench of the carcases of men pollute your highways. The priest shall be slain at the altar—the bride murdered in the nuptial bed—the infant destroyed in

It might, however, be expected that those who were really the authors of this war, should desire its continuance. I will undertake to prove to the satisfaction of any man who will listen to truth, that the very jacobins I speak of, the merchants and lawyers of *Boston*, were the origin of the war with *Great Britain*; that they basely goaded on the government until no alternative but war or unutterable disgrace was left it—and then as basely deserted all their pledges and promises. This is not mere verbiage—I can demonstrate it, and will, on some future occasion. What is past cannot be recalled; but these folks may rest assured they will not "play the same game" a second time. The people know, and will remember them.

its cradle! What is sacred—what is holy—what is respected in a civil war? Nothing—all the charities of the heart and ordinances of God will be prostrate. What will you do? Where will you fly? Who will you trust? Alas! you know not. Ruin, desolation and death encompass you on every side. All history tells you this—call to mind the wars of the houses of *York* and *Lancaster* in *England*, and the late revolution in *France*, and finish the scene of terror! Color it as high as you will, you cannot reach the perfection of misery that *must* be accomplished.

*Why should these things be?* Because some ten or twenty wicked men want power—because the minority ought to rule! Gracious God!—rather annihilate the wretches than permit the thing they aim at! \*

But let us suppose (if the supposition be not political blasphemy) that the jacobins of *New-England* ASSISTED BY A BRITISH FORCE, have subdued their brethren, and effected a separation from the rest of the states. Let us suppose that Great Britain will permit the establishment of a sort of an independent government, and that those who so much desire to reign, are fixed in their seats—*What will be your condition?* A pursuit of this query may serve to unfold some important facts you little think of. As to the probable government you might have, I shall say nothing at this time—I propose only to touch upon your prospects of *business*, and your *ability* to support the new order of things.

*You will have trade and commerce!*

What will you trade with?—Flour, corn, tobacco, cotton, manufactures? You do not raise bread-stuffs enough for your own consumption—nor any tobacco or cotton. You have no staple but fish and oil, and these are, in a great degree, at the mercy of *England*, who is your rival in them. The value of all your *native* exports, in which I include the produce of your fisheries, have amounted to only from 5 to 7 millions a year, for all the *New-England* states—I mean to foreign ports; whereas the other states have exported fifty millions. Your *export*, the business of your merchants, was bottomed upon the agriculture of the middle and southern states, and built up by the industry of your people. How are you to laden your vessels without our goods? The products of your own soil and industry will not freight a *twentieth* part of your tonnage. Will you compete with *England* for the carrying trade? The idea is preposterous; for, supposing she might suffer it, what will you give in exchange for the commodities that found the bases of it? You have little of your own; and in the states from whence you lately drew the supplies, will be foreigners; on at least as bad terms as the British. They who loaded your ships will encourage their own, by the same duties that protected yours; and like causes will produce like effects. Will you send to the West-Indies and get sugar and coffee, &c. to carry to Europe? All you raise and have to exchange for those articles will hardly supply your own consumption, even if the British would receive your *fish* and *beef*, which they will not. The only remaining staple is lumber, and of that your great resource is cut off by the "restoration" of a large tract of your best timbered country "to the arms of its legitimate sovereign," as the meekness with which your rulers admit the *invasion* seems to allow. These things are true. But you will trade to the East-Indies, and bring home rich cargoes of teas, silks, &c? What will you give in exchange for the specie to purchase them, and where will you sell them? You will not, in the case of a *separation*, send the value of millions a year to the single port of *Baltimore* as you

have done—the duties you will have to pay *there* will put you on a worse footing than that a British ship immediately from the countries where the things are to be had; which ships, *though those duties*, have long been driven from our ports, in your favor. However, you are industrious and very ingenious and economical, and will turn your attention to *manufactures*. Very well. You may raise wool enough, but for cotton and all the rest of the great original articles you must depend upon us, or some other *foreign* nation, and you will have to pay a duty on the raw material: but what is to become of the goods when manufactured? Will they bear the duties we impose on British goods—will they, so encumbered, meet our own in the market—will they withstand the British in the great commerce of the world?

A man who knew nothing of the matter might think, from the continual *shouting* about commerce to the eastward, that the stout-lunged folks at *Boston* owned all the ships, and done all the business, of the United States. Never was a more false idea presented. The foreign export of all the "nation of *New-England*," that is, the states of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts*, *Rhode-Island*, *Connecticut* and *Vermont*, for five years ending with 1800, was only valued at 61,452,000 dolls. During these years the single city of *Baltimore* (to be sure the only exporting place in *Maryland*) exported the value of 60,321,000 dollars, leaving a balance of about one million in favor of all the "great commercial states" against the city of *Baltimore*—the "mob-town" and "hater of commerce."§ In 1813, this city's exports were valued at 3,787,865; those of all the "nation" above named, at 3,049,924, leaving a balance in favor of *Baltimore* against the five "commercial states" of nearly three-fourths of a million! These are official facts; and shew where the basis of commerce lies; without saying any thing of *New-York*, or *Philadelphia*, or *Charleston*, though the general average of these three cities of the value of articles sent to foreign countries, give, to each, nearly as much as all the *New-England* states exported for many years past. From 1799 to 1810 inclusive, the city of *New-York* exported to the value of 24 millions more than the state of *Massachusetts*, and eight millions more than all the "nation." Enough of this bloated subject. The clamor about commerce is receiving its proper estimation. It is found that the *lawyers* of *New-England* are the people most interested in it—*if we can believe the lawyers*. For further information, I refer the reader to a collection of facts inserted in the last volume of the REGISTER page 185, &c. and especially to an admirable work lately published in Philadelphia, entitled the "OLIVE BRANCH."

The truth, was, and it must so be evident to all thinking men, that the foreign commerce of the *New-England* states depended on the *freights* and *costing* trade afforded to them by the other states—for the simple reason (and I think it a tolerably good one) that they had, comparatively, nothing of their own to load their vessels with. We found the people of that section of our country in every bay and harbor, and almost every river and creek, on the

§ *Baltimore* is a *new* place compared with *Boston*—when the latter was populous, and, as it were, the "cradle of the revolution," the former was an insignificant town, of 8 or 10 thousand inhabitants. *Baltimore* is now more populous than *Boston*, and on a renewal of trade will export and import more goods than *Massachusetts*. Why?—because we have an immense inland navigation before us, and an immensely rich country behind us. *Boston* has neither.

coast, from the Hudson to the Mississippi, seeking a freight or disposing of their *kick knacks*—the proceeds of the labor this immense business afforded, were laid out in the productions of the middle and south, which, transported immediately to the West Indies and Europe, or, intermediately sent there through the New-England ports, was the *real principle* of their foreign commerce. It enabled them to trade to all parts of the world, and especially supported their dealing with beloved Old England: without it, they could not have supported that commerce, alone, for three years—the whole disposable articles of the eastern states would not have paid for the *British* goods imported. This is not said at random.

It is then a corollary that the commerce of the New England states depended on the labor, *enterprise* and *economy* of their people, (applied as aforesaid) and not on their *national productions*. Nor is it less clearly demonstrated, that when the field for that labor, &c. shall become *foreign soil*, that the commerce must fail! If it was through this labor that Boston became rich, it follows that for the want of its exercise Boston will be made poor. Great Britain has monopolized what may be strictly called the *carrying trade* of all the world—her design to restrain us, even in the transport of our *own commodities*, was one of the original causes of the war—will she deny to her own subjects the advantages of it in favor of the “nation of New England? Pshaw! —But, and if she did, *where*—I ask emphatically *where*, would the merchants of *New England* obtain its commodities? They raise nothing of themselves to support it—they have no colonies; and would be *foreigners*, *paying duties as such*, in all parts of the world, where they used to *obtain and dispose* of the articles that sustained it; and the tonnage of Massachusetts, so much vaunted of, with the seamen that navigated it, would be transferred to the middle and south, or rot or starve at home.

The Jacobins know all this—but what are such considerations to men

“Resolved to ruin or to rule the state?”

Many “reports” that disgrace the journals of the state of Massachusetts (introduced by the Jacobins and carried through by party) have been laid before our readers.—There is a sort of *croaking* runs in them all that is very remarkable. The lawyers have specially acquired the faculty of uttering gross *falshood* in the words of *truth*. I could point out fifty cases like the following:

“When the people of this commonwealth are reminded that since the adoption of the constitution, “thirty millions of dollars have been collected in “this state and paid into the treasury of the United “States,” &c. see page 152.

Such is the language of a report signed “D. A. White,” meant to convey the idea to the people of *Massachusetts*, that they had really contributed so much money to the general government. What a pity that Mr. White was not better informed of the thing he spoke of! If he had applied to me, I would have told him that duties to the amount of more than *forty millions*, instead of “thirty,” had been collected in *Massachusetts* “since the adoption,” &c. Now this would have sounded much *louder*; it would have been exactly as a 24 pounder to an 18!—How much would have been added to the *noise*, for the paltry sum of 20 cents postage on a letter to “H. Niles,” by a committee of the legislature of *Massachusetts*, on business *belonging* to *Massachusetts*, as that committee *supposed*!—But I would also have told the gentleman, that *Massachusetts* had not *contributed* one half, if more than a third or a fourth of

that sum to the *revenue*, though it was “collected” there. That another state “collected” one fourth *more than Massachusetts*; another *nearly as much*—and that several of them *really paid* a greater revenue than that state, *by millions*.

When it shall be a fact that the *merchant*, and not the *consumer* pays the duty on an *article*, then may the insinuation of this Mr. *White* become a truth. But as I hardly expect the proposition will ever be realized until *white is black*, I put it down as a gross misconception of fact or wicked perversion of justice, and shew it to be so.

*Massachusetts*, though a great importer of foreign articles, has been less a consumer of them than *Virginia*—*ergo*, *Virginia* paid more to the revenue than *Massachusetts*, though there has been “collected” in that state only about 14 millions, “since the adoption,” &c. When we look for a moment at the different habits of the citizens, this appears evident. The one is a plain and economical people, making within themselves the chief articles of their clothing, and they of the most *substantial* kind, as one of their poets says, they

“Leather aprons use to keep their bellies warm?”

Whereas, the other had little manufactured at home; and, blessed with a rich soil, indulged themselves in all sorts of foreign luxuries. I venture to say, that many farmers in *Virginia* paid more to the government for duties on brilles and saddles and other appurtenances for their horses, than thousands of farmers in *New-England*, perhaps equally substantial, contributed for the clothing of their individual families. Heaven forbid that this proposition should be construed into the dispraise of *New-England* habits compared with those of *Virginia*! I am devoutly a friend to domestic manufactures, and especially to those of the *household* kind, that flourish so happily to the eastward; but which have also *began* in *Virginia*—and the general simplicity of the former compares much better with my ideas of republicanism and a “*home feeling*” than the extravagant conduct of the latter: but these *opinions* have nothing to do with the *fact*, which I think every one will admit, as I have stated it.\*

While the goods imported by the merchants of *Massachusetts*, were to be found scattered in every part of the United States, very little of those received in other states found their way to *Massachusetts*; for the reason that her people had monopolized the *carrying and coasting* trade of the country, as observed above. And from much personal observation and some enquiry among the commission merchants of *Baltimore*, I venture to say, that at least three millions of the said forty millions “collected” in *Massachusetts*, was really paid *through Baltimore*. One house in this city received foreign goods from Boston, Salem, and a few other eastern ports, to the

\* When some of the militia arrived at Boston last summer from the interior of the state, it was remarked in the papers of that town, that, “with characteristic economy,” they “marched barefoot,” carrying their boots and shoes in their hands, or attached to their knapsacks. It is by such “economics” and the invincible fortitude, and patient industry of the people, than the thin soil of *New-England* sustains its thick population—and the same labor and economy that enables a poor man to *live* there, makes him rich in the middle, western and southern states, as we have tens of thousands of instances, especially in the western district of *New-York* and state of *Ohio*. But their very rigid habits give way to the luxuriance of the soil which tempts to enjoyment, and they live like others on the fatness of the land, in happy moderation.

Events of the War.

MISCELLANEOUS.

value of a million *per annum*, which might be about a fourth of the whole, and as a great portion of this value was made up of wines, teas and India goods, on which the duties are exceedingly high, the amount supposed to have been paid through Baltimore appears very moderate. I am not accustomed to assert a *statistical* fact without good grounds for it; and the preceding will afford a criterion by which to estimate the general statement.

But in the years from 1791 to 1810, inclusive, there was "collected" in the state of *New York* duties to the amount of \$ 57,215,000  
 And in all the "great commercial states" of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut* and *Vermont*, only 49,319,000

Leaving a balance in favor of the state of *New York* against the whole commercial "nation of *New England*," of 7,896,000  
 Or one seventh more than all that all of them paid!  
 In the same years, the "commerce hating" state of *Pennsylvania*, in the whole of which there is less *jabber* about commerce in a year than is heard in a lawyer's office at *Boston* in one week, collected duties amounting to \$ 57,350,000  
 Or about a 38th part less than all that the "great commercial state" of *Massachusetts* paid—which was \$ 38,407,000!

In the same time also the "non rown" *Baltimore* collected \$17,831,000, which rises nearly to one half of all that was collected in the "great commercial state" of *Massachusetts*, and approaches nearly to double the sum (19,591,000) collected in all the other "commercial states" of *New-Hampshire, Rhode-Island, Connecticut* and *Vermont*!

Much more might be said, but the above may suffice. Where is that boasted pre-eminence that the jacobins have arrogated to themselves? It is dissolved into "thin air" by the rays of truth; and the wretched *hullohaloo* they have made about their superior commercial interests is found to be—*vax et preterea nihil*.

When a man soberly looks at these things—can he fail to be astonished at the impudence and falsehood of the jacobin crew?

The length to which this article has extended, prevents a notice of other points not less interesting, at present. In another number, we may make contrasts of population and resources, and shew the probable effects that must follow the thing the traitors would accomplish; not that we fear the hardy sons of the north will do the deed the jacobins desire, but to prove to them the villainess of the faction that manages their *press* and *pulpit*, yes, the *forum*, to deceive and mislead them, and to demonstrate the necessity of union with the rest of the states, advantageous to all, and not to be violated but by sacrifices the most dreadful, and privations terrible to think of—that they may "frown" the wretches to the insignificance that their numbers and base intentions deserve.

Since this essay was planned in the mind of the editor, and, indeed, in part written, the work above alluded to, entitled the "OLIVE BRANCH" was received. I have used it liberally towards the close, and acknowledge myself indebted to the author for a better collection of *political facts*, relating to our affairs with *Europe*, and especially to our party disputes, than ever was published, and the arrangement of them is equally lucid. It is a handsome duodecimo volume of 252 pages, and ought to be placed in the hands of every man east of the *Hudson* that desires to know the truth.

FOREIGN NEWS. From London papers up to Sept. 15. There are several notices of the reported sailing of small detachments of troops and vessels for America—but what has left England for the three months preceding that time, (in our opinion) is not equal to the waste of her men in this country and on our coasts. *Hill* had not sailed—it was now said he would depart early in October. It is not probable we shall be honored with his lordship's company the present year; and in the spring we apprehend he will have something else to do, much nearer home. The negotiation at *Ghent*, they say, was not broken off—only "suspended."—But another account states, that our commissioners were to leave *Europe* for the United States, in the *Neptune*, early in October. It is stated that *Sir James Yeo*, (who retires on account of his ill health) is to be succeeded in the command of the lakes, by a captain *Hall*. The cartel *Chauncey*, says a London paper of the 11th September, is expected to sail in a few days from *Ostend*, with despatches from our ministers at *Ghent*.  
 Seventy-two French officers (says a London paper) are said to have gone to America to offer their services to Mr. Madison.

LATER.—London dates of September 22—by these it appears that several vessels had sailed from Plymouth for America. They call it the "great expedition," but, only four regiments are mentioned as having embarked, with a brigade of artillery and rocket brigade—we see nothing in the news to give us great alarm. It is rumored that *Hill* is to command in *Scotland*. The *Valiant*, in which he was to have come out, is ordered to *Brazil* to bring home the Prince Regent. At this date, the negotiation at *Ghent* was not known in London to have been broken off. Indeed the contrary is implied—saying that our commissioners were waiting for further instructions: more probably, (we think), for the result of the congress at *Vienna*.

¶ We have frequently cautioned our readers, as to a reliance upon the items we give of foreign news. We insert them as the truth appears on a deliberate investigation of the articles suffered to reach us. The greater part of such intelligence is received by way of *London*, and even what the hostile press in that city is permitted to publish favorable to the United States, is often suppressed by a more corrupted press on this side of the water, to whose correction the foreign details, at this time, are chiefly committed. I have no hesitation to say, that I would rather accept as truth the *London Courier* than many American papers I could name. The latter have so far carried their villainy as to leave out paragraphs of official accounts they pretended to publish entire; and no faith is due from.

Extract of a letter from an American gentleman residing at *Nantz*, received at *N. York*, dated 25th August, 1814.

"The political state of Europe, and particularly of this country, is so far from being settled, that we look forward with great anxiety to the congress of *Vienna*. Our good king has a hard time of it, as the emperor has left many friends; almost all the military and those who held places under him, are devoted to him, so that it requires much time and labor to settle things on a solid basis. The English are more detested than ever, and I believe the most popular step the king could take, would be to go to war with them.

\* A brigade of artillery, we believe, is about 500 men—and of *Rockets* between 20 and 30 only.

"France is too much humbled to remain long at ease; as yet we have experienced none of its benefits. The taxes are still kept up, and no commerce to support them. England must be humbled before the world can have a solid peace.

"For it is folly to talk of a balance of power, while she holds all the strong keys of commerce, and most of the colonies; and I am fully persuaded that the principles for which America is contending, will be supported by all the continental powers in the congress at Vienna. Russia and France, I am sure, are with us."

**OUR PRIVATEERS.** A great many additional privateers are fitting out. They sail from and return to the most of our ports as they please, the rigid blockade notwithstanding. The Chesapeake is, unfortunately, in the power of the enemy, but the spirit of enterprize and skill of the people residing on its waters, is not thereby restrained—"Baltimore schooners" are built at many other places!—that is, the skill of our naval architects and the capital of our merchants is as fully employed against the enemy as ever they were, at ports and places not to be blocked up at all times, and our models are in request from Maine to Georgia.

Among those lately fitted out are some stout vessels—one with 22 long heavy guns has sailed, and two others carrying from 30 to 36 guns will soon be off to ——. In a single newspaper we notice the sailing of five privateers, and the building of three in the neighborhood of Boston—one called the *Reindeer*, pierced for 22 guns, a noble vessel, coppered, built of the best materials, in 35 working days. On her cradle the *Avon*, of the same rate, has been laid, to be finished in 18 working days—and they are also building the *BLAKELEY*, of like size and dimensions, to be built with the same dispatch! In *New York* they are exceedingly busy with vessels of this kind. And the exertions of individuals aided by the project lately adopted in congress, to fit out 20 vessels (an idea, I believe, I had the honor first to give publicity to) which is to be carried into immediate execution, will make the enemy feel the war much more sensibly than he has done, giving a "demonstration" of his inability to defend his own coasts, much less to blockade all the ports of the world. But some measure must be provided to bring in a part of the prisoners they take. The enemy does not acknowledge paroles made at sea, and has many of our gallant seamen in captivity—the brave fellows must be released to repay favors received. The balance of prisoners of this class, would have been greatly in our favor, if one half of those taken had been brought in. There is a real difficulty in doing it—but it must be done, one way or another.

The English papers teem with articles about our privateers. Their fears and sufferings have magnified their numbers prodigiously! The master of a vessel, that was captured three times and as often re-captured, reported in London, that he had seen no less than ten of these terrible things crossing his voyage! The *Wasp* has excited a wonderful noise—and the U. S. brig *Syren* is playing a noble tune—she has burnt many vessels.

The schooners are poking themselves into their very ports; and *John Bull* while he grumbles most lustily, is sorely mortified, and not a little surprized at their impudence!—Meetings of merchants have been held at several places to remonstrate against their depredations!—We notice the proceedings at *Liverpool* and *Glasgow* as samples. At *Halifax*, insurance has been absolutely refused, on others 33 per cent has been added to the former premium!—We have not heard of the capture of but one privateer for a long time. That was the *Harlequin*, a new

vessel, elegantly fitted from an eastern port, taken by the *Bulwark*, by stratagem.

#### AMERICAN PRIVATEERS.

The depredations of the American privateers on the coast of Ireland and elsewhere, have produced so strong a sensation at Lloyd's, that it is difficult to get policies underwritten at any rate of premium!!!

Thirteen guineas for 100£ has been paid to insure vessels across the *Irish channel*! such a thing never happened, we believe, before.

*London, Sept. 9.*—At a meeting of merchants, ship-owners, &c. at *Liverpool*, to consider of a representation to government on the subject of the numerous captures made by American cruisers, Mr. Gladstone proposed an address to the lords of the admiralty; but after many severe observations that representations had been made to that department without redress—Mr. Clear proposed an address to the prince regent, which, after warm opposition on the part of Mr. Gladstone, was carried. The address conveys a censure upon the admiralty. Subsequently a counter address to the admiralty was voted at another meeting, to which Mr. Crocker replied on the 3d inst. that an ample force had been under the orders of the admirals commanding the western stations; and that during the time when the enemy's depredations are stated to have taken place, not fewer than three frigates and 14 sloops were actually at sea for the immediate protection of St. George's channel, and the western and northern parts of the united kingdom.

In the memorial of the merchants, &c. of *Liverpool* to the admiralty complaining of a want of sufficient naval protection against American captures, they speak of privateers destroying vessels as a novel and extraordinary practice, which they say they are informed is promoted by pecuniary rewards from the American government, and they wish measures adopted to prevent as much as possible, the ruinous effects of this "new system of warfare."

At a very numerous meeting of the merchants, manufacturers, ship owners, and underwriters of the city of *Glasgow*, called by a public advertisement, and held by special requisition to the lord provost on Wednesday the 7th of September, 1814, the lord provost in the chair, it was

*Unanimously resolved*, That the number of American privateers with which our channels have been infested, the audacity with which they have approached our coasts, and the success with which their enterprize has been attended, have proved injurious to our commerce, humbling to our pride and discreditable to the directors of the naval power of the British nation, whose flag till of late waved over every sea and triumphed over every rival.

That there is reason to believe, in the short space of less than twenty-four months, above eight hundred vessels have been captured by the power, whose maritime strength we have hitherto impolitically held in contempt.

That at a time when we were at peace with all the rest of the world, when the maintenance of our marine costs so large a sum to the country, when the mercantile and shipping interests pay a tax for protection under the form of convoy duty, and when, in the plenitude of our power, we have declared the whole American coast under blockade, it is equally distressing and mortifying, that our ships cannot with safety traverse our own channels, that insurance cannot be effected but at an excessive premium, and that a horde of American cruisers should be allowed, unheeded, unresisted, unmolested, to take, burn or sink our own vessels in our own inlets, and almost in sight of our own harbors.

That the ports of the *Clyde* have sustained severe loss from the depredations already committed, and



there is reason to apprehend still more serious suffering not only from the extent of the coasting trade and the number of vessels yet to arrive from abroad, but as the time is fast approaching when the outward bound ships must proceed to Cork for convoys, and when during the winter season the opportunities of the enemy will be increased, both to capture with ease and escape with impunity.

That the system of burning and destroying every article, which there is fear of losing, a system pursued by all the cruisers and encouraged by their own government, diminishes the chances of recapture, and renders the necessity of prevention more urgent.

That from the coldness and neglect with which previous remonstrances from other quarters have been received by the admiralty, this meeting reluctantly feel it an imperious duty at once to address the throne, and therefore that a petition be forwarded to his royal highness the prince regent, acting in the name and on behalf of his majesty, representing the above grievances, and humbly praying that his royal highness will be graciously pleased to direct such measures to be adopted, as shall promptly and effectually protect the trade on the coasts of this kingdom, from the numerous insulting and destructive depredations of the enemy; and that the lord provost be requested to transmit the third petition accordingly.

That the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Ewing for the ability with which he prepared and introduced the business of this day.

That the thanks of this meeting be given to the gentlemen who signed the requisition.

K. FINLAY, Provost.

The lord provost having left the chair,

Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of this meeting be given his lordship for his prompt compliance with the requisition, and for the manner in which he conducted himself in the chair.

MILITARY.

Maj. gen. Pinkney proceeded to the southward from Savannah, on the 13th inst. and on the same day maj. gen. McIntosh, of the Georgia militia, set out for Fort Hawkins.

The legislature of Virginia have before them a bill to raise 10,000 men, to serve for two years, to relieve the militia, to be supported by the United States, for local defence. We heartily wish entire success to the proposition.

Extract of a letter to the editor of the *Albany Register*, from a gentleman of rank in the army, dated Camp, Plattsburg, Nov. 9, 1814.

"I have nothing of importance to communicate. Reports say, that the enemy are about 3000 strong between this and Montreal, and that they are preparing for a winter campaign."

There is reason to fear that the allies of the British in the Missouri territory may be troublesome. In evidence of their services to the "bulwark of religion," they have lately murdered a lady.

We have nothing new from gen. Izard's division since the blowing up of Fort Erie. Gen. Brown, at Sackett's harbor, has discharged the chief part of the militia. Gen. Macomb is on a visit to his family at Belleville, N. J. where he was rapturously received.

Maj. gen. Riall, and his aid, are on their way to Easton, Pa. (or rather, have probably arrived there) on parole, to wait the expected sailing of a cartel for Europe, from Philadelphia.

DISCHARGE OF THE BALTIMORE MILITIA.

Adjutant-general's office, 10th Military District  
Baltimore, 18th Nov. 1814.

GENERAL ORDERS. The whole of the 3d Maryland brigade, with the exception of captain Thompson's

troop, lieutenant colonel Harris' regiment artillery and captain Stiles' corps of marine artillery, will as soon as mustered to-day, consider themselves discharged the service of the United States.

The major general in taking leave of this fine body of citizen soldiers, who have done themselves and country so much honor, offers to them the thanks of the United States, for their distinguished services.

To lieutenant colonel McDonald, who has for a short time commanded the brigade, the major-general tenders his thanks, personally, for his prompt and strict attention to duty; also to lieutenant colonel Sterrett, whose attentions to the guard for head quarters, furnished from his handsome regiment, have been highly pleasing.

The regiments and corps discharged will turn over to the military store keeper, the arms, ammunition, accoutrements and knapsacks, which have been received from the United States. The arms received from the state of Maryland will be retained by the troops.

(Signed)

By command,

W. SCOTT.

FRANCIS S. BELTON.

Asst. adj. gen.

NAVAL.

The U. S. sloop *Hornet*, so long blockaded in *New London*, slipped out a few nights ago, and safely arrived at New York.

Master com. Downes, capt. Porter's famous right hand man, or first lieutenant, of the Essex, takes command of the U. S. sloop of war *Epervier*. She is to be fitted out immediately.

Copies of letters from Jolanson Blakeley, Esq. commander of the United States sloop of war *Wasp*, to the secretary of the navy, dated

U. S. S. Wasp, at Sea,  
off *Belle Isle*, 27th Aug. 1814.

SIR—It is with sincere sorrow I have to announce to you the decease of Midshipmen Henry S. Langdon and Frank Toscan. They were wounded in the rencontre with the *Reindeer*, and all our efforts to save them after our arrival proved unavailing. It was their first essay, and although wounded, remained at their posts until the contest terminated. The constancy and courage with which they bore their sufferings leaves to the melancholy though proud reflection of what they might have been, had providence ordained otherwise. Every respect due to worth was shewn to their memory.

It is with regret that I have to inform you of the delays we have experienced at this place, but had they been of shorter duration we could not possibly have sailed, as one continued westerly wind has prevailed from the hour of our arrival up to the present day.

The course pointed out in your instructions having been interrupted, I shall endeavour to fulfil your further intentions as far as may possibly be in my power.

With great satisfaction, I add that every aid in the power of Mr. Crawford has been promptly afforded, and that I feel under many obligations to him for his attention and assistance.

We are now off this place with a fair wind and favourable prospects.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your most obedient servant,

J. BLAKELEY.

Hon. Wm. Jones, Secretary of the navy.

U. S. S. Wasp, at sea, 11th Sept. 1814.  
Lat. 45° N. Long. 16° W.

SIR—After a protracted and tedious stay 30

L'Orient, had at last the pleasure of leaving that place on Saturday 27th August. On the 30th, captured the British brig Lettice, Henry Cockbain, master; and 31st August, the British brig Bon Accord, Adam Durno, master. In the morning of the 1st September, discovered a convoy of ten sail to leeward, in charge of the Armada 74, and a bomb ship, stood for them and succeeded in cutting out the British brig Mary, John D. Allan, master, laden with brass cannon taken from the Spaniards, iron cannon and military stores from Gibraltar to England, removed the prisoners, set her on fire and endeavoured to capture another of the convoy, but was chased off by the Armada. On the evening of the same day at 1-2 past 6, while going free, discovered four vessels nearly at the same time, two on the starboard, and two on the larboard bow, hauled up for the one most on the starboard bow, being the farthest to windward. At 7, the chase (a brig) commenced making signals, with flags, which could not be distinguished for want of light, and soon after made various ones with lanterns, rockets, and guns. At 29 minutes after 9, having the chase under our lee bow, the 12 pound carronade was directed to be fired into him, which he returned; ran under his lee bow to prevent his escaping, and at 29 minutes after 9 commenced the action. At 10 o'clock, believing the enemy to be silenced, orders were given to cease firing, when I hailed and asked if he had surrendered. No answer being given to this, and his fire having recommenced, it was again returned. At 12 minutes after 10, the enemy having suffered greatly and having made no return to our last two broadsides, I hailed him the second time to know if he had surrendered, when he answered in the affirmative. The guns were then ordered to be secured and the boat lowered to take possession. In the act of lowering the boat, a second brig was discovered, a little distance astern and standing for us. Sent the crew to their quarters, prepared every thing for another action, and awaited his coming up—at 36 minutes after 10, discovered two more sails astern standing towards us. I now felt myself compelled to forego the satisfaction of destroying the prize. Our braces having been cut away, we kept off the wind until others could be rove, and with the expectation of drawing the second brig from his companions but in this last we were disappointed. The second brig continued to approach us until she came close to our stern, when she hauled by the wind, fired her broadside which cut our rigging and sails considerably and shot away a lower main cross tree, and retraced her steps to join her consorts—when we were necessitated to abandon the prize; he appeared in every respect a total wreck. He continued for some time firing guns of distress until probably delivered by the two last vessels who made their appearance. The second brig could have engaged us if he thought proper, as he broaded us fast, but contented himself with firing a broadside, and immediately returned to his companions.

It is with real satisfaction I have again the pleasure of bearing testimony to the merits of lieutenants Reilly, Tillinghast, Baur, and sailing-master Carr; and to the good conduct of every officer and man on board the Wasp. Their divisions and departments were attended and supplied with the utmost regularity and abundance, which, with the good order maintained, together with the vivacity and precision of their fire, reflects on them the greatest credit. Our loss is two killed, and one slightly wounded with a wad. The hull received four round shot, and the foremast many grape shot. Our rigging and sails suffered a great deal. Every damage

has been repaired the day after, with the exception of our sails.

Of the vessel with whom we were engaged, nothing positive can be said, with regard to her name or force. While hailing him previous to his being fired into, it was blowing fresh (then going ten knots) and the name was not distinctly understood. Of her force, the four shot which struck us are all thirty-two pounds in weight, being a pound and three quarters heavier than any belonging to this vessel. From this circumstance, the number of men in her tops, her general appearance and great length, she is believed to be one of the largest brigs in the British navy.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

(Signed)

J. BLAKELEY.

*The hon. Wm Jones, secretary of the navy.*

P. S. I am told the enemy, after his surrender, asked for assistance and said he was sinking—the probability of this is confirmed by his firing single guns for some time after his capture.

*List of killed and wounded on board the United States' sloop of war the Wasp, Johnston Blakeley, esquire, commander, in the action with his Britannic majesty's sloop of war —, on the 1st September, 1814.*

Killed—Joseph Martin, boatswain; Henry Staples, jr. gunner. Wounded—James Snellings, seaman, clavicle or collar bone fractured by a wad.

Recapitulation—Killed	2
Wounded	1
Total	3

(Signed)

WM. M. CLARKE, Surgeon.

[List of prizes and minutes of the action, in our next.]

Copy of a letter from commodore Macdonough to the secretary of the navy.

*U. S. brig Eagle, Chazy, Nov. 6, 1814.*

SIR—I have the honor to inform you, that about six tons 8 inch shells have been taken out of the lake by us at this place, which were thus secreted by the enemy in his late incursion into this country.

A transport sloop has also recently been raised at Isle La Motte, which was sunk by the enemy loaded with their naval stores, and various instruments of war. On weighing the powder taken on board the enemy's squadron, we find 17,000 pounds, with shot in proportion, besides much fixed ammunition.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

T. MACDONOUGH.

*The hon. Wm. Jones, secretary of the navy.*

The *Zenious 74*, has arrived at Quebec, with 1,000,000 dollars on board. The British fleet on lake Ontario makes a splendid show. A Montreal paper says that the number of vessels and small craft carrying sail, that left Kingston for the head of the lake, amounted to 150. Sir James Yeo returned from a second excursion to the head of the lake, on the 2nd inst. The first was to supply the army with provisions—the second to bring the army to Kingston—as is supposed.

A *New York* paper says—We learn that captains M'Donough, Craze, Warrington and Blakeley, have been promoted to the rank of post captains in the U. States' navy. Five naval officers (whose names we have not learnt), have been promoted to the rank of masters and commanders. We further learn, that government have it in contemplation to appoint two admirals.

A *Philadelphia* paper says—"We understand that commodore BAINBRIDGE is appointed secretary of the navy, in the room of capt. Jones, who has resigned."

*During the ensuing week we expect to publish the number in arrears, and insert our recent omissions.*

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 13 OF VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 169.]

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann

## “New England Convention.”

No. II.

“The north, in an unrestrained intercourse with the south, protected by the equal laws of a common government, finds in the production of the latter, great additional resources of maritime and commercial enterprise in the precious materials of manufacturing industry. The south, in the same intercourse, benefitting by the agency of the north, sees its agriculture grow and commerce expand.—Turning partly into its own channels the seamen of the north, finds its particular navigation invigorated: and while it contributes to nourish and increase the general mass of the national navigation, looks forward to the protection of a maritime strength, to which itself is unequally adapted.”

WASHINGTON.

It was thus that the “FATHER OF HIS COUNTRY” labored to quench petty jealousies, and inflame the mind of all with a love for the UNION; by shewing it the interest of all to cherish the general government. This extract from his “Farewell Address” happily strengthens the leading idea held forth in our last number,—that the commerce of the eastern states was mainly built upon the agriculture of the middle and southern. It also urges what none but mad jacobins will deny—the importance of all and every part of the union to the happiness and prosperity of the whole. And, though I would brush away the delusion that has existed as to the superior commerce of the New England states, I have less disposition to depreciate the character of the people or the natural advantages of that section of my country: to their courage, steadiness and virtue we were greatly indebted for our independence, in the first place, and for the establishment of our glorious constitution, in the second—and, to their industry, genius and enterprise we acknowledge ourselves much obligated for the common prosperity, general wealth, and singular happiness of our citizens: who, all the clamor about the war, or the real difficulties that that state of things subjects us to, to the contrary, have more of the comforts, conveniences and luxuries of life, and more enjoyment of all that is desirable by rational creatures, than any other people on earth.

It is, nevertheless, admitted that we suffer much by the war; but, if it were my present business, I think I could shew that a great part of those sufferings were, and are, occasioned by the wayward policy of the Boston jacobins. I religiously believe that, as to them the war may be justly attributed, so its continuance is also ascribable. In another

number, I may point out the close connection of the Boston memorial to congress in 1806, (remonstrating against the outrages of the British, and pledging support to measures adopted to redress them) to the declaration of war in 1812: The steps to the controversy are astonishingly regular and progressive. And I will also give reasons for the opinion, that the continuance of the war may be ascribed to the same set of persons, by the divisions they have excited among the people, and the hopes held out to the enemy of a separation of the states (as has been talked of for several years); or at least, of such embarrassments of the general government as to compel it to make a disadvantageous peace. I will here observe, *en passant*, that those jacobins taunted congress to declare war, and now clamor for peace, for the same object. They hoped and believed that the people would not bear the government out in the contest, and that they would come into power: deceived in this calculation, they seem disposed to have peace on any terms—(as I live, I almost think they would give up Boston itself, if the possession of it were made the *sine qua non* of the enemy) that may disgrace the prevailing party, and introduce them to public confidence and authority. We may all recollect that in their denunciations of the war against *Conada*: how solemnly they pledged themselves to resist and repel every invasion of the territories of the “good old United States,” as they insidiously called the original thirteen. But how is it now?—Why—a state that has boasted of her 70,000 well disciplined militia—of the courage and resources of her people, more than any other—who pretended to feel indignant at the idea that a hostile foot should trample our shore, sits down quietly and at apparent ease in the loss of one fourth of its own territory, seized by proclamation and held by an insignificant force; and patiently hears arguments in the public papers why the British may hold the possession! This state is *Massachusetts*—such, alas! is the strange working of jacobinism.

But to proceed to the more immediate objects of the present essay:

We are astounded by the clamor of the jacobins for the loss of their commerce—for the great misery and distress that prevails—for the poverty that is about to encompass them on every side—for the wide ruin that is extending itself to all classes of the people, or any thing else that may assist to make a noise, or fill a newspaper column with ranting and

roaring. But I will give evidence of the fact, that the people of *Massachusetts*, (and of the eastern states generally,) have suffered much less by the war than any other section of the United States; and perhaps make it appear that they have really prospered by it. I request the reader may not be surprised at this proposition, as well he may be if he believes one millionth part of what the Jacobins say—but seriously examine the statements below:

While the parts of the eastern states were left free for "neutrals," as they were called, those of the middle and south were blockaded by the enemy: this threw an immense business into their hands, by which they have profited beyond the calculations of any man who has not reflected on the subject, and examined the facts that belong to it. The *Bostonians* made more money in the first eighteen months of the war than they had done for double that period, in any other time preceding; and the nature of their harbors are such, that, though now blockaded like the rest, there exists a very considerable commerce, and, *somewhere*, they are full of business—while *Baltimore*, for example, has not had an arrival, I believe, from a foreign port for a twelvemonth. And, as it was *only* to commerce that *Baltimore* owed the sudden rise of its population (now greater than that of *Boston*) and as we exported more goods, it seems reasonable to suppose that we suffer as much as they do! But, instead of grumbling and growing against our own government, we do all that in our power lies to make an honest peace, by coercing that justice which our merchants, in conjunction with those of *Boston*, demanded in 1766, by memorials to congress—which memorials are on record: The city of *New-York*, blockaded as closely as the enemy can do it, and long cut off from trade, exported three times as much as *Boston*; and, as before observed, paid more duties into the treasury of the United States than all the "nation of New England" and one seventh over! But *New-York* is indignant at the base propositions offered our commissioners a *Ghent*; and prepared for any thing rather than dishonorable peace.

As to the misery and distress that is made so much noise about to the eastward, what portion of affliction have the people of that section suffered compared with those of other states? The whole "nation," leaving out gallant *Vermont*, has not furnished as many men even to repulse the enemy as the new state of *Tennessee* has sent out to meet and fight him! Nor have they lost as many lives, in all, as the state of *Maryland*, alone—their coasts have not been ravaged like those of the middle and southern states, especially the shores of the *Chesapeake*, where things have been done by those they eulogize, that *Napo-*

*lean Bonaparte* would have blushed at the idea of being thought capable of! Nor have their citizens, like those of *Ohio*, *Kentucky*, *Georgia*, &c. been liable to the scalping knife of the savage allies of Britain—their children have not been murdered; their wives have not been violated; their wounded soldiers have not been burnt to death! Of their poverty and the wide ruin that is extending itself among them, the following table gives us the proof.

If money—specie—be the evidence of commercial prosperity, *Massachusetts* never was half so well off as now. From years ago, when the trade of the United States naturally sought the places where its commodities were to be had, one of the (several) banks of *Baltimore* had more specie than all the banks of *Massachusetts*; nay, perhaps and probably, more than there was in that state, whether in possession of the banks or of individuals—and so it will have again, when a regular and honest commerce shall succeed the *British* war and eastern smuggling. At the time alluded to (1810) and for several years preceding, a half eagle, of gold, was less a rarity in *Baltimore* than a half dollar, in silver, in *New-England*. These are facts that should be called to the recollection—they arose from the regular state of trade, and will ensue the moment that a peace with England is signed; and then will the Jacobins at *Boston* suffer those embarrassments in the due course of things, urged by a just resentment, that they have wontonly heaped upon their country through adventitious circumstances and a traitorous commerce and intercourse with the enemy.\*

I give it as my deliberate opinion that a plot was entered into between some persons to the eastward and the British, to destroy the public credit of the United States, by the aid of *British* funds, in various ways forced on the market. But this subject will require more time and room (and is worthy of it) than I can spare at present. Unhappily, the alli-

\*With two or three years of regular trade—"Free trade and Sailor's rights"—the "mob-town" *Baltimore*, a new city, but yet in the midst, (if it were to set seriously about it) could, of itself, draw off from *Boston* all its present hoard of specie, and cause every bank in that "great commercial metropolis" to stop payment. This is not said unthinkingly. In that old established place of business there is great wealth; but the same combination here to effect this purpose that exists at *Boston* to depreciate the credit of the other banks in the United States, would assuredly accomplish it. And the reason why it might be done is simply this, that *Baltimore* is one of the great central points of those staple articles that command the general trade of the country. *New-York* could do it in a few months; and so might *Philadelphia* in a little while. But until the late outrageous conduct of the *Boston* banks, in running upon others, a thing of this kind was never thought of. Let them look to it!—so flagrant have been their proceedings, that thousands of men are ready to come under an engagement never to purchase, or use, any thing that reaches them by the way of *Boston*.

ance has measurably succeeded, through all sorts of lying and deception aided by considerable power, which they use in every way, without regard to any thing but the grand object just stated.

The impertinence that belongs to men suddenly elevated, is manifested in a thousand ways by the jacobins. The *Boston Patriot*, an able “*American*” paper, observed some

days ago, that treasury notes could be sold in *Baltimore* at par. On which a person said in the *Daily Advertiser*—a jacobin paper, “I believe it is true; but you must take pay in Baltimore bills. This sort of sale reminds me of a man that sold his dog at the enormous price of one thousand dollars, to take pay in pups at \$500 each.”

*True abstracts of the statements of the several banks in the commonwealth of Massachusetts, rendered in June 1810, and in January 1814, published by order of the legislature.*

(OFFICIAL.)

Names of Banks.	Capital.	1810.		1814.	
		Deposits.	Specie.	Deposits.	Specie.
Massachusetts	1,600,000	472,672 74	258,550 91	904,248 53	2,114,164 09
Union	1,200,000	562,333 53	223,595 53	939,310 13	657,795 08
Essex	300,000	184,816 19	156,433 00	317,845 09	185,647 26
Maine	300,000	134,588 54	118,493 04	no return	
Nantucket	100,000	41,956 98	28,885 53	no return	
Gloucester	100,000	16,780 52	41,048 69	27,889 37	90,425 67
Newburyport	350,000	93,808 37	117,999 99	303,435 72	268,055 98
Dorset	160,000	34,603 63	35,219 58	33,005 22	76,386 59
Boston	1,800,000	672,707 13	238,454 24	987,043 09	1,182,372 10
New-Bedford	no return				
Salem	200,000	238,510 18	75,993 32	375,476 20	185,178 24
Saco	100,000	34,853 47	17,951 63	104,005 48	40,086 11
Lincoln and Kennebec	no return				
Northampton	75,000	2,428 04	11 53	no return	
Plymouth	100,000	380 00	42,115 26	4,228 61	50,171 88
Worcester	150,000	7,594 32	55,023 75	4,620 15	44,107 53
Marblehead	100,000	43,112 15	73,023 37	38,587 66	87,311 25
Nantucket Pacific	100,000	44,212 91	36,832 42	73,006 77	11,988 57
Hallowell and Augusta	200,000	8,184 55	21,076 60	5,585 13	24,925 85
Penobscot	150,000	9,872 45	155 00	no return	
Berkshire	no return				
Portland	300,000	68,123 07	60,365 62	125,077 09	62,891 00
State*	3,000,000			1,677,142 98	650,666 85
Mechanics*	100,000			33,601 82	47,891 04
Phoenix*	100,000			63,296 71	73,993 94
Cumberland*	300,000			400,231 04	164,932 75
Merchants*	200,000			247,811 31	104,631 69
Bath*	100,000			10,540 80	44,919 99
Wiscasset*	250,000			68,001 21	63,258 63
Taunton*	75,000			50,638 59	62,065 43
New-England*	500,000			542,644 01	284,456 17
Hampshire*	30,000			20,251 21	24,217 67
Kennebeck*	100,000			7,063 60	52,317 28
		2,671,619 27	1,561,034 39	8,875,589 19	6,393,718 50

The capitals of the several institutions are taken from the return of 1810; and, that being compared with the return of 1814, the following differences appear:

*Maine* and *Nantucket* and *Northampton* and *Berkshire* are omitted in the return of 1814. The two last, we believe are extinct.

*Gloucester*, *Saco* and *Marblehead* have capitals of 120,000 each, instead of 100,000.

*Worcester*, 200,000, instead of 150,000.

*Hallowell* and *Augusta*, 150,000, instead of 200,000.

None of those marked with an astrisk (\*) are noticed in the return of 1810—and are presumed to have been established since that time.

RECAPITULATION.	
Banking capital in Massachusetts, 1810.	\$3,035,000
— added to 1814,	5,055,589
Total bank capital Massachusetts	8,090,589
Being an increase of nearly one half in four years.	
Deposits in 1814,	8,875,589 19
do. 1810,	2,671,619 27
Difference	\$6,203,969 92

Or, an increase of almost four hundred per cent.

Specie—in the vaults, 1814,	6,393,718 50
—deposits in “banks out of the state” nearly all at New York, from whence the specie was actually drawn	555,571 71
(there were no such deposits in 1810.)	
—supposed to have been in the banks of <i>Maine and Nantucket</i> (\$147,378 53 in 1810) not mentioned in the return of 1814, calculated on the general average,	370,600 00
Real amount of the specie banking capital of Massachusetts, January, 1814.	\$7,329,289 29
The same in 1810,	1,561,034 39
Difference	\$5,768,254 82

<i>Or an increase of nearly four hundred per cent.</i>	
Deposits and specie in 1814.	\$16,204,978 40
The same, 1810,	4,252,653 66
Difference!	\$11,972,324 74

From an examination of the facts shewn by this comparative statement, we must conclude that the commerce of *Massachusetts* was never so flourishing; or, that the mighty and excessive funds are *British*, held in *terrorem* over the rest of our banking establishments; immediately operating to depress the public stocks at will, and embarrass the financial concerns of the government. On the most careful reflection, I cannot find any other way than *one* of these to account for the immense increase of funds, *being nearly four times as much as in 1810*. If a man that was notoriously poor and meagre [as the *Massachusetts* banks were in 1810]—who was dependent on the *charity* of his neighbors for a character in business [as the banks of *Massachusetts* were—every one of which *New York* could have made stop payment in a month] suddenly sports with thousands (or millions), and affects to command the market where he had been an humble dependent, we naturally suspect that he has made money very rapidly, by his business—by a prize in the lottery—by a legacy—by finding a hidden treasure—or some great knavery.

If this great monied capital be *honestly* acquired, may we not hazard an opinion that the *Hartford* convention is called, and the talk about separation kept up, with the sole view of inducing the enemy to *continue the war*, that the prosperous business may last? The *Dutch* merchants supplied the enemies of the republic with gun-powder—The *British* in *Upper Canada* had long since been compelled to retire for want of provisions but for the supplies they received from the “*friends of peace*” in the United States—and why may not this foul thing be a *money speculation*? A plan adopted to acquire, through the course of trade as subject to the war, a degree of wealth that could never be hoped for in peace?

If this capital be acquired by *smuggling*, it shews a prostration of honor that fits the actors for any thing else, and strengthens the insinuation that the intent of the convention may be as stated. The honest man blesses the moon, because it guides him in his way; but we frequently hear of “*moon-cursers*”—gangs of wretches who frequent dangerous coasts to plunder wrecked ships, rejoicing in the misfortunes of others, affording business to themselves. That *smuggling* has prospered to a very great extent in the eastern states, we have abundant proof. It is so far from being denied, that it seems to have become a sort of a *negative virtue* with the self-styled “*friends of peace*,” if we may believe their great writer, who says:

“ENCOURAGED and protected from infamy by the just odium against the war, they engage in lawless speculations, [smuggling] “*surer at the restraints of conscience, LAUGH AT PERJURY, mock at legal restraints, and acquire ill-gotten wealth at the expence of public morals, and of the more sober, conscientious part of the community*”†

Such is the state of society as drawn by “*the gentleman who wrote the Analysis*,” spoken of by *John Henry*. He is a *lawyer*, I believe, of the name of *Lowell*; the champion of “*commerce*” and of “*honest men!*”—Perhaps no man has ever wrote so much for the public papers as he has done for some years past. He uses as many shapes in his essays to cheat the unthinking, as sin assumes to lead mankind to condemnation. It is his *daily* business, though apparently unconnected with any newspaper establishment—he writes for all, for any that will insert his pieces, and under many signatures. Nine tenths of the violent essays that appear in the *Boston jacobin* papers are the productions of his pen. I believe what he says in the extract, because it is supported by a multitude of notorious facts. This *Lowell* is the first American citizen, that I name in the REGISTER for reprehension; and he, probably, may be the last. I should not have named him except to caution the people, that the various infuriated essays in the *Boston* papers, written under different appearances, as if to shew a general sentiment, are chiefly the work of this individual. I wish not to judge him wrongfully—but when opportunity is fit, we may hear his being deemed “*worthy of a statue of gold*” by some member of the *British* parliament for “*his services in America*,” as *Cobbett* was esteemed for his.

If this capital be *British*, the same inducement prevails—the jacobins not being able to rule the state, would rule the banks—they must govern something, or somewhere, and

†This extract is taken from the “*Ohve Branch*,” it is one of the number of series of essays called the “*road to ruin*.”

"Rather to reign in hell than serve in heaven." be loath to part with the power committed to them by the enemy. Besides they are making profitable speculations on this money, dealing greatly in the public securities, like *jeu brokers*. The capital being taken as *British*, every reader will form his own conclusions why it is deposited at *Boston*. It certainly is not there "to build churches."

Men of *New England*, what interest have you in any of these things? Will you be plunged in *civil war* that some twenty or fifty of the ambitious may have power? Will you continue the war, "affording the enemy aid and comfort," that the same set may prosecute a *smuggling business*, or hold *British funds* to speculate on the public stocks? This war was *yours*—it began for *your* commerce and at *your* instigation. Your jacobins now appear willing to abandon every species of trade that *Great Britain* pleases to "regulate" by an order in council, or otherwise. Take care that the people of the other states do not pledge themselves. If an honorable peace can now be obtained, never hereafter to concern themselves about the *carrying trade*, and to become really, what you have falsely been told that they were, "enemies of commerce." I will caution you that a principle is prevailing to a considerable extent, that we shall never interfere with any regulations of trade, that do not immediately affect the carrying of our own productions to their immediate market, and the immediate transportation of goods hither. Take the matter into consideration and see how it will operate on the general relations of the commerce you had so boasted of by your lawyers. I fear the proceedings of your jacobins may establish this principle. If so—better than one half of the trade you possessed is lost without hope of redemption. Put down these base men, "srown" them into the insignificance that their numbers deserve; vote against the administration, if you cannot approve its measures, and turn them out if you can—but obey the laws, repel the invader, and give us evidence of your "religion, morality and steady habits" by expelling traitors from influence amongst you. THE MAJORITY MUST RULE; bad, indeed, would it be if three states should dictate to fifteen, one of which states (*New-York*) is at this time, perhaps, quite as populous and as wealthy as all those to be represented in the *Hartford* convention; and if not so now, will, in 10 or 20 years, be twice as powerful. Redeem yourselves from the sins of those wicked persons—obey *Washington*; and suspect every one for a villain that splutters about "geographical distinctions." Our interests are not separate—regard him as a *British pensioner* (and nine times out of ten you will be right, unless he be one of those little creatures that retails the wholesale fals-

hood of the great jacobins) who shall say that the south and the north are "*natural enemies*," as some of your vile paragraphists have declared. Give us the hand of fellowship—we are men, flesh and blood like yourselves: and, supporting and supported, we may defy "a world in arms."

## Attack upon Baltimore.

BRITISH ACCOUNT.

From the *London Gazette Extraordinary*—October 17.

Colonial Department, Downing-st. Oct. 17.

Captain McDougall arrived early this morning with a despatch addressed to Earl Bathurst, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state, by col. Bosc, of which the following is a copy.

MY LORD—I have the honor to inform your lordship, that the division of troops under command of major-general Ross effected a disembarkation on the morning of the 12th of September, near North Point, on the left point of the Patapsco river, distant from Baltimore about 13 miles, with a view of pushing a reconnoissance, in co-operation with the naval forces, to that town; and acting thereon as the enemy's strength and positions might be found to dictate.

The approach on this side to Baltimore lays through a small peninsula formed by the Patapsco and Back rivers, and generally from two to three miles broad, while it narrows in some places to less than half a mile.

Three miles from North Point the enemy had entrenched himself quite across this neck of land, towards which (the disembarkation having been completed at an early hour) the troops advanced.

The enemy was actively employed in the completion of this work, deepening the ditch and strengthening its front by a low abattis, both which, however, he precipitately abandoned, on the approach of our skirmishers, leaving in our hands some few dragons, being part of his rear-guard.

About two miles beyond this post our advance became engaged; the country was here closely wooded, and the enemy's riflemen were enabled to conceal themselves. At this moment the gallant general Ross received a wound in his breast, which proved mortal. He only survived to recommend a young and unprovided family to the protection of his king and country.

Thus fell at an early age one of the brightest ornaments of his profession; one who, whether at the head of a regiment, a brigade, or corps, had alike displayed the talents of command; who was not less beloved in his private than enthusiastically admired in his public character; and whose only fault, if it may be deemed so, was an excess of gallantry, enterprize and devotion, to the service.

If ever it were permitted to a soldier to lament those who fall in battle, we may indeed in this instance claim that melancholy privilege.

Thus it is, sir, that the honor of addressing your lordship, and the command of this army, have devolved upon me; duties which, under any other circumstances, might have been embraced as the most enviable gifts of fortune; and here I venture to solicit through your lordship, his royal highness the prince regent's consideration to the circumstance of my succeeding, during operations of so much moment, to an officer of such high and established merit.

Our advance continuing to press forward, the enemy's light troops were pushed to within five miles of Baltimore, where a corps of about 6000 men, six

pieces of artillery, and some hundred cavalry, were discovered posted under cover of a wood, drawn up in a very dense order, and lining a strong palisade\* which crossed the main road nearly at right angles. The creeks and inlets of the Patapsco and Back rivers, which approach each other at this point, will in some measure account for the contracted nature of the enemy's position.

I immediately ordered the necessary dispositions for a general attack. The light brigade, under the command of major Jones, of the 4th, consisting of the 85th light infantry, under major Gibbins, and the light companies of the army under major Pringle, of the 21st, covered the whole of the front, driving in the enemy's skirmishers with great loss on his main body. The 4th regiment, under major Pounce, by a detour through some hollow ways, gained, unperceived, a lodgment close upon the enemy's left. The remainder of the right brigade, under the command of the hon. Lieut. col. Mullins, consisting of the 44th regiment, under major Johnson the marines of the fleet, under capt. Robbys, and a detachment of seamen under capt. Money, of the *Taave*, formed a line along the enemy's front, while the left brigade under col. Peterson, consisting of the 21st regiment, commanded by major Whitaker, the 2d battalion of marines, by Lieut. col. Malcolm, and a detachment of marines, by major Lewis, remained in columns on the road, with orders to deploy to his left, and press the enemy's right, the moment the ground became sufficiently open to admit of that movement.

In this order, the signal being given, the whole of the troops advanced rapidly to the charge. In less than 15 minutes the enemy's force being utterly broken and dispersed, fled in every direction over the country, leaving on the field 2 pieces of cannon, with a considerable number of killed, wounded, and prisoners.

The enemy's loss in this short but brilliant affair, was from five to six hundred in killed and wounded; while at the most moderate computation, he is at least one thousand hors de combat. The 5th regiment of militia, in particular, has been represented as nearly annihilated.

The day being now far advanced, and the troops (as is always the case on the first march after disembarkation) much fatigued, we halted for the night on the ground of which the enemy had been dispossessed. Here I received a communication from vice-admiral the hon. sir Alex. Cochrane, informing me that the frigates, bomb ships, and flotilla of the fleet, would on the ensuing morning take their stations as previously promised.

At day-break on the 13th, the army again advanced, and at 10 o'clock I occupied a favorable position eastward of Baltimore, distant about a mile and a half, and from whence I could reconnoitre at my leisure the defences of that town.

Baltimore is completely surrounded by strong but detached hills, on which the enemy had constructed a chain of palisaded redoubts, connected by a small breastwork: I have, however, reason to think that the defence to the northward and westward of the place were in a very unfinished state. Chink-pinhill, which lay in front of our position, completely commands the town: this was the strongest part of the line, and here the enemy seemed most apprehensive of attack. These works were defended, according to the best information which we could obtain, by about fifteen thousand men, with a large train of artillery.

\*This "palisade" was a common post and rail fence!—nothing else, whatsoever.—Ed.

Judging it perfectly feasible, with the description of forces under my command, I made arrangements for a night attack, during which the superiority of the enemy's artillery would not have been so much felt, and capt. Macdougall, the bearer of these despatches, will have the honor to point out to your lordship those particular parts of the line which I had proposed to act on.

During the evening, however, I received a communication from the commander in chief of the naval forces, by which I was informed, that in consequence of the entrance to the harbor being closed up by vessels sunk for that purpose by the enemy, a naval co-operation against the town and camp was found impracticable.

Under these circumstances, and keeping in view your lordship's instructions, it was agreed between the vice-admiral and myself, that the capture of the town would not have been a sufficient equivalent to the loss which might probably be sustained in storming the heights.

Having formed this resolution, after compelling the enemy to sink upwards of 20 vessels in different parts of the harbor, causing the citizens to remove almost the whole of their property to places of more security inland, obliging the government to concentrate all the military force of the surrounding states, harassing the militia, and forcing them to collect from many remote districts, causing the enemy to burn a valuable rope-walk, with other public buildings, in order to clear the glacis in front of their redoubts, besides having beaten and routed them in a general action, I retired on the 14th, three miles from the position which I had occupied, where I halted during some hours.

This tardy movement was partly caused by an expectation that the enemy might possibly be induced to move out of the intrenchments and follow us, but he profited by the lesson which he had received on the 12th, and towards the evening I retired the troops about three miles and a half further, where I took up my ground for the night.

Having ascertained, at a late hour on the morning of the 15th, that the enemy had no disposition to quit his intrenchments, I moved down and re-embarked the army at North Point, not leaving a man behind, and carrying with me about 200 prisoners, being persons of the best families in the city, and which number might have been considerably increased, was not the fatigue of the troops an object principally to be avoided.

I have now to remark to your lordship, that nothing could surpass the zeal, unanimity, and ardor, displayed by every description of force, whether naval, military, or marine, during the whole of these operations.

I am highly indebted to the vice admiral sir A. Cochrane, commander in chief of the naval forces; for the active assistance and zealous co-operation which he was ready, upon every occasion, to afford me; a disposition conspicuous in every branch of the naval service, and which cannot fail to ensure success to every combined operation of this armament.

Captain Edward Crofton, commanding the brigade of seamen appointed to the small arms, for the animated and enthusiastic example which he held forth to his men, deserves my approbation—as do also captains Nourse, Money, Sullivan, and Ramsay, royal navy, for the steadiness and good order which they maintained in their several directions.

I feel every obligation to rear admiral Cockburn for the counsel and assistance which he afforded me, and from which I derived the most signal benefit.

To colonel Patterson, for the steady manner in



which he brought his column into action, I give my best thanks.

The hon. lieutenant colonel Mullins, deserved every approbation for the excellent order in which he led that part of the right brigade under his immediate command, while charging the enemy in line.

Major Jones, commanding the light brigade, merits my best acknowledgments, for the active and skillful dispositions by which he covered the movements of the army.

The distinguished gallantry of captain De Bathe 95th light infantry, was being particularly reported to me, and I beg to record my own knowledge of his conduct on former occasions.

To major Finney, 4th regiment, for the manner, in which he gained and turned the enemy's left, as well as for the excellent discipline maintained in that regiment, every particular praise is due.

The services of major Gubbins, commanding the 85th light infantry; and of major Kenny, commanding the light companies, were highly commendable.

Captain Mached, commanding the royal artillery; captain Combs, a meritorious officer of that corps, and lieutenant Lawrence, of the marine artillery, are entitled to my best thanks; as is captain Beaman, commanding royal engineers, for the ability he displayed in his particular branch of service.

Lieutenant Evans, 3d dragoons, acting deputy quartermaster general to this army, for the unremitting zeal, activity, and perfect intelligence which he evinced in the discharge of the various and difficult duties of his department, I feel warmly indebted to, and I beg to solicit, through your lordship, a promotion suitable to the high professional merits of this officer.

Captain Medougall, aid-de camp to the late general Ross (and who has acted as assistant adjt. gen. in the absence of major Debieg through indisposition,) is the bearer of these dispatches, and having been in the confidence of general Ross, as well as in mine, will be found perfectly capable of giving your lordship any further information relative to the operations of this army which you may require; he is an officer of great merit and promise; and I beg to recommend him to your lordship's protection.

I have the honor to be, &c.

ARTHUR BROOKE, colonel commanding.

*Return of killed and wounded in the action with the enemy, near Baltimore, on the 12th September, 1814.*  
General Staff—1 major-general, 2 horses killed, 1 horse wounded.

Royal artillery—6 rank and file wounded.

Royal marine artillery—1 rank and file killed, 3 do wounded.

4th regiment, 1st battalion—1 sergeant, 1 rank and file wounded—3 sergeants, 10 rank and file wounded.

21st regiment, 1st battalion—1 subaltern, 1 sergt. 9 rank and file killed; 1 captain, 1 subaltern, 2 sergeants, 77 rank and file wounded.

44th regt. 1st battl.—11 rank and file killed; 3 captains, 3 subalterns, 5 sergeants, 78 rank and file wounded.

85th light infantry—3 rank and file killed; 2 capt. 1 subaltern, 26 rank and file wounded.

Royal marines, 2d batt.—4 rank and file killed; 10 rank and file wounded.

Royal marines, 3d batt.—2 rank and file killed; 1 sergeant, 9 rank and file wounded.

Detachments of royal marines from the ships, attached to the 2d battalion—2 rank and file killed; 1 do wounded.

Detachments of royal marines under the command of capt. Robyns—2 rank and file killed; 1 captain, 9 rank and file wounded.

Total—1 general staff, 1 subaltern, 2 sergeants, 33 rank and file killed; 7 captains, 4 subalterns, 11 sergeants, 229 rank and file wounded.

*Names of officers killed and wounded.*

KILLED—General staff—maj. general Robert Ross. 21st Fusiliers—lieut. Gracie.

Wounded—1st Fusiliers—brevet maj. Renny, slightly, lieut. Lawson, severely.

44th regt.—brevet major Croke, slightly; captain H. Greenshields, dangerously (since dead) capt. G. Hill, lieut. R. Cruice, ensign J. White, severely.

85th light infantry—capt. W. P. De Bathe and J. D. Hicks, lieut. G. Wallers, slightly.

Royal marines—captain John Robyns, severely. (Signed) HENRY DEBIEG,

Maj. A. D. A. general.

*Admiralty Office, Oct. 17.*

Captain Crofton, acting captain of his majesty's ship the Royal Oak, arrived this morning at this office with despatches from vice admiral the hon. sir Alexander Cochrane, K. B. addressed to John Wilson Croker, Esq. of which the following are copies:—

*H. M. ship Tonnant, Chesapeake, Sept. 17.*

Sir—I request that you will be pleased to inform my lords commissioners of the admiralty, that the approaching equinoctial new moon rendering it unsafe to proceed immediately out of the Chesapeake with the combined expedition, to act upon the plans which had been concerted previous to the departure of the Iphigenia; maj. gen. Ross and myself resolved to occupy the intermediate time to advantage, by making a demonstration on the city of Baltimore, which might be converted into a real attack, should circumstances appear to justify it; and as our arrangements were soon made, I proceeded up this river, and anchored off the mouth of the Patuxon, on the 11th inst. where the frigates and smaller vessels entered, at a convenient distance for landing the troops.

At an early hour the next morning, the disembarkation of the army was effected without opposition, having attached to it a brigade of 600 seamen under captain Edward Crofton (late of the Leopard) the second battalion of marines of the squadron, and the colonial black marines. Rear admiral Cockburn accompanied the general, to advise and arrange as might be deemed necessary for our combined efforts.

So soon as the army moved forward I hoisted my flag in the Surprise, and with the remainder of the frigates, bombs, sloops, and the rocket-ships, passed farther up the river, to render what co-operation could be found practicable.

While the bomb vessels were working up, in order that we might open our fire upon the enemy's fort at day break next morning, an account was brought to me, that general Ross, when reconnoitering the enemy, had received a mortal wound by a musket ball, which closed his glorious career, before he could be brought off to the ship.

It is a tribute due to the memory of this gallant and respected officer, to pause in my relation, while I lament the loss that his majesty's service and the army of which he was one of the brightest ornaments, have sustained by his death.—The unanimity, the zeal which he manifested on every occasion, while I had the honor of serving with him, gave life and ease to the most arduous undertakings.—Too heedless of his personal security when in the field, his devotion to the care and honor of his army has caused the termination of his valuable life. The major-general has left a wife and family for whom I am confident his grateful country will provide.

*What river? the river Chesapeake!*

Ed.

The skirmish which had deprived the army of its brave general was a prelude to a most decisive victory over the flower of the enemy's troops. Colonel Brook, on whom the command devolved, having pushed forward our force to within five miles of Baltimore, where the enemy about six or seven thousand, had taken up an advanced position, strengthened by field pieces, and where he had disposed himself, apparently with the intention of making a determined resistance, fell upon the enemy with such impetuosity that he was obliged soon to give way, and fly in every direction leaving on the field of battle a considerable number of killed and wounded, and two pieces of cannon.

For the particulars of this brilliant affair, I beg leave to refer their lordships to rear-admiral Cockburn's dispatch, transmitted herewith.

At day break the next morning, the bombs having their stations within shell range, supported by the *Surprise*, with the other frigates and sloops, opened their fire upon the fort that protected the entrance of the harbor, and I had now an opportunity of observing the strength and the preparations of the enemy.

The approach to the town on the land side was defended by commanding heights, upon which was constructed a chain of redoubts connected by a breast work, with a ditch in front, an extensive train of artillery, and show of force that was reported to be from 15 to 20,000 men.

The entrance by sea, within which the town is retired nearly three miles, was entirely obscured by a barrier of vessels sunk at the mouth of the harbor, defended inside by gun boats, flanked on the right by a strong and regular fortification, and on the left by a battery of several heavy guns.

These preparations rendering it impracticable to afford any essential co-operation by sea, I considered that an attack on the enemy's strong position by the army only, with such disparity of force, though confident of success, might risk a greater loss than the possession of the town would compensate for, while holding in view the ulterior operations of this force in the contemplation of his majesty's government; and, therefore as the primary object of our movement had been already fully accomplished, I communicated my observations to col. Brook, who coinciding with me in opinion, it was mutually agreed that we should withdraw.

The following morning the army began leisurely to retire; and so salutary was the effect produced on the enemy by the defeat he had experienced, that notwithstanding every opportunity was offered for his repeating the conflict, with an infinite superiority, our troops re-embarked without molestation; the ships of war dropped down as the army retired.

The result of this demonstration has been the defeat of the army of the enemy, the destruction, by themselves, of a quantity of shipping, the burning of an extensive rope-walk, and other public erections, the causing of them to remove their property from the city, and above all, the collecting and harassing of his armed inhabitants from the surrounding country; producing a total stagnation of their commerce; and heaping upon them considerable expenses, at the same time effectually drawing off their attention and support from other important quarters.

It has been the source of the greatest gratification to me, the continuation of that unanimity existing between the two services, which I have before noticed to their lordships: and I have reason to assure them, that the command of the army has fallen upon a most zealous and able officer in colonel Brook, who has followed up the system of cordiality that

had been so beneficially adopted by his march accompanied chief.

Rear admiral Cockburn, to whom I had confided that part of the naval service which was connected with the army, evinced his usual zeal and ability, and executed his important trust to my entire satisfaction.

Rear admiral Malcolm, who regulated the collection, debarkation and re-embarkation of the troops, and the supplies they required, has merited my best thanks for his indefatigable exertions; and I have to express my acknowledgments for the counsel and assistance afforded us in all our operations, I have received from rear admiral Codrington, the captain of the fleet.

The captains of the squadron who were employed in the various duties afloat, were all emulous to promote the service in which they were engaged, and, with the officers acting under them, are entitled to my fullest approbation.

I beg leave to call the attention of their lordships to the report rear admiral Cockburn has made of the meritorious and gallant conduct of the naval brigade; as well as the accompanying letter from colonel Brook, expressing his obligations to captain Edward Crofton, who commanded, and captains T. B. Sullivan, Rowland, Money, and Robert Ramsay, who had charge of divisions; and I have to recommend these officers, together with those who are particularly noticed by the rear admiral, to their lordships favorable consideration.

Captain Robyns of the royal marines, who commanded the marines of the squadron on this occasion, and in the operations against Washington, being severely wounded, I beg leave to bring him to their lordships recollection, as having been frequently noticed for his gallant conduct during the services on the Chesapeake, and to recommend him, with lieutenant Sampson Marshall, of the *Diadem*, who is dangerously wounded, to their lordships favor and protection.

First lieutenant John Lawrence, of the royal marine artillery, who commanded the rocket brigade, has again rendered essential service, and is highly spoken of by colonel Brook.

Captain Edward Crofton, who will have the honor of delivering this dispatch, is competent to explain any further particulars; and I beg leave to recommend him to their lordships protection, as a most zealous and intelligent officer.

I have the honor to be, &c.

ALEX. COCHRANE,

Vice admiral, and commander in chief.

To John Wilson Croker, &c.

#### REMARKS ON THE PRECEDING.

We shall not notice all the falshoods in those accounts. It would occupy too much room, and might have the appearance of *incivility* to go from paragraph to paragraph, and say that *each* contained an untruth. The following are some of the *mammoth* that tower over the lesser misrepresentations.

*It is false*, that we had entrenched ourselves quite across the neck of land, three miles from North Point. [See Brook's letter, 3d paragraph.] Some works at this place had been just begun; but there were no soldiers within two miles of it, except a few dragoons on the look-out. The *advance* of our corps was at the spot where *Ross* was killed.

*It is false*, that we had 6000 men, [see 9th paragraph.] The whole force under brig gen. *Stricker* was only 3185\* men, infantry, artillery and cavalry, of these not more than 1500 were actually engaged. There were no other troops than *Sticker's* that went

\*From the morning reports of the several corps.

to meet the enemy; and of these, through the disorderly conduct of the 51st regt. many had no chance to fire a gun at him.

It is false, that we lost from 5 to 600 men in killed and wounded, or that "it is a moderate computation" we "were at least 1000 hors de combat." We had 24 killed, 139 wounded, and 50 prisoners—total 213. Of the wounded, 26 were made prisoners and paroled. The 5th regiment represented to "be nearly annihilated," in killed, wounded and missing lost less than 80 men out of 550. So much for paragraph the 12th.

It is false that col. Brook carried away "about 200 prisoners" [see paragraph 21.] He had exactly 49 and no more. This is wantonly erroneous.

It is false that the enemy had only 39 killed. The precise number we shall never know perhaps, but from the number we buried, it must have been much greater. The enemy himself buried many.

It is false that, we lost two pieces of cannon; one only was lost (a 4 pounder,) and that by the running away of the horses.

It is false that col. Brook took off all his own men—we picked up several stagglers.

The admiral's letter, though less abundant in downright falshood than the colonel's, is equally calculated to lead into error. A man may speak falsely in the words of truth. He lays great stress on the "sunken vessels in the harbor," and implies that they kept him from approaching the fort, which they did not; it was our cannon that prevented him. He says nothing more of the bombardment than that a "fire was opened!" He does not tell that it lasted from sunrise on the 13th to 7 o'clock, A. M on the 14th, during which he threw from 15 to 1800 great bombs, weighing about 200lbs. each, with some round shot and rockets—he does not say that whenever he got within reach of our guns he was driven off with precipitation, nor tell the failure of his night attack—he gives us no list of killed or wounded, though the screams of his people were heard to the shore. He tells one truth, that we "burnt a ropewalk"—but all the rest about shipping destroyed or public buildings burnt, is false.

Such are "BRITISH OFFICIALS!!!"

The entire force collected for the defence of Baltimore, and stationed in the forts, batteries and gun vessels, entrenched or in the field, was less than 15,000 men. The British force was not much less. It is true, they could not properly have divested their snips of all their men; but might have done it with as much propriety as we could have divested our forts and batteries of those who fought them, or who stood ready to support them, in case of a landing being made.

List of the killed and wounded of the third brigade, at the late engagement at Long Log Lane, September 12, 1814.—Communicated to the editor of the Register by major Frailey.

Captain Montgomery's Artillery.

Wounded—Jos. R. Brookes, 2d lieutenant, 1 sergeant and 12 privates, one since dead.

5th regiment infantry.

Killed—6 privates.

Wounded—captain Stewart, lieutenant Reese, 1 sergeant, 2 corporals and 40 privates.

27th regiment infantry.

Killed—Adjutant Jas. L. Donaldson and 8 privates.

Wounded—Major Moore, 2 sergeants, 2 corporals and 41 privates.

39th regiment infantry.

Killed—3 privates.

Wounded—Captain Quantril, 2 corporals and 20 privates.

51st regiment infantry.

Killed—3 privates.

Wounded—Ensign Kirby and 3 privates.

Rifle battalion.

Killed—lieutenant Andre and 2 privates.

Wounded—2 sergeants and 5 privates.

RECAPITULATION.

Killed—1 adjutant, 1 subaltern and 22 privates.

Wounded—1 major, 2 captains, 3 subalterns, 12 non. com. officers and 121 privates.

Made prisoners—1 subaltern, 49 non. com. officers and privates.—Total 213.

The recapitulation contains the aggregate of prisoners taken by the enemy, excepting those paroled at the meeting house, included in the wounded. I am unable at present to state to what regiments they were attached. As the honorable colonel Brook has vied with his compatriots in falsifying an official report, I beg you will favor the public with this account in any form you please. I pledge myself for its correctness. Yours respectfully,

L. FRAILEY, late brig. maj.  
3d brigade M. M.

## Proceedings of Congress.

IN SENATE.

Wednesday, November 30.—The senate proceeded to the consideration of the following report, made on the 28th by Mr. Tait from a committee appointed to enquire into the subject, which terminates with the following resolutions:

Resolved, That it is expedient to authorise by law the appointment of officers above the grade of captain in the navy of the United States.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, at this time, to make any provision for conferring naval rank by brevet.

The first of these resolutions was agreed to and referred to the committee to report a bill accordingly; and the second resolve was postponed to the first Monday in January next.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday Nov. 25.—After some other business, the bank bill again occurring, and great diversity of sentiment still appearing on several points, the subject was referred to a select committee, and the house went into a committee of the whole on the tax bills. Before they were wholly gone through, the committee rose and the house adjourned.

Saturday, Nov. 26. The house in committee of the whole on the tax bills. An amendment was made therein by striking out twenty cents per gallon, as the duty on spirits distilled, and inserting fifteen, with which, however, the house refused to concur—78 to 72.

Five or six other amendments were proposed, which were rejected by large majorities, and the bill ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Monday, Nov. 28. Mr. Lowndes, of S. C. from the select committee to whom was committed the bill to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America, reported that the committee had had said bill under consideration, but not having been able to discover any means of uniting the conflicting opinions on the subject, had therefore directed him to report the bill without amendment. Mr. L. also laid before the house a letter obtained from the secretary of the treasury by the committee, on the subject of the amendments made to the bank bill.

[This letter was read. It is written with remarkable frankness, and expresses a decided disapprobation of the issue of treasury notes, proposed by the amendments made to the bill. The house not having

ordered it to be printed—after a great discussion, moving and voting, the business was suspended to give the bill a third reading—or in other words, it was rejected. For the third reading 4—against it 107.]

*Tuesday, Nov. 29.* This was a busy day. Mr. Johnson from the committee for the purpose, reported on the causes of the success of the invasion of Washington City—which, with some of the accompanying documents was ordered to be printed. They will make a volume. After some debate on the propriety of immediately printing the following correspondence, it was ordered to be done.

*Washington, November 27, 1814.*

SIR—The committee of the house of representatives, to which the bank bill was re-committed on Friday last, have directed me to request you to communicate your opinion in relation to the effect which a considerable issue of treasury notes (to which should be attached the quality of being receivable in subscriptions to the bank) might have upon the credit of the government and particularly upon the prospects of a loan for 1815.

As the bill, as it was referred to the committee, provides for the subscription of 44 millions of treasury notes to form with six millions of specie the capital of the bank, any information which you may think proper to give, either in relation to the practicability of getting them into circulation without depreciation, or in regard to their operation on any part of our fiscal system afterwards, will be very acceptable.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servt.  
WM. LOWNDES.

To the Honorable  
The Secretary of the Treasury.

*Treasury Department, Nov. 27, 1814.*

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, requesting for a committee of the house of representatives an opinion upon the following inquiries:

1. The effect which a considerable issue of treasury notes, with the quality of being receivable in subscriptions to a national bank, will have upon the credit of the government; and particularly, upon the prospects of a loan for 1815?
2. The practicability of getting forty-four millions of treasury notes (forming with six millions of specie, the capital for a national bank) into circulation, without depreciation?

The enquiries of the committee cannot be satisfactorily answered in the abstract; but must be considered in connection with the state of our finances, and the state of the public credit.

When I arrived at Washington, the Treasury was suffering under every kind of embarrassment. The demands upon it were great in amount, while the means to satisfy them were comparatively small; precocious in the collection, and difficult in the application. The demands consisted of dividends upon old and new funded debt, of treasury notes, and of legislative appropriations for the army, the navy, and the current service—all urgent and important. The means consisted:—First, of the fragment of an authority to borrow money, when nobody was disposed to lend, and to issue treasury notes which none but necessitous creditors, or contractors in distress, or commissaries, quarter-masters and navy agents, acting as it were officially, seemed willing to accept:—Second, of the amount of bank credits scattered throughout the United State, and principally in the southern and western banks, which have been rendered in a degree useless, by the stoppage of payments in specie, and the consequent

practicability of transferring the public funds from one place, to meet the public engagements in another place: And, third, of the current supply of money from the imposts, from internal duties, and from the sales of public land, which ceased to be a foundation of any national estimate, or reserve, to provide even for the dividends on the funded debt, when it was found that the treasury notes (only requiring, indeed, a cash payment at the distance of a year) to whomsoever they were issued at the treasury, and almost as soon as they were issued, reached the hands of the collectors, in payments of debts, duties and taxes; thus disappointing and defeating the only remaining expectation of productive revenue.

Under these circumstances (which I had the honor to communicate to the committee of ways and means,) it became the duty of this department to endeavor to remove the immediate pressure from the treasury; to endeavor to restore the public credit; and to endeavor to provide for the expenses of the ensuing year. The only measures that occurred to my mind, for the accomplishment of such important objects, have been presented to the view of congress. The act authorising the receipt of treasury notes in payment of subscriptions to a public loan, was passed, I fear, too late to answer the purpose for which it was designed. It promises at this time little relief, either as an instrument to make money, or to absorb the claims for treasury notes, which are daily becoming due. From this cause, and from other obvious causes, the dividend on the funded debt has not been punctually paid; a large amount of treasury notes have already been dishonored, and the hope of preventing further injury and reproach, in transacting the business of the treasury, is too visionary to afford a moment's consolation.

The actual condition of the treasury, thus described, will serve to indicate the state of the public credit. Public credit depends essentially upon public opinion. The usual test of public credit is, indeed the value of the public debt. The facility of borrowing money is not a test of public credit: for a faithless government, like a desperate individual, has only to increase the premium, according to the exigency, in order to secure a loan. Thus public opinion, manifested in every form, and in every direction, hardly permit us, at the present juncture, to speak of the existence of public credit; and yet, it is not impossible that the government, in the resources of its patronage and its pledges, might find the means of tempting the rich and the avaricious to supply its immediate wants. But when the wants of to-day are supplied, what is the new expedient, that shall supply the wants of to-morrow? If it is now a charter of incorporation, it may then be a grant of land; but, after all, the immeasurable tracts of the western wild, would be exhausted in successive efforts to obtain pecuniary aids and still leave the government necessitous, unless the foundations of public credit were re-established and maintained. In the measures, therefore, which it has been my duty to suggest, I have endeavored to introduce a permanent plan for reviving the public credit; of which the facility of borrowing money in anticipation of settled and productive revenues, is only an incident, although it is an incident as durable as the plan itself. The outline seemed to embrace whatever was requisite, to leave no doubt upon the power and the disposition of the government, in relation to its pecuniary engagements; to diminish, and not to augment the amount of the public debt in the hands of individuals, and to create general confidence, rather by the manner of treating the claims of the present class of creditors, than by the manner of conciliating the favor of a new class.

With these explanatory remarks, sir, I proceed to answer, specially, the questions which you have proposed.

I. I am of opinion, that a considerable issue of treasury notes, with the quality of being receivable in subscriptions to a national bank, will have an injurious effect upon the credit of the government, and also upon the prospects of a loan for 1815.

Because, it will confer, gratuitously, an advantage upon a class of new creditors, over the present creditors of the government standing on a footing of at least equal merit.

Because, it will excite general dissatisfaction among the present holders of the public debt; and general distrust among the capitalists, who are accustomed to advance their money to the government.

Because, a quality of subscribing to the national bank attached to treasury notes exclusively, will tend to depreciate the value of all public debt not possessing that quality; and whatever depreciates the value of the public debt, in this way, must necessarily impair the public credit.

Because, the specie capital of the citizens of the United States, so far as it may be deemed applicable to investments in the public stocks, has already, in a great measure, been so vested; the holders of the present debt will be unable to become subscribers to the bank (if that object should, eventually, prove desirable) without selling their stock at a depreciated rate, in order to procure the whole amount of their subscriptions in treasury notes; and a general depression in the value of the public debt will inevitably ensue.

Because, the very proposition of making a considerable issue of treasury notes, even with the quality of being subscribed to a national bank, can only be regarded as an experiment, on which it seems dangerous to rely; the treasury notes must be purchased at par, with money; a new set of creditors are to be created; it may, or it may not, be deemed an object of speculation by the money holders, to subscribe to the bank; the result of the experiment cannot be ascertained, until it will be too late to provide a remedy in the case of failure; while the credit of the government will be affected, by every circumstance, which keeps the efficacy of its fiscal operations in suspense or doubt.

Because, the prospect of a loan for the year 1815, without the aid of a bank, is faint and unpromising; except, perhaps, so far as the pledge of a specific tax may succeed; and then, it must be recollected, that a considerable supply of money will be required, for the prosecution of the war, beyond the whole amount of the taxes to be levied.

Because, if the loan for the year 1815 be made to depend upon the issue of treasury notes, subscribed to the national bank, it will probably fail for the reasons which have already been suggested; and if the loan be independent of that operation, a considerable issue of treasury notes, for the purpose of creating a bank capital, must, it is believed, deprive the government of every chance of raising money in any other manner.

II. I am of opinion that it will be extremely difficult, if not impracticable, to get 44 millions of treasury notes (forming, with 6 millions of specie, the capital of a national bank) into circulation, with or without depreciation.

Because, if the subscription to the bank becomes an object of speculation, the treasury notes will probably be purchased at the treasury and at the loan offices, and never pass into circulation at all.

Because, whatever portion of the treasury notes might pass into circulation, would be speedily withdrawn, by the speculators in the subscription to the

bank, after arts had been employed to depreciate their value.

Because, it is not believed, that in the present state of the public credit, 44,000,000 of treasury notes can be sent into circulation. The only difference between the treasury notes now issued, and dishonored, consists in the subscribable quality; but reasons have been already assigned for an opinion, that this difference does not afford such confidence in the experiment, as seems requisite to justify a reliance upon it, for accomplishing some of the most interesting objects of the government.

I must beg you, sir, to pardon the haste with which I have written these general answers to your enquiries. But knowing the importance of time; and feeling a desire to avoid every appearance of contributing to the loss of a moment, I have chosen rather to rest upon the intelligence and candor of the committee, than to enter upon a more labored investigation of the subject referred to me.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

A. J. DALLAS.

William Lowndes, Esq. Chairman, &c.

[See page 208.]

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

FOREIGN NEWS.—The despatch vessel *Chaucey*, has arrived at New York from Ostend, which she left Nov. 1, and brings very late and highly important intelligence. The following summary with the articles below inserted at length, present the leading features. We have differed a little from our usual mode of separating the things that concern us, immediately, from those that belong to Europe, especially, because the affairs of that continent may have a powerful effect on our own.

A passenger in the *Chaucey* verbally states, "that the congress at Vienna had broken up—that Great Britain was sending 80,000 men to Belgium—that another continental war was daily expected—and that it was probable a peace would be concluded between Great Britain and the United States." Those general statements are not fully supported by the details given. Lord Hill had not left England, but was expected to be ordered to the continent. News of the capture of Washington, and of the defeats at Baltimore, Plattsburg and on Champlain, had reached London—the three latter served as dampers to the former; for which Lord Wellington, at Paris, prepared a splendid entertainment inviting all the foreign ministers, &c. not one of whom attended. The Gothic conduct of the British in destroying our capitol, &c. has excited an universal sentiment of horror, except among those who, like *our own justices*, have no rule of conduct but to justify whatsoever they may or can do. The "glorious news" of the capture of Washington was translated into the French, German, and Italian languages, and many thousand copies sent to the continent.

Sir E. Pakenham is ordered to America to supply the place of gen. Ross—he is a lieutenant-general. "It is reported that sir Geo. Prevost is ordered home." A very hot press took place on the Thames in the night of Oct. 3, and 800 men were kidnapped—the alleged purpose was to enable the admiralty to man certain vessels "to chase away or capture American privateers, which are occasioning such general destruction to the trade?" A London paper of Oct. 6, says, that the *Wasp* in her affair with the *Avon* did not lose a man [she lost two] and had only one wounded; and adds, "she has since sent a cartel into Plymouth, with a challenge to engage with two brigs in his majesty's service?" The *Chaucey* is

frigate had arrived with 800 prisoners, who were marched to Dartmouth. We notice the forwarding of some small bodies of troops to America, chiefly recruits for the regiments now here. The expedition that sailed from Plymouth (probably about 3000 men) some time ago, it is intimated is destined for *New Orleans*. The London papers complain grievously that American privateers have been fitted out in France. Mr. Crocker, (secretary to the admiralty) has gone to Paris to ascertain the facts respecting them, and to remonstrate as the case may appear. Prevost's force at Plattsburg is acknowledged at 14 or 15,000 men—his loss 1000, and the expence of the expedition £500,000 sterling. They feel excessively sore at his defeat. A French paper says that the English are to occupy the Floridas and Louisiana, with the consent of Spain, and that 9000 Spanish troops were preparing to sail for America—north or south not stated, probably for the Rio del Plata.

OF THE NEGOTIATION at Ghent we have a great mass of paragraphs and reports. It appears certain that the negotiation had not been broken off, and that our commissioners did not expect to return home this winter. They are, individually, on the best terms with the British commissioners, feasting and treating each other with great civility; and some hope may be indulged, especially if the congress at Vienna shall not settle a peace for Europe, that we shall have one. But from the confused accounts it is impossible to gather the truth. *It is said*, that the Duke Constantine of Russia, brother of the emperor, and two secretaries of legation, have appeared at Ghent.

The following, published in a Wilmington (Del.) paper, and accepted as the substance of letters from Mr. Bayard, is perhaps more worthy of credit than any opinion we can form from what we have seen and heard.

We understand that letters were received in town yesterday, dated Ghent the 26th of October.

The negotiations were still pending; but in the opinion of our commissioners, with views on the part of the British government, exclusively to her own purposes, and not with any direct intention of making peace between the two countries.

England was anxious to see the campaign closed in this country, and would be regulated in her demands by the good or ill fortune which should attend her prospects here. She would also be disposed to wait the issue of the congress at Vienna, before she would close the negotiation one way or the other.

Our commissioners did not expect to return before spring.

There was a great probability that there would be a conflict between France and England for the Netherlands.

The National Intelligencer of Wednesday last says—"We are sorry we cannot gratify our readers to day with any statement of the contents of the despatches just received from Ghent, which have not yet transpired.

We have been favored, however, with the perusal of a private letter from one of our ministers, dated the 25th ult, which speaks with uncertainty of the time of their departure from Ghent, and with equal uncertainty of the state of affairs on the continent.

The congress at Vienna is said to have been postponed to the 1st of Nov. In the mean time M. Talleyrand has, it is said, presented a memorial to the envoys to that congress, protesting against the aggrandizement of other powers, and claiming on their part the same moderation which France is asserted to have manifested; in other words, claiming us to

other powers the same return, as France has made, to the condition of 1792.

From what we can learn, it would be highly injudicious for our government or people to calculate on any advantages, to result to our interests, from events to happen across the Atlantic.

CONGRESS AT VIENNA.—The various reports of things belonging, or said to belong to the affairs of this meeting and that at Ghent, would fill our sheet. It has been a sore task to read the whole to attempt to discover truth—but we gather only a little. It is ascertained however that Talleyrand has protested "against the assemblage of troops and against the partition of territory proposed by Great Britain." It is also stated that the different sovereigns who had visited Vienna to attend the congress had retired, leaving their ministers to proceed in the business. There is considerable talk about maritime rights, and we trust that the law of nations will be fixed at this assembly. But nothing is certainly known, and it is useless to fill our paper, devoted to record, with the speculations of individuals.

#### VARIOUS ARTICLES.

The London Statesman asks, "Is it quite clear, that the expedition to Washington will meet universal approbation? Is it certain, that the destruction of the public edifices for destruction-sake alone, is a legitimate method of warfare?" The editor compares these ravages with the conduct of the buccaners of old—and says, "Willingly could we throw a veil of oblivion over our transactions at Washington. *The Cossacks spared Paris, but we spared not the Capital of America.*" He condemns the ministerial papers for justifying the conduct of general Ross, &c.

A letter from Europe received in Baltimore, says, "The conflagration of Washington has done more to open the eyes of Europe upon one subject, and upon the real conduct and character of our enemy than any event of the last twenty years. The whole continent is roused into indignation at it; the Gazettes of France have uttered one consentaneous expression of horror at this most savage warfare; and even some of the English prints have expressed their decided disapprobation in terms which does credit to their conductors."

Paris, Oct. 16.—Several of our journals have openly condemned the conduct of the English at Washington. The Gazette is the only paper that has, in that respect, contradicted the public opinion. According to its own ideas "the public edifices of a country belongs to the conqueror who renders himself master of them." This is a new maxim which was wanted to the rights of men, and of which no celebrated publishers who wrote upon this important subject had as yet thought of. Thus the general who should enter Rome by force of arms might blow up St. Peter's Church and the Pantheon. The right of war authorises only the destruction of fortresses, and of such establishments as contribute to the military strength of the enemy, and can afford him means of resistance. Civil establishments and intended for public use have always been respected by generals who have observed the rights of men, too much forgotten in Europe long since.

The *stuff* of the following may be traced immediately to our own *classe* gazettes—

London Oct. 14.—We have this morning received New York papers to the 4th ult, brought to Plymouth by a Spanish brig, which arrived there on Wednesday. Their contents are interesting.

The official account of the capture of Washington is creditable to our troops.—The only acts of robbery and pilfering of private property are admitted to have been perpetrated by their own countrymen.

The members of the government have again made their appearance at Washington, and now that nothing is left to defend, they are filling the place with troops.

The expectation is very general throughout America, that Madison's speech to congress on the 19th Sept. will convey his resignation. Rufus King is mentioned as likely to be his successor.

From these papers it would appear that the Americans have no hope of success in any quarter. They expect every day to hear of a large British force having attacked and destroyed Sackett's Harbor.—Nor do they seem to have any resources, or even hopes left: for it is now admitted, that no loan can be obtained by the government;—and in consequence, the different states are attempting to negotiate individual loans for their own separate defence. How this is to be effected it is impossible to conceive; for all business is at a stand, and no money in circulation; even the banks of New York and Philadelphia have stopped all payments in specie, and an attempt is made by some of the merchants to induce the public to receive their paper in payments.

October 23.—Several millions of buck-shot are shipping at Portsmouth in the *Leonidas*, which Americans have used so dexterously, from their being accustomed to wild fowl shooting. By rifles in such hands, England has to mourn the loss of a Ross.

*Miscellanies.*—The works on the fortified places along the banks of the *Danube*, &c. are continued with great activity. The Russian ships of war, from England, have arrived in the Baltic. Sweden has refused to give up Pomerania to Denmark until the expense of her war against Norway is paid. There has been a serious riot at Nottingham (Eng.)—and a battle between the manufacturers and the civil officers, in which the former were defeated with two killed. Some parts of Ireland are out of "the king's peace." *Bonaparte* gave a great fete to his troops at Elba, on the 15th and 16th August, and they cried out "long live the emperor!" He is said to have had a correspondence with Austria to obtain his wife, who seems much attached to his fortunes. The congress at Vienna, it is stated, is to fix his permanent residence; that at Elba being only *provisionary*. Various troubles in Spain are spoken of. A spirit of revolution exists; and open rebellion prevails in *Navarre*. Troops were marching to quell it. Every thing seems in the worst state; and we would hope that Ferdinand, the ungrateful, tatters on his throne—the stupid creature is fit for nothing but a convent. A civil war is the universal expectation.—The French appear to hate the English most cordially, and to talk of a war with them or a new revolution. Camps are forming, and troops marching, and armies collecting in various parts, as though the sword was about to leap from its scabbard, and involve Europe again in general war. The amicable relations of Russia and Denmark are expected to be restored. By a circular letter from the British chancellor of the exchequer to the members of parliament, it appears that important things will engage its attention immediately after its meeting (Nov. 8.) *Naples* and *Sarony* seem to present bones of contention. Ferdinand would get back his kingdom, and the allies would divide *Sarony*. The princess of *Wales* has arrived at *Paris*, instead of going to Italy.

**CHARACTERISTIC ANECDOTE.** The following occurred as nearly as possible in the words stated a few days ago, in a lottery and exchange office where the editor of the REGISTER happened to be—

A sailor, in due trim, entered the office and demanded, "if they exchanged United States bank

notes?" On being requested to exhibit them, he pulled out his pocket-book, examined all its partitions, in each of which was money, but not the "bank notes" sought for. He then rammed both hands into his trousers' pockets, and drew out handfuls of notes ruffled into *wads*, with no better success—the waistcoat pockets were searched in the same way, and though full of money the notes required were missing: when as the last resort he impatiently put his hands into his jacket-pockets, out of one of which he drew two treasury notes for \$100 each, and out of the other a like note for the same amount, squeezed and rumped in a *seaman-like manner*. On its being observed that he carried his money too carelessly and might lose it, he said—*And 'spose I do, sir, where's the odds? I've only got to go and take some more of 'em.*" He was one of *PRRY's* men, and had just received his share of the fleet captured on *Erie*.

#### PROCLAMATION.

*To the free colored inhabitants of Louisiana.*

Through a mistaken policy you have heretofore been deprived of a participation in the glorious struggle for national rights in which our country is engaged. This no longer shall exist.

As sons of freedom, you are now called upon to defend our most inestimable blessing. As Americans, your country looks with confidence to her adopted children, for a valorous support, as a faithful return for the advantages enjoyed under her mild and equitable government. As fathers, husbands and brothers, you are summoned to rally round the standard of the Eagle, to defend all which is dear in existence.

Your country, although calling for your exertions, does not wish you to engage in her cause, without amply remunerating you for the services rendered. Your intelligent minds are not to be led away by false representations.—Your love of honor would cause you to despise the man who should attempt to deceive you. In the sincerity of a soldier, and the language of truth I address you.

To every noble hearted, generous, freeman of color, volunteering to serve during the present contest with Great Britain, and no longer, there will be paid the same bounty in money and lands, now received by the white soldiers of the U. States, viz. \$124 in money, and 160 acres of land. The non-commissioned officers and privates will also be entitled to the same monthly pay and daily rations, and clothes furnished to any American soldier.

On enrolling yourselves in companies, the major-general commanding will select officers for your government, from your white fellow citizens. Your non-commissioned officers will be appointed from among yourselves.

Due regard will be paid to the feelings of freemen and soldiers. You will not, by being associated with white men in the same corps, be exposed to improper comparisons or unjust sarcasm. As a distinct, independent battalion or regiment, pursuing the path of glory, you will, undivided, receive the applause and gratitude of your countrymen.

To assure you of the sincerity of my intentions and my anxiety to engage your invaluable services to our country, I have communicated my wishes to the governor of Louisiana, who is fully informed as to the manner of enrolment, and will give you every necessary information on the subject of this address.

Head quarters, 7th military district,  
Mobile, Sept. 21st 1814.

ANDREW JACKSON,  
Maj. gen. commanding

**ADVERTISEMENT!**—The following appears in a New-York paper in the shape of an advertisement: *English Manufacture, and memento of the "magnanimity" of Commodore Harey!*

Just received, and offered for sale, about **THREE TONS** of round SHOT, consisting of 6, 9, 12, 18, 24, and 32 lbs. very handsome, being a small proportion which were fired from his Britannic majesty's ships, on the unoffending inhabitants of Stonington, in the recent brilliant attack on that place. Likewise a few carcasses, in good order, weighing about 200 lbs. each. Apply to

S. TRUMBULL, 41, Peck-dip.

N. B. The purchaser of the above can be supplied with about two tons more if required.

New-York, November 19.

**SMUGGLING.**—A six horse waggon laden with British goods, was seized in the streets of New Haven, on the 14th inst. and other goods to the value of \$30,000 were found secreted in a barn near Stonington, a few days ago, by the surveyor of that port. These lots were probably from "his majesty's" smugglers in the sound.

This nefarious business has greatly contributed to the scarcity of species; for that, also, is smuggled off to pay for the goods smuggled in. This left-handed trade is doing us serious injury, totally changing the relations of trade.

**THE NIAGARA.**—The Canadian papers grumble as much at the result of the campaign on the Niagara frontier as some of our own. One of them says—"The arrival of the troops from the continent of Europe had raised so high the expectations of all, that the result of the campaign were expected to have been far different from what they had proved hitherto."

**NEW-YORK** is defended by five hundred and seventy pieces of battering cannon and mortars, besides the pieces on board the President frigate and gun-boats and a formidable park of field artillery—in all not less than 900 pieces of ordnance. To which will soon be added the steam battery.

**AMELIA ISLAND.** A very extensive and profitable trade—an honest trade—is carried on between this place and the southern states; and the products of our soil, to a large amount, are there exchanged for the foreign goods required, though the passages are closely watched by the enemy.

**FULTON THE FIRST.**—From the N. Y. National Advocate, Nov. 22.—Yesterday morning the steam vessel, *Fulton the First*, was moved from the wharf of Messrs. Brown's, in the East river, to the works of Mr. Fulton on the North river, to receive her machinery, which operation was performed by fastening the steam-boat car of Neptune to her larboard, and the steam boat Fulton to the starboard side. Both engines being put in motion at the same time, they towed her through the water from three and an half to four miles an hour. Considering the power which the two steam boats consume in driving themselves, there could not be more than the power of 25 or 40 horses applied to drive the steam vessel. But as her steam engine will possess a power equal to 100 horses, there cannot now be a doubt that she will run from four to five miles an hour when finished—stem any of our tides, and take any position in a calm. Every thing thus far favors the best hopes which have been entertained of this invention.

**VIRGINIA MILITIA.**—Message from the governor to the house of delegates, October 13, 1814.—The secretary of war, having given an assurance, that the general government will reimburse this state the expense attending the militia, who have been called into the service of the United States, has, as an

earnest of this promise, forwarded 100,000 dollars in treasury notes. They were immediately deposited with the treasurer for safe keeping. I forbore to mention it an earlier day, hoping I could commute them for bank notes. Being, however, disappointed, in that expectation, it has become necessary to present the subject to the legislature. I suggest the propriety of a law or resolution, directing them to be officially received by the treasurer, and to be disposed of, as to the legislature shall seem best.

JAMES BARBOUR.

**VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.**—On Thursday last, (says the Richmond Enquirer of November 19,) the resolutions which had been sent to the senate respecting the negotiations at Ghent, were returned to the house of delegates in the following shape:

"The legislature of Virginia, sensibly alive to the blessings of peace, and anxious for its restoration upon just and honorable terms, are nevertheless ready at all times to encounter war, with all its privations and horrors, in preference to a sacrifice of national rights or national honor. Under the influence of these sentiments, they hailed the declaration of the prince regent to his parliament, professing a desire for the restoration of peace with the United States, upon terms honorable to both nations, as the harbinger of the speedy return of that inestimable blessing. It is however with mingled emotions of indignation and regret, they perceive, in the terms proposed by the commissioners at Ghent, as the basis of negotiation with the United States, an anxious solicitude on the part of the enemy for a continuation of the war, by the assertion of arrogant pretensions, extravagant in themselves, insulting to our national character, and subversive even of the rights and sovereignty of the United States. Under such circumstances and at such a crisis, silence on the part of the legislature might be construed into apathy or timidity: Therefore,

*Resolved unanimously*, as the opinion of this legislature, that a just and honorable peace is only to be obtained by a vigorous prosecution of the war: And that for that purpose, the proper authorities should call into immediate and active operation all the energies and resources of the United States."

It is proper to state that this preamble and resolution passed the senate *unanimously*.

Several amendments were moved in the house of delegates which were rejected. Among these, a motion to strike out the word "arrogant" which was negatived, yeas 33, noes 123—Also, a motion to strike out the preamble was rejected, yeas 118, noes 30—principally upon the ground that it placed any reliance upon the word of the prince regent, as "the harbinger" of peace.

The resolution itself was passed *unanimously*, yeas 144.

The loan-bill has passed both branches, in conformity with the propositions of the Farmers' Bank, as stated in our list.

Yesterday the house of delegates were engaged upon Mr. Stevenson's resolution for a more permanent corps of troops—which was finally adopted in the following shape:—yeas 83, noes 59.

*Resolved*, That it is expedient to raise thousand men, to be placed under the orders and control of the general government, as well for the further and more vigorous prosecution of this war as for the defence of this commonwealth, in seven years, or during the war:—*Provided*, That the government of the United States shall declare that the said troops shall be paid, clothed and subsisted by and at the expence of the United States."

It was avowed by the friends of this proposition, that not a man was to be procured until the acceptance of the general government had been obtained.



and that the troops were to be under the complete jurisdiction of the United States.

**NORTH CAROLINA**—The legislature of North Carolina convened at Raleigh, on the 21st inst. The following resolution preceded by some patriotic remarks, was introduced by Mr. PORTER, of Rutherford, and passed *unanimously*

*Resolved*, That the most efficient measures be adopted by this general assembly to aid the general government in a vigorous prosecution of the war against Great Britain and her allies

Mr. DALLAS' letter, inserted in the congressional proceedings, will be read with deep anxiety. Much as we lament the state of the treasury and the effect that his exposition of it must have upon the credit that was left it, we thank the gentleman for the frankness and firmness with which he has met the enquiries of the committee.\* We trust it may turn the attention of congress from *eternal* spouting to acting—from dilly dally expedients, and temporary arrangements, to decisive and permanent measures. They have been in session between two and three months, and done nothing; though convoked at an extraordinary period, for the dispatch of extraordinary business. It will not do—the people are disgusted, and the nation will be ruined if such a course is pursued a little longer. These are no words of course. I believe them in their fullest latitude.—But if they meet the crisis boldly, the people will support them in *any thing* they can constitutionally devise, to meet the emergencies of the times. The failure of the public credit is entirely owing to the want of taxes that would have been cheerfully paid, and which ought to have been levied long ago.

There is a rumor that Mr. Dallas will resign. We hope not. He seems just such a man as the people want.

#### MILITARY.

Captain Samuel T. Dyson, of the United States artillery, is dismissed from the service of the United States, for "shamefully abandoning and destroying fort Warburton, on the approach of the enemy."

The anniversary of the evacuation of New York by the British in 1783, was celebrated in great style on the 25th ult. The troops under arms were 12,000, collected at one point.

We have a report from New Orleans stating that a new governor had arrived at Peasacola, who had ordered off the British. They have been very quiet on the coast since the drubbing they got at Mobile.

Daniel Parker, late chief clerk of the war department, has been appointed adjutant and inspector-general in the army.

It appears that the greater part of the New-York and Pennsylvania militia called out for the defence of the maritime frontier have been dismissed.

*Extract of a letter from Arthur Sinclair, Esq. captain commanding the U. S. naval force on the Upper Lakes, to the secretary of the navy, dated*

"Of Erie, 20th November, 1814.

"Thinking it probable information will not reach you before this of general McArthur's excursion into Canada, I have the satisfaction to inform you, that by the cartel Lady Prevost, which vessel has just returned from landing prisoners at Long Point, I have learned of his having visited that post, where he was opposed by five or six hundred militia, who had entrenched themselves. He charged their works and captured more than one half of them. He passed down as low as the Grand River on his way to join general Izard, at Fort Erie; but hearing of the

destruction of that post, and the evacuation of the province by our army, he returned to Detroit.

"The citizens on the other side speak in high terms of his generous and humane conduct in his whole route through the country."

#### NAVAL.

The Norfolk transport, a great ship that lately sailed from England, is said to have had on board 10,000 suits of clothing, "supposed for the North American Indians, and an immense quantity of war-like instruments [such as tomahawks and scalping knives] adapted for their use."

As observed in our last, many privateers are fitting out to the eastward—among them is one called the "*Sine qua non*." We wish her as good luck as her name deserves.

A passenger in the Chauncey informs that the privateer General Armstrong, of N. York, was attacked in the port of Fayal, where she had gone for water, by the boats of a British frigate, and succeeded in beating them off and killed and wounded upwards of 100 of their crews. The frigate then ran into Fayal roads, and was preparing to range up alongside of the Armstrong, when the crew perceiving she must fall into the hands of the enemy, deserted her and blew her up.

The editor of the Times regrets that our new frigate JAVIA at Baltimore, was hauled so far up the head of the harbor, as to prevent sir Thomas Hardy from destroying her. He consoles himself with having, during the attack on Baltimore, seen her mast-heads.

Sir Thomas may have had the consolation of seeing the Jiva—but she had not been moved on his account. She lay close by the wharf where she was launched, where she had *always* laid and yet lies.—The mast-heads, however, he did not see—*because she had no masts.*

A heavy firing of two hours continuance, was heard off Charleston, on the 21st ult. If it be true that the *Wasp* was on that coast, we fear she has been captured by the Lacedemonian frigate. If Blakely did attempt to fight her, it must have been under the most desperate resolutions, and the havoc terrible.

The following from a *Paris* paper of the 25th was posted at Lloyd's Coffee House—London, Sept. 30:

"The *True Blooded Yankee*, American privateer, has been completely refitted for sea, manned with a crew of 200 men, and sailed from Brest the 21st inst, supposed for the purpose of cruising in the British channel. Her orders are to sink, burn and destroy, and not to capture with the intention of carrying into port."

The British transport ship Sovereign, struck on a rock near the island of St. Paul in the gulf of St. Lawrence, on the 18th October, and was totally lost. She was laden with stores, and had on board 9 officers, 186 soldiers, some women and children, and 19 seamen; in all 239 persons; of whom only *thirty seven* were saved, by getting on the island, from whence they were taken off two days afterwards, in a distressing condition. A number of transports, with about 1500 men and great quantities of stores, arrived at Quebec from the 25th to the 29th Oct.

There is a report that the British sloop of war Florida, (late U. S. sloop *Felic*) has foundered off Bermuda, every soul perishing.

The prize goods brought in the Prince of New-Castle consisted of 539 packages British dry goods, 177 cases, and 26 tierces olive oil, &c. Terms of sale—*specie*.

*Wasp and Ivan.* The British accounts admit that two sloops of war came up the moment that the

\*Whether that committee or the house ought to have laid the letter before the public, the politician will judge.

*bloody flag* of the *Avon* paid its homage to the "striped bunting" of the *Wasp*. In sinking the *Leindee* and the *Avon*, both of so nearly her force that either must be considered a "fair fight," we had only 6 killed and 26 wounded—the British joint loss was 34 killed, and 75 wounded. The *Avon* was the vessel that had behaved so impudently in the Delaware in 1810, while British vessels were interdicted our waters in consequence of the insolence of their officers. She then carried 13 thirty-two pound carronades, besides how and stern guns. Some of her shot that came on board the *Wasp* were of that weight; and, a "British official" to the contrary, there was little if any difference between the force of the two vessels. It would be well if the impertinent fellow who commanded the *Avon* in 1810 should also have had the command when *Blakely* put her pride in the "cellar."

*Minutes of the action between the United States' ship Wasp, J. Blakely, Esq. commander, and his Britannic majesty's sloop of war —; lat. 47, 30, long. 11, on 1st Sept. 1814.*

At 7 o'clock, called all hands to quarters and prepared for action; 7 h. 26 m. hoisted an American jack at the fore, and pendant at the main; 7 h. 30 m. set the mainsail; 7 h. 34 m. perceived the chase making signals with lights, &c.; 7 h. 45 m. set the mizen and hoisted an American ensign at the peake; 7 h. 48 m. hoisted a light at the peake, and brailed up the mizen; 7 h. 54 m. set the mizen to come up with the chase; 8 h. 3 m. the chase hauled down his lights; 8 h. 7 m. burned a blue light on the fore-castle; 8 h. 17 m. set the flying-jib; 8 h. 34 m. hauled down the light at the peake; 8 h. 38 m. the chase fired a gun from his stern port; 8 h. 55 m. hauled up the mainsail; 9 h. 15 m. set the mainsail; 9 h. 18 m. the chase fired a gun to leeward; 9 h. 20 m. being then on the weather quarter of the chase, he hailed and enquired "what ship is that?"—not answered, but asked "what brig is that?"—he replied, "his majesty's brig —;" blowing fresh, the name was not distinctly understood. He again hailed and asked "what ship is that," when he was told to heave to and he would be informed. He repeated his question, and was answered to the same effect. Mr. Carr was then sent forward to order him to heave to, which he declined doing; at 9 h. 25 m. the enemy set his fore-topmast studdingsail; at 26 minutes after 9, fired the 12 pound carronade to make him heave to; when the enemy commenced action by firing his larboard guns. We then kept away, ran under his lee, and 29 minutes after 9 commenced the action. At 10 o'clock ordered the men to cease firing, and hailed the enemy, to know if he had surrendered; no answer was returned to this—he resumed his fire and we continued ours; 10 h. 10 m. manned our starboard guns and fired three or four of them, when orders were again given to cease firing; 10 h. 12 m. hailed the enemy, "have you surrendered," when they answered in the affirmative. We were on the eve of taking possession, when a sail was descried close on board of us—orders were then given to clear the ship for action, which was promptly executed. We were then on the point of wearing to engage the second, which we perceived to be a brig of war, when, at 26 minutes after 10, discovered two more sails, one astern, the other one point on our lee quarter, standing for us; orders were then given to stand from the strange sails. The first sail seen approached within pistol shot, fired a broadside, and cut away one of our lower main cross trees, and did other damage, and immediately stood for the other two sails fast discovered. Continued on a course.

*A list of British vessels captured by the U. S. S. Wasp, J. Blakely, esp. commander, between the 27th August and 10th Sept. 1814.*

August 30, brig *Le-nice*, Hy. Cockbain master, Joseph Ticklell owner, 7 men, 92 tons, laden with barley, belonging to Workingham, from Bayonne, 18 days out, bound to Liverpool, taken in lat. 48 deg. N. long. 7 deg. 44 min. W. scuttled her.

August 31, brig *Pan Accord*, Adam Durro master, John Sanders, Jas. Mitchell and Jas. Johnston owners, 7 men, 131 58-94 tons, laden with wool and wine, belonging to Aberdeen, from Seville, 21 days out, bound to London, taken in lat. 48 deg. 5 mio. N. long. 3 deg. 50 m. W. scuttled her.

Sept. 1, brig *Mary*, John D. Allan master, 10 men, 151 tons, two 12 pound carronades, laden with ordnance and military stores, belonging to Scarborough, from Gibraltar, 28 days out, bound to Plymouth, taken in lat. 48 deg. N. long. 10 deg. W. burnt her.

*A list of British vessels captured by the U. S. S. Wasp, J. Blakely, esp. commander, between the 11th and the 22d Sept. 1814.*

Sept. 12th, brig *Three Brothers*, Thos. Clark master, John Clark owner, 7 men, 114 43-94 tons, two 3 pounders, laden with wine and barrilla, belonging to Whitby, from Lanzarote, 16 days out, bound to London, taken in lat. 38 deg. 2 min. N. long. 14 deg. 58 min. W. scuttled her.

Sept. 14th, brig *Baechus*, Wm. Stickens master, Richard W. Sleet and Thos. Reed owners, 11 men, 169 29-94 tons, two 4 pounders, laden with fish, belonging to Poole, from Newfoundland, 54 days out, bound to Gibraltar, taken in lat. 37 deg. 22 m. N. long. 14 deg. 33 min. W. scuttled her.

Sept. 21, brig *Alalanta*, Robert Jackson master, George Salkeld, Thoms Barclay, and George Barclay owners, 19 men, 252 tons, 2 long nine-pounders and 6 nine-pound gannades, laden with wine, brandy and silks, belonging to Liverpool, from Bordeaux, 9 days out, bound to Pensacola, taken in lat. 33 deg. 12 mio. N. long. 14 deg. 56 min. W. sent her to the United States.

*Newbern, N. C. Nov. 12.* Arrived at this place the *Fox*, of Baltimore, a tender to his B. M. ship *Ramifies*, with midshipman Crawford and seven British seamen on board, left the Chesapeake on the 15th ult. with a convoy under the command of admiral Malcolm, the *Royal Oak*—the tender parted company, in a squall on the night of the 16th. Ignorant of the destination of the convoy, the tender made the best of her way for Bermuda; on the evening of the 17th the tender lost her compass by a break of the sea over her.—And being left without the means of directing her course, made for the first land she could reach, met with very severe weather, and suffered much for want of provisions, and water, on the 4th of November saw two brigs under the land, supposed to be British vessels, standing towards them, got aground on Ocracock bar. In that situation the revenue cutter's boat boarded the tender, and the people surrendered themselves as prisoners.

The following paragraphs were omitted in their proper place, at the conclusion of the proceedings of congress, page 203, until too late to remedy the defect without a great loss of time in over-running the page:

[The business of the bank lies dead in the house—it is thought it may be revived in the senate.]

The house then took up the tax bills. The amendment made in committee of the whole, so as to impose a tax of 20 cents per gallon on spirits distilled, was confirmed 107 to 41. Yeas and nays hereafter. The bill was therefore passed and sent to the senate, as was the bill for laying a tax on carriages and several miscellaneous articles.

*Wednesday, November 30.*—The house passed to a third reading the two tax bills, and afterwards resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill from the senate authorising a draft of 80,000 militia for the defence of the frontier, and on the bill for filling the regular army by a classification of the free male population.

The bills were no more than read through, when, the house being thin, the committee rose, reported and adjourned.

☞ The despatches from *Ghent* were laid before congress on Thursday—their great length prevents the possibility of their insertion in this number. The editor of the *National Intelligencer* observes that he is "compelled to believe the prospect of pacification is very faint." The *sine qua non* was, however, apparently abandoned.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

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BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 170.]

*Hec olim meminisse juvabit.—VIRGIL.*

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## Naval Report.

*Navy Department, Nov. 15, 1814.*

SIR—In obedience to the resolution of the senate, passed on the 18th of March last, directing the secretary of the navy to devise and digest a system for the better organization of the navy of the United States, I have now the honor to report the following system, with such prefatory observations as appear to me pertinent to the occasion.

It has been affirmed and cannot be denied, that imperfections exist in the civil administration of the naval establishment; hence it has been inferred, that a radical change of system can alone remedy the evils.

Legislative wisdom will readily discriminate between the constituent principles upon which the present establishment is predicated, and has thus far prospered, and the defects which result from the absence of an intelligent, practical auxiliary agency, qualified to digest, arrange, and enforce a proper system of detailed regulations, calculated to ensure the judicious and faithful application of public monies; a strict accountability in the expenditure of supplies; and a rigid execution of the duties enjoined on all the officers and agents connected with the establishment.

Profusion, waste and abuse, are the inherent offspring of all extensive public institutions; and if we occasionally perceive these evils in some degree, in the naval establishment of the U. States, we are not thence to infer their absence from similar establishments in other countries, where naval science and experience may be presumed to have provided greater safe-guards, and more numerous, skillful, and vigilant agencies.

But regulations, however correct and adequate to the end, become nugatory, or worse, unless the authority and the means are co-extensive, and competent to enforce the execution, or punish the violation thereof. This may account for the non-existence of many wholesome regulations in the civil administration of the navy of the United States; and for the imperfect execution of those which exist. Breaches of the latter too frequently escape with impunity, from the impossibility of the head of the department taking cognizance of all the multifarious concerns of the establishment. It is problematical, however, whether the excess may not be more injurious than the deficiency of regulation; in the former case, responsibility may be lost in the maze and mass of detail and multiplied agen-

cy, whilst in the latter, general instruction, and sound discretion, not unfrequently ensure greater success and responsibility.

That the duties enjoined, or which necessarily devolve upon the secretary of the navy, particularly during a period of active and diversified hostility, are beyond the powers of any individual to discharge to the best advantage, cannot be doubted; although by great labor and assiduity, with adequate professional qualifications, he may possibly, execute the general and most essential branches of duty with tolerable success.

In the progress of reform, whilst we pay due respect to that system, the establishment of which has attained the greatest celebrity, more, it is believed, from its magnitude and power, than from the excellence of its civil administration, we ought not to lose sight of its palpable and acknowledged defects; nor of those features in our own system, to which, in no trivial degree, the exalted reputation of our infant navy may be attributed.

That our navy is not excelled in any thing which constitutes efficiency, perfect equipments, and general good qualities, it is believed, will be admitted. That our seamen are better paid, fed, and accommodated, is no less true. That all the imported, and many of the domestic articles of equipment, and of consumption in the service, are exceedingly enhanced; that the wages of mechanical labor is more than double that which is paid by Great Britain; that our expenditure is greatly increased by the interruption to navigable transportation, and the great extent of the local service, is equally obvious. Yet, under all these circumstances, it is demonstrable, that upon a comparison of an equal quantity of tonnage and number of guns and men, or of proportion to the number of men alone, our naval expenditure is considerably less than that for the navy of G. Britain, in which "one hundred and forty five thousand men are employed, at an expense of more than 20 millions of pounds sterling annually."

The local service is, from its scattered, irregular, and irresponsible nature, much more expensive and wasteful than that of the regular navy; the more perfect organization of which, and responsibility of command, ensure a more faithful superintendance and accountability. Hence the current expenditure of the service would be an extravagant criterion by which to estimate that of a regular establishment under a judicious system. The force employed in local service, is extended throughout a

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line of stations from Louisiana to Maine, and from Champlain to Haron, consequently it is weak, is readily to be penetrated, at almost any point on our maritime frontier, by the concentration of a small hostile force; and it is extensive in proportion to its diffusion. Independently of the deleterious nature of this service upon the health and habits of those employed in it, we are, from the present necessity of this system deprived of the service of a body of officers and seamen, sufficient to man thirteen ships of the line, such as the Independence, Washington and Franklin 74's.

When we contemplate the effect which such a force would have, when acting in conjunction upon our own coast and waters, or in squadron, pursuing the commercial fleets of the enemy on the ocean, or in the harbors of his colonies, it is impossible to avoid the conclusion, that our waters would be freed from invasion; our coast from blockade, his military and naval resources intercepted to such a degree as to paralyze his efforts on this continent, supersede the necessity of a vast military establishment, co-extensive with our maritime, Canadian, and Indian frontiers; and our citizens from those harassing, irregular, and inconvenient calls of militia, which the predatory enterprizes of the enemy so frequently produce. In short, according to my conceptions, this cheap and efficient national defence should be adopted as soon as circumstances will admit, and cherished by a well digested, energetic and liberal system, steadily progressing with the population, commerce, and resources of the nation.

The nature, construction and equipment of the ships, which constitute a navy, form the basis of its efficiency, durability and economy, and the most important branch in the civil administration of its affairs. With a view to the reform and extension of the naval establishment of the U. States, their objects ought to command the first place in our attention, combined with such an organization of the civil department, as shall promise the best results.

The defects in this part of the British system have been the theme of criticism and reprehension for many years past. The most minute, laborious and able investigation has from time to time taken place, under the direction and scrutiny of the parliament, yet nothing approximating to radical amendment has been adopted; and the advocates of reform, either from the subtle ramifications of the evil, or the agency of some sinister influence appear to despair of success.

According to the most intelligent writers, supported by well established facts, the deterioration of the British navy, owing to the injudicious selection and combination of incongruous materials in the construction, and the abortive method of preserving, is very alarming; and the diversity in the form, di-

mensions and proportions, not only of the several rates, but of the numerous distinct classes of the same rate, as well in their hulls as in their masts, sails and equipments, and in a still greater degree in their qualities for combined action, demonstrates the prevalence of caprice and prejudice, instead of science and system. When lord Nelson was off Cadix, with seventeen or eighteen sail of the line, he had no less than seven different classes of seventy-four gun ships, each requiring different masts, sails, yards, &c. so that if one ship was disabled, the others could not supply her with appropriate stores.

The consequence resulting from this defective organization and want of system are strongly illustrated in the fact, related by a recent professional writer of rank and talents that "out of five hundred and thirty eight ships, &c. in the British navy, now at sea, there are only sixty nine which are, in reality, superior in the discharge of metal or force of blows, but inferior in sailing, to some of the American frigates and that there are but eighteen, which unless in smooth water, are equal to contend with the U. States, leaving four hundred and fifty one, out of five hundred and thirty eight, which are admitted to be incompetent to engage, single handed, with an American frigate."

These facts are encouraging, and serve to show, that although the numerical force of the enemy in ships and men appears to be overwhelming, yet if the aggregate number of officers, seamen and marines which the United States may, even now engage for the public service, was concentrated in eighteen or twenty ships of the line, such as have been recently built, it would place all the ships alluded to, in the quotation just recited, except the eighteen, hors de combat; nor could our enemy protect his commerce and colonies, and combine such a force as would counteract the power and offensive enterprize of an American squadron so truly formidable. With such a force it will be perceived that his host of frigates and smaller vessels would be struck out of the account, or added to the list of our navy, if they came in contact.

These views, it is true, are prospective, but with a stable, judicious and liberal system, the result would be realized at no remote period.

Having noticed these exceptions to the civil administration of the British navy, it is but just to observe, that the organization of the military part of their system is much more perfect.

The regulations and instructions for the service at sea, adopted by order in council, and published in one quarto volume in 1808, are those which now prevail. They are excellent, and afford much matter worthy of incorporation into our system, with such modification as the peculiar circumstances of the service may require.

Of the French naval system the department of construction is universally admitted to be the most perfect in existence, and is well worthy of imitation. The military part of the system, however, is less perfect in practice and not so well adapted to the habits and usages of American seamen as that of the British.

The character of the navy of any nation will be determined by its commercial and navigating enterprise. That of America had surpassed every other, until the unexampled prosperity and rapid extension of its commerce excited the envy, jealousy and hostility of those who could not meet it in fair, equal and friendly competition. The same energy, skill, vigilance and intrepidity which distinguished the commercial navigators of the U. States, characterise the officers and seamen of the navy. The same superiority of construction which gave to its commercial marine the celerity and security for which it is distinguished, may be seen in the American navy, which is truly indigenous and distinct from every other. The independent character of the nation is manifestly visible in the genius of its navy. The classes of our ships, their form, construction, armament and equipment have been tested by experience, and found to have been happily adapted to our circumstances, compelling the enemy either to employ ships of the line against frigates, or to construct a new class of ships. Their efficiency and perfection have extorted the praise of the enemy. The author before quoted says "the carronades I saw on board the U. States' brig *Argus* were better mounted, and the vessel more complete than those in the British navy, and she was uncommonly well manœuvred."

Our ships are excellent, and all in good condition. The classes are few, and so uniform that without inconvenience the masts, spars and equipments of any one of a class will serve indifferently for any other of the same class. All the new ships of each rate are of the same class, and are absolutely similar in all their equipments, and in the dimensions and proportions of their hulls, masts, spars &c. This strict similarity should be carefully preserved upon every principle of convenience, economy and efficiency.

Timber, which forms an object of much solicitude in Great Britain, deserves the particular attention of the department, the re-organization of which will doubtless be made to combine the necessary talents and means to provide for every branch of the service, by a reasonable, diligent, and judicious collection in secure and convenient depots, of all the materials which enter into the construction and equipments of ships of war.

When it is considered that one seventy-four gun ship requires two thousand large oak

trees, equal to the estimated produce of fifty seven acres, the importance of securing for public use all that valuable species of oak, which is found only on the southern sea-board is sufficiently obvious.

Dock yards, foundries, smitheries and armouries, in safe and eligible situations, are indispensable appendages of so important and growing an establishment. These always collect the best workmen, and a private interest cannot interfere with the execution; the materials and workmanship are better, and the work is performed with more certainty and regularity than by contract with private individuals, whose works in some cases, may be so remote from the seat of demand that the transportation may cost more than the article.

There is another branch of the service which appears to me to merit the serious deliberation of the legislature, with regard to the establishment of some regular system, by which the voluntary enlistments for the navy may derive occasional reinforcement from the services of those seamen who, pursuing their own private occupations, are exempt, by their itinerant habits, from public service of any kind. In my view there would be nothing incompatible with the free spirit of our free institutions, or the rights of individuals, if registers, with a particular descriptive record, were kept in the several districts, of all the seamen belonging to the U. States, and provision made by law for classing and calling into the public service, in succession, for reasonable stated periods, such portions or classes as the public service might require; and if any individual so called should be absent at the time, the next in succession should perform the tour of duty of the absentee, who should, on his return, be liable to serve his original tour, and his substitute be exempt from his succeeding regular tour of duty.

In the military service, should the ranks not be filled by recruits, the deficiency of regular force may be filled up by drafts of militia, to assemble at a given time and place; not so in the naval service, it depends exclusively upon voluntary enlistments, upon which there is no reliance for any given object, at any time or place. Hence the most important expeditions may utterly fail, though every possible exertion shall have been made to carry them into effect.

If we examine with due attention, the nature, extent and importance of the objects involved in the administration of the naval affairs, and contemplate, in the history of ages past, the unsuccessful, though indefatigable labors of legislation, science and genius to perfect the system, we may learn to appreciate with more accuracy, and cherish with more liberality, the life of study, observation and experience, required to arrive even at mod-

rate attainments in a science, which, though familiar in the estimation of all, is the most complicated, critical and interesting, that has ever engaged the attention or influenced the destinies of nations. My sole object is to invite the attention and liberality of the national councils, to the requisite talents and qualifications, for cherishing and rearing to maturity, the vigorous plant, around which are entwined the affections and confidence of the country.

All these objects appear to me to be intimately connected with the revision of the civil administration of our naval affairs, the executive branch of which should be conducted by persons of large views, collectively combining all the practical knowledge and professional intelligence which those important, diversified and comprehensive subjects, obviously require.

We have a good foundation upon which to raise a durable superstructure; and concluding that that system cannot be radically wrong, which has produced such favorable results, I should be unwilling to hazard, by an entire innovation the benefits we have derived, and may still derive, by retaining the present organization of the navy department, and providing by law for an intelligent practical and efficient auxiliary agency, such as experience has suggested.

With this view, I have the honor to submit with great deference, the following system for the organization of the department of the navy of the U. States, distinguishing, for the sake of perspicuity, in the form of a bill, those objects which appear to require legislative provision, from those for which executive regulation may prescribe with more convenience and advantage; the outline of which only is given, as the ground work may be filled up to greater benefit, when the collected experience and talents which it contemplates shall have deliberated upon the subject.

#### AN ACT

##### FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

*Be it enacted, &c.* That the office, duties, and powers of the secretary of the navy, and of the accountant, agents and other officers, of the department of the navy, be and remain as now by law established; except as hereinafter modified, altered, or transferred to any other office or offices, created by this act.

Sec. 21. That the president of the United States be and he is hereby authorized to designate three officers of the navy, and, with the advice and consent of the senate, to appoint two other judicious persons, skilled in naval affairs to be inspectors of the navy, who together shall constitute a board of inspectors of the navy, three members whereof shall be necessary to form a quorum; and the business of the said board shall be transacted in such central and convenient place, for the superintendance of the navy, as the president of the U. States shall direct—who shall also have power to designate the presiding member, and to appoint the secretary of the said board, whose duty it shall be to keep re-

gular and correct records of all the transactions of the board, and to transmit attested copies of all such proceeding to the secretary of the navy, for the inspection and revision of the president of the United States, as soon as may be after the adjournment of the meeting, at which any such proceedings may have taken place; and the said board shall have power to establish such rules and regulations for its own proceedings, and to employ such numbers of clerks and assistants, as well for the transacting of the business of the board, as for that of the several inspectors, and to procure such books, maps, charts, plans, drawings, models, and stationery, as the public interest may require, and the president of the United States may approve.

Sec. 3. That it shall be the duty of the secretary of the navy, to arrange and class, under distinct and appropriate heads, as equally as may be, all such duties and details, as may be found impracticable for the officers of the department of the navy, as now organized, to execute with advantage to the public, and, with the approbation of the president of the United States, to assign to each inspector of the navy, the special charge and execution of one of the classes, so arranged; for the faithful performance of which trust, the said inspectors shall, severally, be held responsible under the instruction, and subject to the revision of the board of inspectors, to which a statement of all the transactions of each inspector, shall be submitted, for revision, at each stated meeting, and an abstract thereof transmitted monthly to the secretary of the navy, with such remarks thereon as the nature of the case may require; and it shall also be the duty of the secretary of the navy, to prepare a system of general regulations, defining and prescribing the respective powers and duties of the board of inspectors of the navy, and of the several inspectors, which rules, when approved by the president of the United States, shall be respected and obeyed, until altered or revoked by the same authority; and the said general regulations thus prepared and approved, shall be laid before congress at their next session.

Sec. 4. That the president of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized alone to appoint a person, skilled in the science and practice of naval architecture, to the office of naval constructor, and also to appoint two assistant naval constructors; and it shall be the duty of the secretary of the navy, to prepare such rules and regulations for conducting the business of the constructor's department, as shall appear necessary and proper, which, when approved by the president of the United States, shall be respected and obeyed, until revoked by the same authority; and the naval constructors shall be allowed one clerk, to assist in transacting the business of his department.

Sec. 5. That the president of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized, with the consent and advice of the senate, to appoint a paymaster of the navy, who shall perform the duties of his office agreeably to the directions of the president of the United States for the time being, and before he enters upon the duties of the same, shall give bonds, with good and sufficient sureties, in such sums as the president of the United States shall direct, for the faithful discharge of his said office, and shall take an oath to execute the duties thereof with fidelity.

Sec. 6. That all letters and packets to and from the inspectors and paymaster of the navy, which relates to their official duties, shall be free from postage.

Sec. 7. That each inspector of the navy shall be entitled to the pay and rations of a captain com-

manding a squadron on a separate service, and also to the sum of twelve hundred dollars per annum, in lieu of house rent, fuel, forage, &c. and the salary of the naval constructor shall be three thousand dollars per annum; each of the assistant constructors, fifteen hundred dollars per annum; the paymaster of the navy, two thousand dollars per annum; the secretary of the board of inspectors, two thousand dollars per annum; and the clerks and assistant, authorized by this act, shall receive such reasonable compensation for their services, as the president of the United States shall direct.

I would also respectfully suggest the expediency of providing by law for the establishment of a naval academy, with suitable professors, for the instruction of the officers of the navy, in those branches of the mathematics and experimental philosophy, in the science and practice of gunnery, theory of naval architecture and art of mechanical drawing, which are necessary to the accomplishment of the naval officer.

In order to illustrate the principles and operation of the proposed organization of the navy department, the following outline of the powers and duties, which is contemplated to assign to the board of inspectors, and to the several inspectors is respectfully suggested.

#### *Powers and duties of the Board.*

The board should have the general superintendence and direction of the affairs of the navy, under the instructions from, and powers delegated by the president of the United States, and authority over all the officers, agents, and persons employed under the navy department, report to the secretary of the navy from time to time, all such matters and things as may in the opinion of the board, tend to promote the efficiency and economy of the establishment; and, upon the requisition of the secretary of the navy, furnish all the estimates of expenditure, which the several branches of the service may require, and such other information and statements as he may deem necessary.

The board shall have the power of making contracts and purchases, either directly or through the navy agents, whose power, in this respect, should be limited to small sums, and to objects, the procuring of which may not admit of delay; in all other cases, the previous sanction either of the secretary of the navy, of the board of inspectors, or of some officer authorized by the board should be indispensable.

The naval stations, within the United States should be designated by convenient boundaries; and an officer of rank, trust, and confidence, should reside in each, who should, under the instructions of the board, superintend and control the affairs of the navy within his district, and report to the board from time to time. All requisitions of commanding officers, pursers, and other persons, upon the agents, should be checked, and receive the sanction of the board, or of the resident officer, authorized by the board, before they are complied with.

Payments and advances shall be made, as heretofore, through the navy agents (except those for the pay of the navy;) and the sanction of the secretary of the navy, of the board, or of the officer authorized by the board; should precede all payments and advances, except for limited and urgent demands.

The board should establish general regulations for the conduct of its members, in the discharge of the special and important trusts severally assigned to them by the secretary of the navy; and should digest and report to the department, distinct regulations for the following objects.

- 1 Uniform regulations, establishing the several classes of ships and vessels in the navy of the United States; with tables of the dimensions, proportions, number, quantity, quality, nature and description, of masts, spars, rigging, anchors, cables, armaments, and equipments, of all kinds; and of the quantity, quality, and description of the provisions and stores of every species, for a given period for each class.
- 2 Regulations for receiving, preserving, issuing, and strictly accounting for the expenditure of materials and stores of all kinds, and in every department of the service, within the United States.
- 3 Regulations for surveying and authenticating the actual state and condition of all the ships and vessels of the navy, and of all the materials and stores of every species, reported to be decayed, damaged, or defective; and for directing the repair, conversion, sale, or other disposition of the same, as the nature of the case may require.
- 4 A more perfect system of general regulations for the naval service, at sea and on the lakes.
- 5 General regulations for the flotilla, or force employed in harbor defence, adapted to the peculiar nature of that service.
- 6 Uniform regulations for the navy yards, or arsenals, and depots of stores and materials.
- 7 Regulations for the cruising ships and vessels of the navy, while in port; for the recruiting service; and for the officers of the navy, while on shore, on duty, or on furlough; in order to ascertain the actual state and local situation of all the officers.
- 8 A system of detailed regulations for the naval hospitals, and medical department of the navy, within the United States.
- 9 An entire and new system of regulations for the conduct of pursers in the navy, accurately defining their duties, securing a more strict accountability; limiting their emoluments by a fixed and reasonable standard; and protecting the seamen of the navy from the undue advantages which may be practised with impunity, under the present system.
- 10 Regulations for ascertaining by examination, the moral character and professional qualifications of all the officers of the navy, below the grade of a master commandant, classing them in the scale of their several merits; and of the pretensions of those who may be selected for promotion, as well as of the candidates for warrant appointments in the navy.

All which regulations, when approved by the president of the United States, shall be established and obeyed, until revoked by the same authority.

The duties and details of service, proposed to be assigned to the several inspectors of the navy, may be classed as follows:

- 1st Class. Comprehending the general correspondence of the board, and preparation of all the reports, estimates, and statements, required by the department; and the communications of such propositions and informations to the secretary of the navy, as the board may deem interesting; and also the general charge and direction of the flotilla service on the New Orleans station.
- 2d Class. Comprehending the general military correspondence with all the officers of the navy; the roll of the officers of the navy, and record of their services, merits and qualifications, to be kept on the files of the board; orders for courts of-enquiry and courts martial, and the preparation of all the documents and statements connected with these objects, also the general charge and direction of the flotilla service on the southern station,

viz. Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Norfolk.

3d Class. Comprehending the direction of ordnance and transportation; the general superintendence of the boundaries, laboratories, armories, and other works connected with the naval ordnance department, and the inspection and proof of arms, ammunition, &c. The direction of the transportation of all persons, stores, and provisions of the navy, by land and water; and the general charge and direction of the flotilla service in the Patuxent and Delaware, and New York.

4th Class. Comprehending the victualling, sustenance, including pursers, medical, and hospital stores; also the general charge and direction of the flotilla service, on all the naval stations from New York eastward, and on Lake Champlain.

5th Class. Comprehending the supply of hemp, yarns, cordage, sail duck, iron and other metals, anchors, and all other equipments and materials required for the service, except those which are included in the foregoing classes, and in the constructors department; and also, the general charge and direction of the service on Lake Ontario, and the upper lakes.

The superintendence and direction these five classes of objects would be distributed among the five inspectors.

The department of construction, under the direction of the secretary of the navy, and of the board of inspectors, would prepare all the drafts, plans, and instructions, for the building of all the vessels of the navy; construct the models, and, when approved, direct and superintend under the control of the board of inspectors, the building and repairing of the ships, vessels, boats, the formation of masts, spars, &c. and the contracting for procuring all the materials of wood, and of copper, in pigs, bolts and sheets, necessary for the supply of the navy; construct for the lines, in the mould left, all the moulds requisite for moulding and bevelling the timber in the forest, under the direction of skilful persons to be employed by the constructor for that purpose, and superintend the construction of wharves, ships, workshops, and engines, required in building and repairing ships of war.

It is a copious subject, in which it is difficult to combine brevity with perspicuity.

My aim has been to provide a practical, efficient, and economical system, with as much individual and collective responsibility as may be attainable; and I feel a persuasion that the result would not greatly disappoint the estimate I have formed; the wisdom of the senate will better appreciate its merits.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, sir, your obedient servant.

W. JONES.

*The honorable president of the senate.*

## Late Omissions.—Miscellaneous.

### BRUTALITY OF THE ENEMY.

*Extract of a letter dated St. Inigoes, St. Mary's county Md. Nov. 1.*

"Yesterday an enemy's brig came from the mouth of the Patuxent round Point Look Out, and towards evening hove in sight of this place. Shortly after a barge was seen coming round Point Point. In about 15 minutes they were at the bank of the garden of St. Inigoes manor house, the residence of the Roman Catholic Missionary, who attends the adjoining congregations. They were met by a gentleman of the

neighborhood, who saluted them, but was treated with the greatest contempt. One of them rushed on to the house with his sabre in his hand; a few moments after the captain came on shore, with the avowed purpose, as he said, of burning down the dwelling house, &c. He sternly asked who was the proprietor, where he was, &c. to all which questions appropriate answers were given. He was also informed that the property belonged to the incorporated Catholic clergy of Maryland, and was solely appropriated to the use of the church and support of the missions, and was requested to spare it on that account. He replied, as that was the case, he should not burn the house, but however ordered his men to proceed.—They advanced to the house; immediately 4 or 5 of them ran into the private chapel, when, painful to relate! the sacred vestments were thrown here and there, the vessels consecrated to the service of God profaned, the holy altar stripped naked, the tabernacle carried off, and the blessed sacrament of the altar borne away in the hands of those sacrilegious wretches.

"The captain was entreated over and over again to protect the church and have all things returned; he promised he would; he ran to the barge and ordered the men to restore the sacred vessels and vestments; they handed one chalice out of the barge, when the captain said he could not command them, they were a set of ruffians. The reverend gentleman who resides there, also joined in entreating them to return the sacred vessels, vestments and other articles for the use of the altar. The captain answered he would, seated himself in the barge and ordered his men to move off without taking any more notice of the entreaties. An old lady who lived on the place prevailed on them in the meantime to return the tabernacle, which they did, also a part of the vestments.

"On returning to the house, it was pitiful to view the different rooms they had ransacked, particularly the chapel; they left the crucifix on the altar; broke the cruets and scattered the pieces over the floor; they carried off six feather beds, sheets, blankets and pillows—bed curtains, an alarm clock, silver spoons, knives and forks, glass, the reverend gentleman's watch, the candlesticks belonging to the altar, kitchen furniture, and almost all the cloathing belonging to the persons who reside in the house, two trunks with cloathing, books and medicine, several pair of new shoes made for the people, and a quantity of leather; even the lincens which were at the wash, and many other articles not yet known. The loss of that house on this and a former occasion, cannot be much less than \$1200.

"The above brig is the Jason, capt. Watts, she is now under way down the Potomac, with a schr. in co. which it is supposed she captured last evening. Any comment on the above is thought unnecessary; the facts are such as to inspire sentiments of the deepest regret and horror of such sacrilegious transactions."

### THE ENEMY AT WAREHAM.

The best evidence we have of the truth of the following official is—that the cotton factory "completely destroyed" is still standing. It is probable also, that the number of tons destroyed was not the half of what is stated.

*From the London Gazette of Aug. 27.*

Admiralty Office, Aug. 27.

*Copy of a letter from admiral Cochrane, to J. W. Croaker, esq. dated at Bermuda, July 18.*

I am happy in again having an opportunity of calling their lordships attention to the zeal and activity of the officers of H. M. Majesty's squadron stationed off N. London under the orders of capt. Paget



The enclosed copy of a letter from him, will acquaint their lordships of a very gallant and judicious service performed by a division of boats of the Superb and Nimrod, under the command of lieutenant Garland of the Superb, whose ability is most conspicuously displayed in the masterly stratagem he resorted to, for bringing off the whole of his force unhurt, in the face of his numerous militia, after having destroyed nearly 2500 tons of shipping, and a valuable cotton mill belonging to the enemy situated at some distance up the country.

*Superb, Martha's Vineyard Sound, May 14.*

Having received intelligence that a fine ship and brig just built, the former for a letter of marque, the other for a privateer, were with several other vessels lying at a place called Wareham, I proceeded hence and detached the Nimrod through Quick's Hole, with the boats of this ship, and two from the N. to destroy them, under the direction of lieutenant Garland of the Superb; and I am happy to add, that the service was perfectly performed without any loss on our part, though it was achieved under critical circumstances. The extreme intricacy of the navigation, rendered it too hazardous to attempt the enterprise without the assistance of day light, which however, necessarily exposed the boats upon their return down the narrow stream, to a fire of musketry from a numerous militia, which had collected from the vicinity on the first alarm being given. But the foresight and prompt resolution of lieutenant G. completely succeeded in obviating the danger that was thus to be apprehended; for having first destroyed all the vessels and the cotton manufactory, he then ascertained the principal people of the place, and secured them as hostages for a truce, till the boats were conducted back out of the reach of difficulty; the influence that these persons had over the militia that had collected and threatened a cross fire upon the boats from both banks of the river, has been proved by their abstaining to molest them, and of course the hostages were afterwards relanded at the most convenient spot. The cotton manufactory had been lately built at great expense, was full of stores, and belonged to a company of sixty merchants at Boston.

Herewith send a list of the vessels, &c. destroyed; and I cannot in justice omit to report the steady and exemplary conduct of the seamen and marines, who though exposed to incessant temptation of liquor, &c. did not in any single instance fail to spurn the offer made to them, and strictly to hold private property sacred.

C. PAGET.

*Vessels &c. destroyed.*

Ship Fair Trader, 444 tons, quite new, built for a letter of marque, and pierced for 18 12 prs.—brig Independent, 390 tons, on the stocks, built for a privateer, and pierced for 14 guns, ready for launching—schr. Fanny 258 tons, belonging to Falmouth, a new vessel—schr. Elizabeth, 230 tons, do. do.—schr. Nancy 230 do—sloop Wilmington 150, built in 1809—schr. Industry, 136, 1809—schr. Arch, 136, 1812—brig Wm. Richmond, 133, 1808—schr. New States, 96, 1800—sloop Paragon 70, ready for launching—sloops William, 65, 1801—Thomas 65—Wm. Lucy 58, new—Experiment 60—Friendship 45, built in 1805—Total 2522.

A cotton manufactory entirely destroyed, the value of which, with the cotton which it contained, estimated by the principal inhabitants at half a million of dollars.

*Army Pay Office, City of Washington,*  
September 24, 1814.

Sir—Agreeably to your request I have the honor to state, that the sum of \$1,944,828 and ninety-eight

cents has been disbursed from this office, on account of bounties and premiums for recruits since the 27th of January 1814, the date of the passage of the law increasing the bounty. The distribution of this sum, as nearly as can be well ascertained, has been as follows, viz.

To Massachusetts, including Maine	\$237,400
New-Hampshire	37,800
Vermont	109,300
Connecticut	78,932
Rhode-Island	1,000
New-York	475,320
New-Jersey	15,000
Pennsylvania	188,960
Delaware	10,000
Maryland, including district of Columbia	80,392
Virginia	152,962 98
North Carolina	69,000
South Carolina	62,800
Georgia	34,000
Tennessee	98,000
Kentucky	108,000
Ohio	96,500
Louisiana	63,500
Michigan Territory	20,000
Mississippi Territory	4,000
Indiana Territory	2,000
Missouri Territory	1,492

\$1,944,828 98

To this sum it would perhaps be no more than just to add twenty or thirty thousand dollars, of which I am not yet fully advised, and which of course does not now regularly appear on the books of this office.

With sentiments of respect, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT BRENT,

*P. M. U. S. Army.*

Hon. G. M. TROOR,

Chairman of the military committee.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-quarters, New-Orleans, Sept. 28, 1814.

The governor and commander in chief esteems it a duty again to call the attention of the militia to the dangers which menace the state, and to order each and every corps to hold itself in readiness for service. The late and successful enterprise of the enemy against the city and neighborhood of Washington teaches us, how necessary it is to improve our means of defence, and to take every measure of precaution. The most perfect union is of primary importance, and a prompt obedience to orders indispensable. Our strength is sufficient to ensure safety; provided it be applied speedily and judiciously. Our country presents many advantages. Intricate and enclosed it is difficult of access. The avenues of approach must be vigilantly watched, and firmly defended. In this duty the militia are to participate, and must not shrink from toil or danger. Our great object should be, to guard against surprise; but a knowledge of the enemy's advance will be of little avail, unless we are prepared to meet him.—Let every man then hold it a sacred duty to keep his arms and accoutrements in a condition for immediate service, and be himself prepared to rally on a moment's warning, at the call of his chief. The enemy no longer respects "the principles of humanity or the rules of civilized warfare!" He avows a design "to destroy and lay waste such towns and districts upon the sea coast as may be found assailable." Devastation marks his progress, and the terms on which Alexandria was exempt from confiscation, shew that he spares only to plunder. Opposed to such an enemy, we can alone look for safety with arms in

our hands, and a determination to yield but in death. The commander in chief persuades himself that the most patriotic zeal will animate every breast, and that a love of country will acquire the ascendancy of every other passion. Such was the spirit which made America free, and can alone preserve her independence. To those aged citizens, who have enrolled their names among the defenders of the state, the most grateful thanks are due. An example so glorious, cannot fail to excite in younger men those feelings which will secure for their much injured country the warmest support. To the requisition now in service, and other detachments ordered on duty, the commander in chief is desirous to add, for the better defence of Louisiana, a partisan corps to be composed of 150 riflemen, 150 light infantry, to which shall be annexed a detachment of cavalry to continue in service for six months, unless sooner discharged. To complete this corps the commander in chief invites the service of volunteers from every part of the state. Such citizens of New Orleans as may be desirous to enrol, will hasten to associate, either as infantry or riflemen—those of the interior countries, who may wish to join, will repair without delay to New Orleans, where the companies will be organized, and the officers which shall be recommended, duly commissioned. Volunteers will provide themselves with knapsacks, and such as have rifles are requested to bring them. The commander in chief addresses himself to every citizen who has health, strength and inclination to enter on this service—he calls more particularly on the young men of Louisiana—he reminds them of the spirit of their fathers and trusts they will emulate their virtues. The crisis is important, and pregnant with events of the greatest interest. That independence, which our fathers acquired, is now to be maintained by the valor of their sons. That tranquility which the peaceful inhabitant of Louisiana has hitherto enjoyed; the fruits of his industry—the safety of his family—his property, his rights are all menaced by a merciless foe. At such a moment, every true American, each faithful Louisianian must “have his bosom in his country’s cause.” We will never abandon our parents, and leave our sisters to the clemency of the victor.

WM. C. C. CLAIBORNE,

Governor and commander in chief.

ADJUTANT GENERAL’S OFFICE,

Philadelphia, Nov. 19, 1814.

**GENERAL ORDERS.** The practice of officers and men in the service, writing or otherwise communicating any thing in relation to the strength, the movements, or destination, of their corps, or any part of the army, except to their commanding officers, is unmilitary, and often times vitally injurious to the service—it is positively forbidden. Such communications find their way into the newspapers, and many of our newspapers find their way to the enemy, who is well known to be more adroit in profiting by our blunders, than by his own prowess. Contractors, agents, sutlers, and all followers of the army, are cautioned against violating this order.

(Signed),

EDMUND P. GAINES,

Major-general commanding

Third Brigade, Maryland Militia,

Baltimore, November 13, 1814.

**BRIGADE ORDERS.** In obedience with general orders of this date, the 1st cavalry regiment, lieutenant colonel Brays, the 5th, 6th, 27th, 39th and 51st regiments infantry, and the rifle battalion, major Pinkney, are honorably discharged with the thanks of the major-general commanding, for their good conduct, orderly behaviour and attention to discipline during their service.

The lieutenant colonel commanding, begs the officers of the brigade, to accept of his warmest and most unfeigned thanks for their uniform good conduct and attention to orders and discipline, for the short space of time, as senior officer, the command of the brigade has devolved upon him, and he begs them to convey to the non-commissioned officers and privates, under their respective commands, his thanks for their soldier-like conduct and orderly behaviour, which is a sure pledge of their future devotedness in their country’s cause, and of this city in particular, should it again be assailed or threatened by the enemy.

He regrets most sincerely the cause which gave rise to his assuming the command, especially at a crisis like the present, when experience and military talents were so eminently combined in our late excellent commander, and which is so necessary to unite all hearts and hands in our own defence, as well as in defence of our country’s rights and violated honor.

To major Frailey, brigade major and inspector, major Small, brigade quarter-master, he tenders his thanks for their continuance to the close of the service, and for the assiduity and perseverance in their several stations, which has tended, in so eminent a degree, to promote that good order and regularity in every department throughout the brigade.

WM. MCDONALD,

Lieut. col. com’g 3d brig. M. M.

[The account of the battle between the two “Kiikenny cats,” in which they fought until they eat up every thing but the tips of each other’s tail, may be regarded a pretty moderate story when such a one as the following is gravely inserted. Between fighting and lying, the British somehow, on paper, always get the victory, though we get the ships or destroy them.—“Both ships sunk”—600 tons, 24 guns and 300 men for the Wasp—200 tons, 18 guns, and 100 men for the Avon! This is “shooting flying hens,” as they say in the West Indies. The force of the vessels was, perhaps, as nearly equal as any that have met—if any advantage was in our favor it was trifling, either in the number of men, guns or tons.

WASP AND AVON—FROM A LONDON PAPER.

Extract of a letter from Plymouth, dated, Sept. 12.

“As the public mind must be agitated about the fate of the Avon, for your information I beg to say, this moment her 2d lieutenant and one midshipman, (friends of mine) are arrived at this place, with the captain only slightly wounded in both legs, themselves merely scratched.—The 1st lieutenant killed—both ships sunk!

“It was about 9 o’clock, P. M. when the Avon discovered the enemy, and immediately an uninterrupted and sanguinary contest took place for two hours. When the engagement had nearly ceased, H. M. ship Castilian, attracted by the firing, bore down and instantly ran her bowsprit across the hawse of the enemy, pouring in at the same time a broadside, which she followed by a 2nd, some say a third. At that critical moment the Avon threw out a signal of distress, which determined the commanding officer of the Castilian, lieutenant Lloyd, to relinquish any further attack on the Wasp, and hasten to the succor of the Avon, which he was no more able than to effect as she went down shortly after the last man was removed. H. M. S. Tartarus just then came up, and having 40 of the Avon’s men from the Castilian to strengthen her crew proceeded in quest of the Wasp—The gallantry of capt. Arbutnot and his ship’s company cannot be too highly applauded when the disparity of force be estimated. The Wasp was over 600 tons burthen and mounted 24

52 pounders, with a complement of 300 men, whilst our vessel was only 200 tons, and 18 24 prs. with 100 men. We regret to state our loss at 9 killed and 33 wounded. Amongst the former the gallant lieutenant Pendergast, who fell by a grape shot whilst nobly cheering the crew. The captain's wound in the leg is likely to do well, nor have we heard that any of the other wounded are in danger of their lives.—

*Advertiser.*

**EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS!** By the following from an Easton (Md.) paper, it appears that the British are determined to consider all persons as prisoners of war that are liable to militia duty. A practice on this new principle will demand retaliation.

*Easton, (Md.) Nov. 19.*—In consequence of the capture of the packet sloop Messenger, (capt. Vickers,) on the 11th inst. a flag of truce was obtained from brigadier-general Benson, for the purpose of obtaining the ransom of the sloop and release of the passengers.

We are sorry to say that the object of the truce was only in part effected. They would not listen to the ransom of the sloop on any terms, and the following will shew how far they will consent to the release of prisoners.

List of prisoners released, who were captured in the sloop Messenger, on the 11th inst. and sent to Easton, in the flag schooner Superior, capt. Auld, where they arrived on the 17th, viz.

Mrs. Edith Dawson and her two children; Miss Harriet W. Day; Miss Susan McGlaughlin; Miss Isabella Prince; James Cockayne, non-combatant; Joseph Spencer, ditto, being a teacher in a public Seminary; negroes Ned and Kitty.

Prisoners released who were captured in other vessels and put on board the prize sloop Messenger. Miss Elizabeth Frazier, of Dorchester; Doctor Travers, of ditto over 45; Mrs. Brown, of New York, put on board the flag schooner, from the Dragon 74.

Prisoners detained as militia men, captured in the sloop;

Robert Spencer, of Easton; Samuel Holmes, of do.; Henry L. Clark, of Baltimore; William Broomwell, of Easton.

**NOTE.**—Mrs. Broomwell and Mrs. Johns her mother, continued on board the commodore's ship with Mr. Broomwell, through choice, with an expectation of obtaining his release.

Prisoners detained, who were captured in other vessels and put on board the sloop:

Charles Egeleston and James Frazier, of Dorchester, militia men.

*Easton, 12th Nov. 1814.*

SIR—The sloop Messenger, a packet-boat has been captured by one of the barges, belonging to your squadron, with several respectable inhabitants of Talbot county, and I am sorry to learn that these passengers have not been set on shore, many of them being ladies it is hoped there will be no difficulty in releasing them immediately. Mr. Clement Vickers, a highly respectable citizen of this county, industriously laboring for the support and advancement of his family, must sustain in the capture of his vessel, a loss that will reduce him to the greatest difficulty and inconvenience, unless he can ransom her at some moderate sum, the usages of war justify and recommend such a procedure, in as much as the spirit of the practice of civilized nations, in a state of war enjoins them to conduct it in such a manner as to make its unavoidable course produce as little private individual calamity as possible. I have granted a flag under the conduct of major Meredith, for the purpose of obtaining an immediate restoration of the captives to their friends, and to

give to the owners of the property taken an opportunity of ransoming it according to the usages of war. I have the honor to be, your humble servant,

P. BENSON, B. G. of Md. Militia.

*To the commander of his Britannic majesty's*

*Squadron, now lying in the Chesapeake bay.*

*His majesty's ship Dragon, off Tangiers, 11th Nov. 1814.*

SIR—In reply to your letter of the 12th inst. just received from major Meredith, I am to acquaint you that such of the American prisoners as were captured on the 11th inst. in the Messenger, whose age, exclude them from militia service are herewith set at liberty together with the ladies, children, &c.

I am to acquaint you that it is contrary to my instructions to ransom any vessel or property captured from the enemy.

I am sorry it is not in my power to parole the prisoners named in the margin\* but my orders forbid my entering into any arrangement for the release or exchange of prisoners except on the principle of receiving man for man, on such terms it will afford me great pleasure to be enabled to restore these gentlemen to their friends for any British subjects you may send me.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient humble servant,  
ROBT. BARRIE, captain  
and senior officer.

*To Brigadier-general Benson.*

GEN. MACOMB.—The inhabitants of Belleville, N. J. on the return of major-general Macomb to his family, received him in a manner the most gratifying and complimentary; as a testimony of their spirit and patriotism; they fired a national salute and illuminated the village, and particularly the fence in front of the general's house. The general came forward and courteously acknowledged the compliment, in a style highly interesting and impressive, taking the villagers cordially by the hand, and passing those civilities for which all men who are not above their situations are remarkable, and which so eminently distinguish the gentlemen and the patriot. In return, the general ordered his excellent band of music to play Hail Columbia, and other national airs. Never on the return of any hero to the peaceful bosom of his family, was evinced so universal a sense of sincere joy and heartfelt satisfaction.—[*E. Post.*]

*Major-general Porter.*—The following articles, which we copy from a Batavia paper, will be interesting to all those who have, with us, admired the gallantry displayed by the New-York volunteers attached to Brown's army, and have duly appreciated the merit of the intrepid and worthy commander who led them to the field, and so often faced the enemy at their head.

*Camp Batavia, Nov. 2d, 1814.*

GENERAL—The campaign having closed and our country no longer at this moment requiring our services, we are about to return to our homes and enjoy in the peaceful circle of our friends that happiness, which a consciousness of having performed our duty, ever imparts.

But permit us, ere our departure, to express to you, with the warmth of soldiers, that high sense we have of your skill and gallantry, and our grateful acknowledgments for your indefatigable exertions and arduous labors in disciplining and training us for the field of glory. Your labors have not been without success.

The militia, since our glorious Autumn 1 we been considered, (until within these few years) the bulwark of our country; with a period, they

\*Robert Spencer, Wm. B. Clark, Charles Egeleston, James Frazier, Samuel Holmes, and Henry L. Clark.

Copy of a letter from captain Youngs to com. Macdonough, dated,

U. S. ship Saratoga, Lake Champlain, Sept. 17th, 1814.

Sir—I have the honor of enclosing to you a list of killed and wounded troops of the line (acting marines on board the squadron, Lake Champlain,) in the action of the 11th inst.

In attempting to do justice to the brave officers and men I have had the honor to command, my feeble abilities fall far short of my wishes. First lieutenant Morrison, 33d infantry, stationed on board the U. States brig Eagle, was wounded, but remained on deck during the action animating his men by his honorable conduct. Second lieutenant James Young, 6th infantry, on board the United States schooner Ticonderoga, merits my warmest thanks. I would particularly recommend him to your notice. Second lieutenant William B. Howell, 15th infantry, in the U. States ship Saratoga, rendered me every assistance, notwithstanding his having been confined for ten days of a fever, yet, at the commencement of the action, was found on deck and continued until the enemy had struck, when he was borne to his bed; I would also recommend him to your notice.

The conduct of the non-commissioned officers and privates was so highly honorable to their country and themselves, it would be superfluous to particularize them.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,  
WHITE YOUNGS.

Capt. 15th inf. commanding detachment acting marines.

Com. Thomas Macdonough, commanding U. S. squadron on lake Champlain.

**NEW BOUNDARIES.**—A pamphlet has lately appeared in London, entitled "Compensations view of the points to be discussed in treating with the United States of America," ascribed to a Mr. Atcheson, who has been for some time employed as an agent to the British merchants connected with the North American colonies. The *Quebec Gazette* is decidedly opposed to these boundaries, inasmuch as the population to be acquired thereby would overwhelm that of the *Canadians*,—estimating the *new subjects* at about one million!

The following is the summary of the project contained in this pamphlet:

"The summary of what we have attempted to shew the necessity of, and have warmly recommended to those whom Great Britain charges with the adjustment of our differences with America, is

"First. A new boundary line throughout the whole extent of North America, where our possessions and those of the United States come in contact; keeping in view, that

"Nova Scotia and New Brunswick be restored to their ancient limits, security against aggression, and a free communication with Canada be obtained, without passing through the United States, and the islands in the Passamaquoddy Bay be resumed by us;

"That the Americans be excluded from the navigation of the St. Lawrence, and all its tributary lakes and waters; and

"That a navigable part of the Mississippi be brought within the Canadian territories.

"Secondly. A new boundary line for the Indian territory.

"Thirdly. No forts, or military posts, to be erected by the Americans in the Indian territory, or on the boundaries, or on any territorial or other jurisdiction or public property possessed by them within these limits.

"Fourthly. The independence of the Indians, and the integrity of their boundaries, to be guaranteed by Great Britain.

"Fifthly. The Americans to be excluded from the fisheries on the coast of British North America, incidentally on this head, taking care that it be recommended in negotiating with France, by no means to restore the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, or to permit the French to participate in the fisheries of Newfoundland.

"Sixthly. The Americans to be excluded from all intercourse with the British West India islands.

"Seventhly. The Americans to be excluded from trading with our East India possessions, and their *precedent* right to the north-west coast of America to be extinguished forever.

"Eighthly. The Americans not to be allowed to incorporate the Floridas with their republic; and the cession of New Orleans to be required, in order to ensure to us the enjoyment of our priviledges to navigate the Mississippi; and here it may also be a question, in how far the arrangements made between Spain, France, and America, respecting Louisiana, can come into discussion.

"Lastly. No commercial treaty to be entered into with the United States, but the basis upon which trade is in future to be carried on between the two nations to be defined and acknowledged in the treaty of peace and amity, and to be regulated by the municipal laws of each country.

"Having thus reviewed and explained these objects, and produced

it to be hoped, a conviction of the essential nature of them to the prosperity and existence of our colonial possessions in North America, we trust they will not be absorbed in the magnitude, or be suffered to merge in the weight of those grand questions, whence the war originated—the respective assertion and denial of our maritime and inherent rights. In fact whilst they are scarcely to be deemed of minor importance, in one point of view they form the bulk of what ought to come under discussion; for, as to our maritime rights we reassert, that so far from the concessions being admitted, even all disquisition relative to them should pre-emptorily be abstained from."

The pamphlet (says the *Quebec Gazette*, of October 16) is accompanied with a map, showing the proposed boundary line. It may be traced on any map of North America; beginning at Penobscot, up that river to the heights of land, along those heights to the sources of the Connecticut, down the Green Mountains, &c. to fort Anne, following the heights of land between the Hudson and lake George, thence along the highlands between the sources of the rivers flowing into the United States, the St. Lawrence and the lakes, to the head of the Alleghany river near lake Erie, and down the Alleghany river or Ohio to its confluence with the Mississippi, up the Mississippi to the Missouri, and following the Missouri to the Rocky Mountains; including almost all the population of Vermont, that of New-York, and the whole of Ohio.

**BRITISH GOODS**, in great quantities, are received, as well by smuggling, as by regular entries, to the eastward. The manner in which they are brought from the new British port of *Castine*, to Backstown, by land, and there put on board "steamer" vessels and conveyed to *Hampden*, where they are entered. This trade being however, only *one sided*, cannot last; and would drain the United States of all our specie in a very little time.

**BRITISH LIBERALITY.**—The farce of making payment for articles plundered by the British, as sometimes they pretend to do, is handsomely exposed in the following statement:

*A list of stock, &c. taken from Choctank Island, by the British, from the 20th to the 25th October, 1814*

—viz.	43 grown cattle,	50 sheep
	15 calves,	25 bbls. corn,
	—	2 or 3 tons hay.
	58	

For the above articles they left bills of exchange to the amount of 150*l.* sterling. The following stock they left the specie for, at the prices opposite each, viz.

7 grown cattle,	at \$5	\$35
5 calves, at 2,		10
6 large hogs,		8

\$53

ALEX. HEMSLEY.

*London, Sept. 5.*—A list was on Wednesday posted up at Lloyd's containing a *melancholy catalogue* of no fewer than 825 ships, which have been taken by the Americans since the commencement of the war.

Extract of a letter from major-general Andrew Jackson to captain E. Rapier, dated

Head-Quarters, 7th military district.  
Mobile, October 16th, 1814.

Sir—I have just learned that general Coffee, with the volunteers will reach me in a few days. Their patriotism, at this all important crisis has justly entitled them to be hailed as the first of patriots in the union; and will immortalize the state. They have set a fit and proper example to the sister states of the union; and if followed by them will soon make us respectable abroad, the tyrant of England shudder, and obtain for us an honorable peace in a short time.

As soon as general Coffee reaches me I will be in motion, and I trust with the smiles of Heaven to be able to give security to this section of the country in a short time.

*From a Scotch paper of Sept. 1.*

SUMMARY OF POLITICS.

ABERDEEN, Sept. 3.—The affairs of Norway are said to be finally settled, and Prince Christian has formally stipulated for the subjugation of the Nor-

have been stigmatised as a mob worse than useless.—Our own state, more particularly has felt the imputation—her hardy yeomanry have withdrawn under the odium heaped on them, apparently deservedly.—The disgraceful scenes at Queenston and in the vicinity of Black-Rock and Buffalo have been obliterated by their conduct since. Her sons, we trust, have shewn to the world, at Chippawa, Bridgewater, and Erie, that with an able commander, one who possesses the undivided confidence of her citizen soldiers, the militia may still claim the proud distinction of the bulwark of the nation. It remained for you, sir, after all the disasters and disgrace attached to the militia, to work this revolution, to renovate our spirits and lead us to victory.

We now take our leave, anticipating with pleasure, that should our country call us forth, you will again lead us to the path of fame.

Accept, sir, this tender of our thanks, and may you long enjoy your well earned laurels and the confidence of the nation.

H. W. DOBBIN,  
CALEB HOPKINS,

Committee in behalf of the officers  
of the N. Y. volunteers and militia

Major-general Peter B. Porter,  
commanding volunteers and militia.

Camp at Butavia, Nov. 2, 1814:

GENTLEMEN—There is not a circumstance in life that could have afforded me more heartfelt pleasure than to have met with the approbation of the officers of the volunteers and militia, in the conduct of a command which you are aware has been surrounded by difficulty and chequered with danger.

For the handsome manner in which the volunteers and militia have acquitted themselves on the Niagara frontier, during the late campaign, the credit is due to the gallant officers and brave men with whom it has been my singular good fortune to be associated.

In return for your kind wish, accept, gentlemen, my hearty prayers for your happy return to your friends and your everlasting prosperity.

PETER B. PORTER.

Col. Dobbin, and 7 Commit-  
Lieut. col. Hopkins, & see, &c.

Circular—Harrisburg, 19th Nov. 1814.—SIR—You will, immediately upon the receipt of this, communicate to the drafted militia and volunteers of your brigade, now under marching orders, the revocation by the secretary at war of the requisition for four thousand Pennsylvania militia, a copy of which is herewith subjoined; and that their services are consequently for the present dispensed with. Adding my high sense of the honorable feeling and patriotic spirit manifested by those, who are ready to march and willing to subject themselves, at this inclement season, to the privations and hardships always inseparable from military service, in defence of their beloved country and to avert the dangers with which it was threatened.

SIMON SNYDER,

Governor of the commonwealth.

To  
brigade  
Inspector of the  
division of Pennsylvania.

Department of War, Nov. 14, 1814.

SIR—Understanding by a communication, that a compliance with the requisition for the four thousand militia lately called from Pennsylvania, will be attended with much inconvenience and embarrassment; and it being probable, by the long delay of the projected expedition of lord Hill, that the state of affairs in Europe may prevent its prosecution against this district of our country, I have to inform your excellency that your orders for carrying it into

effect may be revoked. I take this step in confidence that the patriotic spirit, which has been displayed by the citizens of Pennsylvania, in the late pressing emergency, may be relied on, should a new emergency occur, for the supply of any force which may be requisite. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

JAMES MONROE.

His Excellency Simon Snyder,  
Governor of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg.

Charleston, Nov. 16. On the 14th inst. were taken, seven British prisoners by the militia at Long Bay (Waccamaw) from a boat that came on shore, for the alleged purpose of purchasing provisions. The vessel from which the prisoners came, is a schooner between two and three hundred tons, called the St. LAURENCE, formerly the private armed schooner ATLAS, which admiral Cockburn had captured at Ocracoke. Among the prisoners, is a lieutenant of the navy, commander of the schooner and the surgeon.

BRITISH (government) BELLS, at Boston or London, 30 days, 14 1-2 to 15 per cent. discount.

GENERAL ORDER.

Adjutant and Inspector general's office.  
Washington, Nov. 23.

The secretaries of the war and navy, having agreed to establish the following relative rank between officers of the army and navy, the same being also approved by the president of the United States, it will be observed and respected accordingly.

Rank between Navy and Army officers.

Commodores of squadrons, being captains,	Brig. generals.
Captains,	Colonels.
Master Commandants,	Majors.
Lieutenants,	Captains.

The rank and precedence of sea officers, as above stated, will take place according to the seniority of their respective commissions. Captains not having an actual command as commodore, will rank only as colonels—and if commanding a vessel of inferior class than that to which they are by law entitled, will rank only as majors, unless the combined force under the command of any such captain shall equal that to which a captain in the navy is entitled, in which case he shall rank as a colonel.

This arrangement is not to give any pretence to land officers, to command any part of the naval force of the United States, or to sea officers to command any part of the army of the United States—nor shall either have a right to demand the compliments due to their respective ranks, unless on actual service.

Commodores of the flotilla service will have the rank of colonel only.

By order,

JOHN R. BELL,  
Inspector general.

Copy of a letter from commodore Macdonough to brig. gen. Macomb, dated

U. S. ship Saratoga, off Plattsburgh, Sept. 13th, 1814.

DEAR SIR—Enclosed is a copy of a letter from captain White Youngs, and a list of killed and wounded attached to his command.

I beg leave to recommend captain Youngs to your particular notice; during the action his conduct was such as to meet with my warmest approbation. I feel much indebted to him for his personal valor and example of coolness and intrepidity to his own men, as well as to the sailors. He volunteered in a sinking boat, to carry my order to the galleys, for close action, in the hottest part of it; and supplied the guns with his men as fast as the sailors were disabled.

I am, with much respect and esteem, your most obedient servant,

T. MACDONOUGH.

Brig. gen. Macomb, U. S. army.

Captain Youngs of the 15th, is an officer of distinguished merit, and has conducted himself with the greatest propriety on board the fleet. By his example and attention we have been able to keep the fleet manned from the line, which has been the means of contributing to the result of the naval engagement, I therefore recommend him to the particular notice of the war department.

ALLEN MACOMB.

Septem<sup>r</sup>, 18, 1814.

wegians after having as it would appear, placed their army in a situation where it was surrounded by that of Sweden. The letters and public documents of this prince have for some time been of a very undecided description. He affected to be the determined warlike leader of a people resolved to sacrifice all for independence, and at the same time he informed his enemy, that he would faithfully represent to the people the dangers to which they were about to expose themselves in the war. In the present era of duplicity and underhand intrigue, it will not be very wonderful, if it appear that prince Christian had merely gone over to *manage* the Norwegians; to take the lead among them with many patriotic declarations, in order to prevent some more determined man from assuming the character of their chief, and finally to bring about their subjection to the crown of Sweden. The spirit of the people was certainly good, their good discipline and valour unquestioned, and the passes of the country such, that a comparatively small army could effectually stop invaders. But with all these advantages, we find the fortresses on the frontiers given up without resistance, and after some unmeaning movements in the field, on the part of the Norwegian army, an armistice agreed on which virtually resigns the independence of Norway.

With regard to Poland, no person can be sanguine enough to expect, that it will be restored to independence during the present order of things. The partitioning of Poland will form an important part of the discussions to take place at the approaching congress. A report has been circulated, that the emperor Alexander had some intentions of erecting it into an independent kingdom, under a Russian prince; and were this accomplished, Poland would be but a vassal state of Russia; but the court of Vienna, it is said, will oppose this arrangement, and insist upon the dismemberment of the territory. It is thus the allies give liberty to Europe; and when we reflect, that in Spain despotism in church and state is restored in all its horrors, while continued broods upon liberty are made in France, and the most ridiculous attempts are made to restore priest craft, and the exploded notion of the divine right of kings, we cannot help saying that, within our recollection, *the liberties of Europe never appeared in a less thriving way.*

And whatever we may think of the blessings we have conferred upon Europe by the late revolution, it is yet certain, that a majority of the continental states do not at all thank us for our good offices. The French express no gratitude or good will for breaking their bonds—the Spaniards under every thing we had done while endeavoring their deliverance—the Dutch, with much apathy, decline our commerce, and threaten to discontinue the *Orange Boven* since their prince imposed a tax of three halfpence a pound on butchers' meat—the Austrians are apprehensive of renewed attacks from France, which are loudly threatened—and, of all the nations of Europe, perhaps Russia and Prussia only, would thank Britain for her exertions, and Sweden while the crown prince retains his influence. All the three having to expect the treatment of treacherous allies, had France proved successful in the war.

For what reasons we so pertinaciously urged the war against France, will ever be a very pertinent question, while the fatal effects arising from that war are felt—*Indemnity for the past, and security for the future* we have not obtained. We have added about six hundred millions to our national debt, and of course, thirty millions to our permanent taxes—and have just as little security, as at any period of the reign of Bonaparte.

*Boston, Nov. 3.* A sloop of and for Providence from New York, with flour, &c. was captured on Monday last, outside of Block Island, by a British privateer sloop, all the crew, except one taken out, a prize master and three men put on board and ordered for Halifax.

Soon after, the American sailor left on board, persuaded the men that it was necessary to caulk in the dead lights and companion, as having no pumps, should it come on to blow, she must sink. While two of them were employed caulking inside the companion, and he outside, and one at the deadlight, he suddenly closed the companion slide on the three, and secured them below—while doing this, the 4th man, at the helm, observing him, seized an oar and struck him to the deck, and severely wounded him, he however immediately recovered himself, seized a hammer and with it in return, struck him his antagonist to the deck, there kept him, and threatened to knock his brains out, if he attempted to resist—in that situation he tied his hands together and confined him under the cable box, on deck.

Afterwards coming on to blow, and he being unable to work the vessel alone, he offered the fellow (under the box) his life, provided he would assist him working the sloop into port, which he gladly accepted of, and she arrived at Newport on Tuesday, when the heroic tar (by the name of Perkins) delivered over his prisoners to the gun boats.

## Naval Report.

IN SENATE, November 28.

Mr. TAYLOR, from the committee of the senate on naval affairs, to whom were referred two resolutions of the 7th inst instructing them "to inquire what provision should be made for the appointment of officers above the grade of captain in the navy of the United States; and, also, "to inquire what provision should be made for conferring naval rank by brevet; in consideration of meritorious service," have had the same under consideration, and reported:

That your committee assume it as a policy now settled, that the United States are to have a permanent naval establishment, which is to be gradually increased according to circumstances, and as the ability of the government may permit. Your committee deem it unnecessary to go into a course of reasoning to support the soundness of this policy, and to establish (what is now generally conceded) that a navy is the most appropriate, the most efficient, and the least expensive defence of this country.

The commercial and maritime habits of a large portion of the people of the United States, press them to the ocean; hence have arisen competition and rivalry with other nations, pursuing the same course of industry. The history of all nations teaches us, that the persons and the property of our citizens on the high seas, unprotected, must be (as indeed they have been) the subjects of frequent violence and injustice. The true remedy against these maritime wrongs is maritime force. A

navy, growing up with the growth of the nation, cannot fail, before the lapse of many years, to procure respect from abroad, and safety at home.

Congress, apparently influenced by these considerations, at an early period after the establishment of the general government, created a naval department, and have authorized, from time to time, the building of ships of war, until the navy has become respectable both from the number and rates of its vessels, and still more so, from the gallantry and splendor of its achievements. By the laws now in force, the navy will consist of four seventy-fours, nine forty-fours, three thirty-sixes, eight sloops of war, besides a great number of brigs and schooners, carrying, in the whole, not less than thirteen hundred guns; of these there remain to be put on the stocks, one of the seventy-fours, and four of the forty-fours. This force is exclusive of the gun-boats, the flotillas, and lake squadrons; the latter of which consist of between thirty and forty ships, some of which are large. The national vessels on the lakes do not carry less than five hundred guns. Your committee are not aware, nor do they believe, that any nation possessing a naval force, such as the above, is without a grade of officers above that of captain. The nation with whom the United States are now at war, is said to have about a thousand public ships; to command which she has not less than two hundred admirals of ten different grades, ascending from rear admiral of the blue to the admiral of the fleet. At present the navy of the United States is commanded by commissioned officers of three grades only: lieutenants, master commandants, and post captains.

The committee would feel that they had not done justice to the subject committed to them, if they failed to contrast the situation of the army with that of the navy, as it respects the scope of promotion in each.—The army presents for the encouragement of an honorable ambition, the high station of major general through ten different grades. It has also advantages in the variety of its corps unknown to the navy. The youth of our country, ambitious of military fame, may, according to their taste, enter the army as officers of cavalry, of artillery, of infantry, or of the rifle corps. Not so with the naval officer. All that he can expect is to be transferred from a smaller to a larger vessel:—from a subordinate station to the command of a ship of war. The rapid promotions, of late, in the army, cannot but strongly impress the naval officer with a deep sense of his own confined situation, and of the cheerless prospect before him. Does not justice then dictate that the range for promotion should be enlarged in our naval establishment?

Your committee are of opinion that a dis-  
creet policy and a prudent foresight, not less

than a just regard to the strong claims of the navy, call for an enlargement of the sphere of promotion. It cannot be long before the navy will be called on to sail in squadron. The highest attainments in naval tactics should be encouraged. If you expect men to labor for the highest qualifications in their professions, it is necessary to open to them the way to the stations requiring them. The surest mean by which you will probably induce the officers to qualify themselves for an admiral's command, is to create that grade in the navy. Thereby requiring in the same act great professional attainments, and offering a reward for them.

Your committee are therefore of opinion, that whether they view this subject in reference to the practice of older and more experienced nations, or in regard to the just claims and the long and meritorious services of the naval officers, or with a view to a just, prudent, and liberal policy on the part of the government, a grade or grades superior to that of captain should now be created in the naval establishment.

As to the second resolution relative to conferring naval rank by brevet, it does not occur to your committee as necessary; it having been the practice of the government to confer actual rank without regard to seniority, in reward of brilliant achievements, or meritorious service.

The committee respectfully submit the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That it is expedient to authorize by law the appointment of officers above the grade of captain in the navy of the United States.

*Resolved*, That it is inexpedient, at this time, to make any provision for conferring naval rank by brevet.

*Navy department, November 15th 1814.*

SIR,—In answer to the enquiry contained in your letter of the 6th instant, founded upon two resolutions of the senate, passed on the 7th instant, instructing the committee on naval affairs to enquire "what provision should be made for the appointment of officers above the grade of captain in the navy of the United States;" and "what provisions should be made for conferring naval rank, by brevet, in consideration of meritorious service," I have the honor to represent, that the high character which the American navy has justly acquired; the general sentiment which indicates its rapid increase and permanency; and the long, faithful, and honorable service, which its senior officers have rendered their country, appear to me to justify and call for the appointment of officers of a higher grade than that of captain.

Love of country, and the laudable desire of honorable fame, are strong excitements to noble actions, but the prospect of progressive

promotion to the highest distinction which talents, zeal, and valor, may justly aspire, is not perhaps less active and stimulating.

Captains of long and honorable standing in the navy, cannot but contrast the cheerless prospect of promotion in the naval service, with the rapid and high distinction which their military brethren, with equal but not higher pretensions, have attained.

The naval force, in officers, seamen, and marines, is probably two-fifth parts of the whole military force of the United States actually employed, in which there are, I think, eight major-generals and sixteen brigadiers, exclusive of those of the staff, who enjoy the rank, pay, and emoluments, of brigadiers.

The effect of a limited grade, without the hope of promotion, is to contract the range of study and professional attainment within the sphere of the command thus limited, hold out but the prospect of elevated rank and command, and every officer of talents and worth will aspire to the highest qualifications.

Foreign experience is to be received with caution, yet the practice of nations of great maritime experience, may throw some light upon the subject. A comparison of the force of the British navy, with the number of admirals in that service, will exhibit the following result, viz. of ships of seventy four guns there are

Building, about	-	-	-	24
In ordinary, about	-	-	-	54
Guard, hospital, prison, store ships, &c.	-	-	-	53
In commission, about	-	-	-	99

Ships of seventy four guns and upwards 210

The list of admirals contains two hundred and nine, exclusive of twenty-seven superannuated rear admirals upon half pay, thus exhibiting more than two admirals for every ship of seventy four guns and upwards, in commission.

We daily see on our own coast, admirals with commands inferior to those which the American navy may even now afford.

The new grade to be established, and number of promotions, should be consistent with the scale and character of the naval establishment, which may not, for some years, require the distinction of flags, as in the British navy, viz. red, white, and blue, at the main, fore, or mizen, of each; making nine grades of admirals, rising in the order of the flags from blue to red.

I am, therefore, of opinion, that it is now expedient to establish the grade of rear admiral, without any distinction of flags, leaving the promotions to vice admiral and admiral for future services, and an enlarged establishment.

I am also of opinion, that the same principle which induced the establishment of brevet rank in the army, for gallant actions, merito-

rious conduct, or long service, is equally applicable to the navy, and cannot fail to excite to those actions it is intended to reward: but no officer, so brevetted, should be entitled to any additional pay or emoluments, except when commanding on separate service.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,  
sir, your obedient servant,

W. JONES.

The honorable Charles Tait,  
Chairman of the naval committee  
of the senate.

Our Ministers at Ghent.

The following message was received from the president of the United States by Mr. Coles, his secretary.

MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

I transmit, for the information of congress, the communications last received from the ministers extraordinary, and plenipotentiary of the United States at Ghent, explaining the course and actual state of their negociations with the plenipotentiaries of Great Britain.

JAMES MADISON.

December 1, 1814.

No. I.

Copy of a letter from Messrs. Adams, Bayard, Clay, Russell and Gallatin, to the secretary of state, dated

Ghent, 25th Oct. 1814.

SIR—We have the honor of transmitting herewith copies of all our correspondence with the British plenipotentiaries, since the departure of Mr. Dallas. Although the negotiation has not terminated so abruptly as we expected at that period that it would, we have no reason to retract the opinion which we then expressed, that no hopes of peace as likely to result from it, could be entertained. It is true, that the terms which the British government had so peremptorily prescribed at that time, have been apparently abandoned, and that the *sine qua non* then required as a preliminary to all discussion upon other topics, has been reduced to an article securing merely an Indian pacification, which we have agreed to accept, subject to the ratification or rejection of our government. But you will perceive, that our request for the exchange of a project of a treaty, has been eluded, and that in their last note, the British plenipotentiaries have advanced a demand not only new and inadmissible, but totally incompatible with their uniform previous declarations, that Great Britain had no view in this negociation to any acquisition of territory. It will be perceived, that this new pretension was brought forward immediately after the accounts had been received that a British force had taken possession of all that part of the state of Massachu-



setts situate east of Penobscot river. The British plenipotentiaries have invariably referred to their government every note received from us, and waited the return of their messenger before they have transmitted to us their answer, and the whole tenor of the correspondence, as well as the manner in which it has been conducted on the part of the British government, have concurred to convince us, that their object has been delay: their motives for this policy we presume to have been to keep the alternative of peace, or of a protracted war, in their own hands, until the general arrangement of European affairs should be accomplished at the congress of Vienna, and until they could avail themselves of the advantages which they have anticipated from the success of their arms during the present campaign in America.

Although the sovereigns who had determined to be present at the congress of Vienna have been already several weeks assembled there, it does not appear by the last advices from that place, that the congress has been formally opened. On the contrary, by a declaration from the plenipotentiaries of the powers, who were parties to the peace of Paris of 30th May last, the opening of the congress appears to have been postponed to the first of November. A memorial is said to have been presented by the French ambassador, Talleyrand, in which it is declared, that France having returned to her boundaries in 1792, can recognize none of the aggrandizements of the other great powers of Europe since that period, although not intending to oppose them by war.

These circumstances indicate that the new basis for the political system of Europe, will not be so speedily settled as had been expected. The principle thus assumed by France is very extensive in its effects, and opens a field for negotiation much wider than had been anticipated. We think it does not promise an aspect of immediate tranquility to this continent, and that it will disconcert particularly the measures which Great Britain has been taking with regard to the future destination of this country, among others, and to which she has attached, apparently much importance.

We have the honor to be, with great respect sir, your very humble servants.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.  
J. A. BAYARD,  
H. CLAY.  
JONA. RUSSELL,  
ALBERT GALLATIN.

## NO. II.

### AMERICAN NOTE.

*The ministers plenipotentiary and extraordinary of the United States to the plenipotentiaries of his Britannic majesty.*

Ghent, August 24, 1814.

The undersigned, ministers plenipotentiary

and extraordinary from the United States of America, have given to the official note which they have had the honor of receiving from his Britannic majesty's plenipotentiaries the deliberate attention which the importance of its contents required, and have now that of transmitting to them their answer on the several points to which it refers.

They would present to the consideration of the British plenipotentiaries, that lord Castlereagh, in his letter of the 4th of November 1813, to the American secretary of state, pledges the faith of the British government that "they were willing to enter into discussion with the government of America for the conciliatory adjustment of the differences subsisting between the two states, with an earnest desire on their part to bring them to a favorable issue, upon principles of perfect reciprocity, not inconsistent with the established maxims of public law, and the maritime rights of the British empire." This fact alone might suffice to shew, that it ought not to have been expected that the American government, in acceding to this proposition, should have exceeded its terms, and furnished the undersigned with instructions authorising them to treat with the British plenipotentiaries respecting Indians situated within the boundaries of the United States. That such expectation was not entertained by the British government might also have been inferred from the explicit assurances which the British plenipotentiaries gave, on the part of their government, at the first conference which the undersigned had the honor of holding with them, that no events, subsequent to the first proposal for this negotiation, had, in any manner, varied either the disposition of the British government, that it might terminate in a peace honorable to both parties, or the terms upon which they would be willing to conclude it.

It is well known that the differences which unhappily subsist between G. Britain and the U. States, and which ultimately led to the present war, were wholly of a maritime nature, arising principally from the British orders in council, in relation to blockades, and from the impressment of mariners from on board of American vessels—The boundary of the Indian territory had never been a subject of difference between the two countries. Neither the principles of reciprocity, the maxims of public law, nor the maritime rights of the British empire could require the permanent establishment of such boundary. The novel pretensions now advanced could no more have been anticipated by the government of the U. States, in forming instructions for this negotiation, than they seem to have been contemplated by that of G. Britain in November last in proposing it. Lord Castlereagh's note makes the termination of the war to depend on a conciliatory adjustment of the differen-

ces then subsisting between the two states and in no other condition whatever.

Nor could the American government have foreseen that Great Britain in order to obtain peace for the Indians, residing within the dominions of the United States, whom she had induced to take part with her in the war, would demand that they should be made parties to the treaty between the two nations, or that the boundaries of their lands should be permanently and irrevocably fixed by that treaty. Such a proposition is contrary to the acknowledged principles of public law, and the practice of all civilized nations, particularly of Great Britain and of the United States. It is not founded on reciprocity. It is unnecessary for the attainment of the object which it professes to have in view.

No maxim of public law has hitherto been more universally established among the powers of Europe possessing territories in America, and there is none to which Great Britain has more uniformly and inflexibly adhered, than that of suffering no interposition of a foreign power in the relations between the acknowledged sovereign of the territory, and the Indians situated upon it. Without the admission of this principle, there would be no intelligible meaning attached to stipulations establishing boundaries between the dominions in America of civilized nations possessing territories inhabited by Indian tribes.—Whatever may be the relations of Indians to the nation in whose territory they are thus acknowledged to reside, they cannot be considered as an independent power by the nation which has made such acknowledgment.

The territory of which G. Britain wishes now to dispose, is within the dominions of the United States, was solemnly acknowledged by herself in the treaty of peace of 1783, which established their boundaries, and by which she relinquished all claim to the government, propriety, and territorial rights within these boundaries. No condition respecting the Indians residing therein, was inserted in that treaty. No stipulation similar to that now proposed is to be found in any treaty made by G. Britain, or within the knowledge of the undersigned, by any other nation.

The Indian tribes for which Great Britain proposes now to stipulate have, themselves, acknowledged this principle. By the Greenville treaty of 1795, to which the British plenipotentiaries have here alluded, it is expressly stipulated, and the condition has been confirmed by every subsequent treaty, so late as the year 1810, "That the Indian tribes shall quietly enjoy their lands, hunting, planting, and dwelling thereon, so long as they please, without any molestation from the U. States: but that when those tribes, or any of them, shall be disposed to sell their lands, they shall be sold only to the U. States: that until such

sale, the United States will protect all the said Indian tribes in the quiet enjoyment of their lands against all citizens of the United States, and against all other white persons who intrude on the same, and that the said Indian tribes again acknowledge themselves to be under the protection of the said United States, and of no other power whatever."

That there is no reciprocity in the proposed stipulation is evident. In prohibiting G. Britain and the United States from purchasing lands within a part of the dominion of the latter power, while it professes to take from G. Britain a privilege which she had not, it actually deprives the U. States of a right exclusively belonging to them.

The proposition is utterly unnecessary for the purpose of obtaining a pacification for the Indians residing within the territories of the United States. The undersigned have already had the honor of informing the British plenipotentiaries, that, under the system of liberal policy adopted by the United States in their relations with the Indians within their territories, an uninterrupted peace had subsisted from the year 1775, not only between the United States and all those tribes, but also amongst those tribes themselves for a longer period of time than ever had been known since the first settlement of North America. Against those Indians the United States have neither interest nor inclination to continue the war. They have nothing to ask of them but peace. Commissioners on their part have been appointed to conclude it, and an armistice was actually made last autumn with most of those tribes. The British government may again have induced some of them to take their side in the war, but peace with them will necessarily follow immediately a peace with G. Britain. To a provisional article similar to what has been stipulated in some former treaties, engaging that each party will treat for the Indians within its territories, include them in the peace, and use its best endeavors to prevent them from committing hostilities against the citizens or subjects of the other party, the undersigned might assent, and rely on the approbation and ratification of their government. They would also for the purpose of securing the duration of peace, and to prevent collisions which might interrupt it, propose a stipulation which should preclude the subjects or citizens of each nation, respectively from trading with the Indians residing in the territory of the other. But to surrender both the rights of sovereignty and of soil over nearly one third of the territorial dominions of the United States to a number of Indians not probably exceeding twenty thousand, the undersigned are so far from being instructed or authorized, that any arrangement for that purpose would be instantaneously rejected by their government.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 15 of VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1814.

[WHOLE NO 171.]

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

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Not only has this extraordinary demand been made a *sine qua non*, to be admitted without a discussion, and as a preliminary basis; but it is accompanied by others equally inadmissible, which the British plenipotentiaries state to be so connected with it, that they may reasonably influence the decision of the undersigned upon it, yet leaving them uninformed how far these other demands may also be insisted on as indispensable conditions of a peace.

As little are the undersigned instructed or empowered to accede to the propositions of the British government, in relation to the military occupation of the western lakes. If they have found the proposed interference of Great Britain in the concerns of Indians residing within the United States utterly incompatible with any established maxim of public law, they are no less at a loss to discover by what rule of perfect reciprocity the U. States can be required to renounce their equal right of maintaining a naval force upon those lakes, and of fortifying their own shores, while G. Britain reserves exclusively the corresponding rights to herself. That in point of military preparation, Great Britain in her possessions in North America, ever has been in a condition to be termed, with propriety, the weaker power, in comparison with the U. States, the undersigned believe to be incorrect in point of fact. In regard to the fortification of the shores, and to the forces actually kept on foot upon those frontiers, they believe the superiority to have always been on the side of G. Britain. If the proposal to dismantle the forts upon her shores, strike forever her military flag upon her lakes, and lay her whole frontier defenceless in the presence of her armed and fortified neighbor, had proceeded, not from Great Britain to the United States, but from the U. States to G. Britain, the undersigned may safely appeal to the bosoms of his Britannic majesty's plenipotentiaries for the feelings with which, not only in regard to the interests, but the honor of their nation, they would have received such a proposal. What would G. Britain herself say, if in relation to another frontier, where she has the acknowledged superiority of strength, it were proposed that she should be reduced to a condition even of equality with the United States?

The undersigned further perceive, that under the alledged purpose of opening a direct communication between two of the British provinces in America, the British govern-

ment require a cession of territory forming a part of one of the states of the American union, and that they propose, without purpose specifically alledged, to draw the boundary line westward, not from the lake of the Woods, as it now is, but from lake Superior. It must be perfectly immaterial to the United States, whether the object of the British government, in demanding the dismemberment of the U. S. is to acquire territory, as such, or for purposes less liable, in the eyes of the world, to be ascribed to the desire of aggrandizement. Whatever the motive may be, and with whatever consistency views of conquest may be disclaimed, while demanding for herself, or for the Indians, a cession of territory more extensive than the whole island of Great Britain, the duty marked out for the undersigned is the same. They have no authority to cede any part of the territory of the U. States, and to no stipulation to that effect will they subscribe.

The conditions proposed by Great Britain have no relation to the subsisting differences between the two countries: they are inconsistent with acknowledged principles of public law: they are founded neither on reciprocity nor on any of the usual bases of negotiation, neither on that of the *uti possidetis*, or of *status ante bellum*: they would inflict the most vital injury on the United States, by dismembering their territory, by arresting their natural growth and increase of population, and by leaving their northern and western frontier equally exposed to British invasion and to indian aggression: they are, above all, dishonorable to the United States, in demanding from them to abandon territory and a portion of their citizens, to admit a foreign interference in their domestic concerns, and to cease to exercise their natural rights on their own shores and in their own waters. A treaty concluded on such terms would be but an armistice. It cannot be supposed that America would long submit to conditions so injurious and degrading. It is impossible, in the natural course of events, that she should not, at the first favorable opportunity, recur to arms, for the recovery of her territory, of her rights, of her honor. Instead of settling existing differences, such a peace would only create new causes of war, sow the seeds of a permanent hatred, and lay the foundation of hostilities for an indefinite period.

Essentially pacific from her political institutions, from the habits of her citizens, from her physical situation, America reluctantly

engaged in the war. She wishes for peace; but she wishes for it upon those terms of reciprocity, honorable to both countries, which can alone render it permanent. The causes of the war between the United States and Great Britain having disappeared by the maritime pacification of Europe, the government of the United States does not desire to continue it, in defence of abstract principles, which have, for the present, ceased to have any practical effect. The undersigned have been accordingly instructed to agree to its termination, both parties restoring whatever territory they may have taken, and both reserving all their rights, in relation to their respective seamen. To make the peace between the two nations solid and permanent, the undersigned were also instructed, and have been prepared to enter into the most amicable discussion of all those points on which differences or uncertainty had existed, and which might hereafter tend in any degree whatever to interrupt the harmony of the two countries, without, however, making the conclusion of the peace at all depend upon a successful result of the discussion.

It is, therefore, with deep regret, that the undersigned have seen that other views are entertained by the British government, and that new and unexpected pretensions are raised, which, if persisted in, must oppose an insuperable obstacle to a pacification. It is not necessary to refer such demands to the American government for its instruction. They will only be a fit subject of deliberation, when it becomes necessary to decide upon the expediency of an absolute surrender of national independence.

The undersigned request the British plenipotentiaries to accept the assurance of their high consideration.

(Signed)

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.  
JAMES A. BAYARD.  
H. CLAY,  
JONATHAN RUSSELL,  
ALBERT GALLATIN.

To the plenipotentiaries of his Britannic  
majesty, &c. &c. &c.

No. III.

BRITISH NOTE.

*The British to the American commissioners.*

GUEST, Sept. 4, 1814.

The undersigned have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of the American plenipotentiaries, dated the 24th ultimo.

It is with unfeigned regret that the undersigned observe, both in the tone and substance of the whole note; so little proof of any disposition on the part of the government of the United States to enter into an amicable discussion of the several points submitted by the undersigned in their former communication. The undersigned are perfectly aware, that in bringing forward those points for consideration, and stating with so much frankness, as they did, the views with which they were proposed, they departed from the usual course of negotiating, by disclosing

all the objects of their government, while those which the American government had in view were withheld; but in so doing they were principally actuated by a desire of bringing the negotiation as soon as possible to a favorable termination, and in some measure by their willingness to comply with the wishes expressed by the American plenipotentiaries themselves.

It is perfectly true that the war between his majesty and the United States, was declared by the latter power upon the pretence of maritime rights alleged to be asserted by Great Britain, and disputed by the United States.

If the war thus declared by the United States had been carried on by them for objects purely of a maritime nature, or if the attack which has been made on Canada had been for the purpose of diversion, or the way of defence against the British forces in that quarter, any question as to the boundaries of Canada might have been considered as unnecessary; but it is notorious to the whole world that the conquest of Canada, and its permanent annexation to the United States, was the declared object of the American government. If, in consequence of a different course of events on the continent of Europe, his majesty's government had been unable to reinforce the British armies in Canada, and the United States had obtained a decided superiority in that quarter; is there any person who doubts that they would have availed themselves of their situation to obtain on the side of Canada important cessions of territory, if not the entire abandonment of that country by Great Britain? Is the American government to be allowed to pursue, so far as its means will enable it, a system of acquisition and aggrandizement to the extent of annexing entire provinces to their dominions, and is his majesty to be precluded from availing himself of his means, so far as they will enable him, to retain those points which the valor of British arms may have placed in his power, because they happen to be situated within the territories allotted under former treaties to the government of the United States?

Such a principle of negotiation was never avowed antecedent to that of the revolutionary government of France.

If the policy of the United States had been essentially pacific, as the American plenipotentiaries assert it ought to be, from their political institutions, from the habits of their citizens, and from their physical situation, it might not have been necessary to propose the precautionary provisions now under discussion. That, of late years at least, the American government have been influenced by a very different policy; by a spirit of aggrandizement not necessary to their own security, but increasing with the extent of their empire, has been too clearly manifested by their progressive occupation of the Indian territories; by the acquisition of Louisiana; by the more recent attempt to wrest by force of arms from a nation in amity, the two Floridas; and, lastly, by the avowed intention of permanently annexing the Canadas to the United States.

If, then, the security of the British North American dominions requires any sacrifices on the part of the United States, they must be ascribed to the declared policy of that government in making the war not one of self-defence, nor for the redress of grievances, real or pretended, but a part of a system of conquest and aggrandizement.

The British government in its present situation, is bound in duty to endeavor to secure its North American dominions against those attempts at conquest, which the American government have avowed to be a principle of their policy, and which a

such will undoubtedly be renewed, whenever any succeeding war between the two countries shall afford a prospect of renewing them with success.

The British plenipotentiaries proposed that the military possession of the lakes, from lake Ontario to lake Superior, should be secured to Great Britain, because the command of those lakes would afford to the American government the means of commencing a war in the heart of Canada, and because the command of them, on the part of Great Britain, has been shewn by experience to be attended with no insecurity to the United States.

When the relative strength of the two powers in North America is considered, it should be recollected that the British dominions in that quarter do not contain a population of five hundred thousand souls, whereas the territory of the United States contains a population of more than seven millions; that the naval resources of the United States are at hand for attack, and that the naval resources of Great Britain are on the other side of the Atlantic.

The military possession of those lakes is not, therefore, necessary for the protection of the United States.

The proposal for allowing the territories on the southern banks of the lakes above mentioned to remain in the possession of the government of the United States, provided no fortifications should be erected on the shores, and no armament permitted on the waters, has been made, for the purpose of manifesting, that security and not acquisition of territory is the object of the British government, and that they have no desire to throw obstacles in the way of any commerce which the people of the United States may be desirous of carrying on upon the lakes in time of peace.

The undersigned, with the anxious wish to rectify all misunderstanding, have thus more fully explained the grounds upon which they brought forward the propositions contained in their former note respecting the boundaries of the British dominions in North America.

They do not wish to insist upon them beyond what the circumstances may fairly require. They are ready, amicably, to discuss the details of them with a view to the adoption of any modifications which the American plenipotentiaries, or their government, may have to suggest, if they are not incompatible with the object itself.

With respect to the boundary of the district of Maine, and that of the north-western frontier of the United States, the undersigned were not prepared to anticipate the objections contained in the note of the American plenipotentiaries, "that they were instructed to treat for the revision of their boundary lines," with the statement which they have subsequently made, that they had no authority to cede any part, however insignificant of the territories of the United States, although the proposal left it open to them to demand an equivalent for such cession either in frontier or otherwise.

The American plenipotentiaries must be aware that the boundary of the district of Maine has never been correctly ascertained; that the one asserted at present by the American government, by which the direct communication between Halifax and Quebec becomes interrupted, was not in contemplation of the British plenipotentiaries who concluded the treaty of 1783, and that the greater part of the territory in question is actually unoccupied.

The undersigned are persuaded that an arrangement on this point might be easily made, if entered into with the spirit of conciliation, without any prejudice to the interests of the district in question.

As the necessity of fixing some boundary for the

north western frontier has been mutually acknowledged, a proposal for a discussion on that subject cannot be considered as a demand for a cession of territory, unless the United States are prepared to assert that there is no limit to their territories in that direction, and that availing themselves of the geographical error upon which that part of the treaty of 1783 was founded, they will acknowledge no boundary whatever, then unquestionably any proposition to fix one, be it what it may, must be considered as demanding a large cession of territory from the United States.

Is the American government prepared to assert such an unlimited right, so contrary to the evident intention of the treaty itself? Or, is his majesty's government to understand that the American plenipotentiaries are willing to acknowledge the boundary from the Lake of the Woods to the Mississippi (the arrangement made by a convention in 1803, but not ratified) as that by which their government is ready to abide?

The British plenipotentiaries are instructed to accept favorably such a proposition, or to discuss any other line of boundary which may be submitted for consideration.

It is with equal astonishment and regret the undersigned find that the American plenipotentiaries have not only declined signing any provisional article, by which the Indian nations who have taken part with Great Britain in the present contest may be included in the peace, and may have a boundary assigned to them, but have also thought proper to express surprize at any proposition on the subject having been advanced.

The American plenipotentiaries state, that their government could not have expected such a discussion, and appear resolved, at once, to reject any proposition on this head; representing it as a demand contrary to the acknowledged principles of public law, tantamount to a cession of one third of the territorial dominions of the United States, and required to be admitted without discussion.

The proposition which is thus represented is, that the Indian nations, which have been during the war in alliance with Great Britain, should at its termination be included in the pacification; and, with a view to their permanent tranquility and security, that the British government is willing to take as a basis of an article on the subject of a boundary for those nations, the stipulations which the American government contracted in 1795, subject, however, to modifications.

After the declaration, publicly made to those Indian nations by the governor general of Canada, that Great Britain would not desert them, could the American government really persuade itself that no proposition relating to those nations would be advanced, and did lord Castlereagh's note of the 4th November, 1813, imply so great a sacrifice of honor, or exclude from discussion every subject, except what immediately related to the maritime questions referred to in it?

When the undersigned assured the American plenipotentiaries of the anxious wish of the British government that the negotiation might terminate in a peace honorable to both parties, it could not have been imagined that the American plenipotentiaries would thence conclude, that his majesty's government was prepared to abandon the Indian nations to their fate, nor could it have been foreseen that the American government would have considered it as derogatory to its honor to admit a proposition by which the tranquility of these nations might be secured.

The treaty of Greenville established the boundary

ties between the United States and the Indian nations. The American plenipotentiaries must be aware, that the war which has since broken out, has abrogated that treaty. Is it contrary to the established principles of public law for the British government to propose, on behalf of its allies, that this treaty, shall, on the pacification, be considered subject to such modifications as the case may render necessary? Or is it unreasonable to propose, that this stipulation should be amended, and that on that foundation some arrangements should be made which would provide for the existence of a neutral power between Great Britain and the United States, calculated to secure to both a longer continuance of the blessings of peace?

So far was that specific proposition respecting the Indian boundaries from being insisted upon in the note, or in the conference which preceded it, as one to be admitted without discussion, that it would have been difficult to use terms of greater latitude, or which appeared more adapted, not only not to preclude but to invite discussion.

If the basis proposed could convey away one third of the territory of the United States, the American government itself must have conveyed it away by the Greenville treaty of 1795.

It is impossible to read that treaty without remarking how inconsistent the present pretensions of the American government are, with its preamble and provisions. The boundary line between the lands of the United States and those of the Indian nations, is therein expressly defined. The general character of the treaty, is that of a treaty with independent nations; and the very stipulation which the American plenipotentiaries refer to, that the Indian nations should sell their lands only to the United States, tends to prove that, but for that stipulation, the Indians had a general right to dispose of them.

The American government has now for the first time, in effect, declared that all Indian nations within its line of demarcation are its subjects, living there upon sufferance, on lands which it also claims the exclusive right of acquiring, thereby menacing the final extinction of those nations.

Against such a system the undersigned must formally protest. The undersigned repeat, that the terms on which the proposition has been made for assigning to the Indian nations some boundary, manifest no unwillingness to discuss any other proposition directed to the same object, or even a modification of that which is offered. Great Britain is ready to enter into the same engagements with respect to the Indians living within her line of demarcation, as that which is proposed to the United States. It can, therefore, only be from a complete misapprehension of the proposition, that it can be represented as being not reciprocal. Neither can it, with any truth, be represented as contrary to the acknowledged principles of public law, as derogatory to the honor, or inconsistent with the rights of the American government, nor as a demand required to be admitted without discussion.

After this full exposition of the sentiments of his Majesty's government on the points above stated, it will be for the American plenipotentiaries to determine whether they are ready now to continue the negotiations; whether they are disposed to refer to their government for further instructions; or, lastly, whether they will take upon themselves the responsibility of breaking off the negotiation altogether.

The undersigned request the American plenipotentiaries to accept the assurances of their high consideration.

(Signed)

GAMBIER,  
HENRY GOULBURN,  
WM. ADAMS.

No IV.

*The American to the British commissioners.*

GHENT, Sept. 9th 1814.

The undersigned have had the honor to receive the note of his Britannic Majesty's plenipotentiaries, dated the 4th inst. In the tone, or substance of the former note of the undersigned, the British commissioners have perceived little proof of any disposition on the part of the American government, for a discussion of some of the propositions advanced in the first note, which the undersigned had the honor of receiving from them, they will ascribe it to the nature of the propositions themselves, to their apparent incompatibility with the assurances in Lord Castlereagh's letter to the American secretary of state, proposing this negotiation, and with the solemn assurances of the British plenipotentiaries themselves, to the undersigned, at their first conferences with them.

The undersigned, in reference to an observation of the British plenipotentiaries, must be allowed to say, that the objects which the government of the United States had in view, have not been withheld.

The subjects considered as suitable for discussion were fairly brought forward, in the conference of the 9th ult. and the terms on which the U. States were willing to conclude the peace, were frankly and expressly declared in the note of the undersigned, dated the 24th ultimo. It had been confidently hoped that the nature of those terms, so evidently framed in a spirit of conciliation, would have induced Great Britain to adopt them as the basis of a treaty; and it is with deep regret that the undersigned, if they have rightly understood the meaning of the last note of the British plenipotentiaries, perceive that they still insist on the exclusive military possession of the lakes, and on a permanent boundary and independent territory for the Indians residing within the dominions of the United States.

The first demand is grounded on the supposition, that the American government has manifested, by its proceedings towards Spain, by the acquisition of Louisiana, by the purchases of Indian lands, and by an avowed intention of permanently annexing the Canadas to the United States, a spirit of aggrandizement and conquest, which justifies the demand of extraordinary sacrifices from them, to provide for the security of the British possessions in America.

In the observations which the undersigned felt it their duty to make on the new demands of the British government, they confined their animadversions to the nature of the demands themselves; they did not seek for illustrations of the policy of Great Britain in her conduct, in various quarters of the globe, towards other nations, for she was not accountable to the United States. Yet the undersigned will say, that their government has ever been ready to arrange, in the most amicable manner, with Spain, the questions respecting the boundaries of Louisiana and Florida, and that of the indemnities acknowledged by Spain due to American citizens. How the peaceable acquisition of Louisiana, or the purchase of lands within the acknowledged territories of the United States, both made by fair and voluntary treaties for satisfactory equivalents, can be ascribed to a spirit of conquest dangerous to their neighbors, the undersigned are altogether at a loss to understand.

Nor has the conquest of Canada, and its permanent annexation to the United States, been the declared object of their government. From the commencement of the war to the present time, the American government has been always willing to make peace, without obtaining any cession of territory, and on the sole condition that the maritime questi-

ons might be satisfactorily arranged. Such was their disposition in the month of July, 1812, when they instructed Mr. Russell to make the proposal of an armistice; in the month of October of the same year when Mr. Monroe answered admiral Warren's proposals to the same effect; in April, 1813, when instructions were given to three of the undersigned then appointed to treat of peace, under the mediation of Russia; and in January, 1814, when the instructions under which the undersigned are now acting, were prepared.

The proposition of the British plenipotentiaries is, that, in order to secure the frontier of Canada against attack, the United States should leave their own without defence: and it seems to be forgotten, that if their superior population, and the proximity of their resources give them any advantage in that quarter, it is balanced by the great difference between the military establishments of the two nations. No sudden invasion of Canada by the United States could be made, without leaving on their Atlantic shores, and on the ocean, exposed to the great superiority of the British force, a mass of American property far more valuable than Canada. In her relative superior force to that of the U. States in every other quarter, Great Britain may find a pledge much more efficacious for the safety of a single vulnerable point, than stipulations ruinous to her interests and degrading to the honor of America. The best security for the possessions of both countries will, however, be found in an equal and solid peace; in a mutual respect for the rights of each other, and in the cultivation of a friendly understanding between them. If there be any source of jealousy in relation to Canada itself, it will be found to exist solely in the undue interference of traders and agents, which may be easily removed by proper restraints.

The only American forts on the lakes known to have been, at the commencement of the negotiation, held by British force, are Michilimackinac and Niagara. As the U. S. were, at the same time, in possession of Amherstburg and the adjacent country, it is not perceived that the mere occupation of those two forts could give any claim to his Britannic majesty to large cessions of territory, founded upon the right of conquest; and the undersigned may be permitted to add, that even if the chances of war should yield to the British arms a momentary possession of other parts of the territories of the U. States such events would not alter their views with regard to the terms of peace to which they would give their consent. Without recurring to examples drawn from the revolutionary governments of France, or to a more recent and illustrious triumph of fortitude in adversity, they have been taught by their own history that the occupation of their principal cities would produce no despondency, nor induce their submission to the dismemberment of their empire, or to the abandonment of any one of the rights which constitute a part of their national independence.

The general position, that it was consistent with the principle of public law, and with the practice of civilized nations, to include allies in a treaty of peace, and to provide for their security, never was called in question by the undersigned. But they have denied the right of Great Britain, according to those principles and her own practice, to interfere in any manner with indian tribes residing within the territories of the United States, as acknowledged by herself, to consider such tribes as her allies, or to treat for them with the United States. They will not repeat the facts and arguments already brought forward by them in support of this

position, and which remain unanswered. The observations made by the British plenipotentiaries in the treaty of Grenville, and their assertion that the United States now, for the first time, deny the absolute independence of the indian tribes, and claim the exclusive right of purchasing their lands, require, however, some notice.

If the United States had now asserted, that the indians within their boundaries, who have acknowledged the United States as their only protectors were their subjects, living only at sufferance on their lands, far from being the first in making that assertion, they would only have followed the example on the principles, uniformly and invariably asserted in substance, and frequently avowed in express terms by the British government itself. What was the meaning of all the colonial charters granted by the British monarchy, from that of Virginia, by Elizabeth, to that of Georgia, by the immediate predecessor of the present king; if the indians were the sovereigns and proprietors of the lands bestowed by those charters? What was the meaning of that article in the treaty of Utrecht, by which the five nations were described, in terms, as subject to the dominion of Great Britain? or that of the treaty with the Cherokees, by which it was declared that the king of Great Britain granted them the privilege to live where they pleased, if those subjects were independent sovereigns, and if these tenants, at the license of the British king, were the rightful lords of the lands where he granted them permission to live? What was the meaning of that proclamation of his present Britannic majesty issued in 1763, declaring all purchases of lands from the indians null and void, unless made by treaties held under the sanction of his majesty's government, if the indians had the right to sell their lands to whom they pleased? What was the meaning of boundary lines of American territories, in all the treaties of Great Britain with other European powers having American possessions, particularly in the treaty of 1763, by which she required from France the sovereignty and possession of the Canadas; in her treaty of peace with the United States in 1783; nay, what is the meaning of the north-western boundary line now proposed by the British commissioners themselves, if it is the rightful possession and sovereignty of independent indians, of which these boundaries dispose? Is it, indeed, necessary to ask, whether Great Britain ever has permitted, or would permit, any foreign nation, or without her consent, any of her subjects, to acquire lands from the indians, in the territories of the Hudson bay company, or in Canada? In formally protesting against this system, it is not against a novel pretension of the American government, it is against the most solemn acts of their own sovereigns, against the royal proclamations, charters, and treaties of Great Britain, for more than two centuries, from the first settlement of North America to the present day, that the British plenipotentiaries protest.

From the rigor of this system, however, as practised by G. Britain, and all other European powers in America, the humane and liberal policy of the United States has voluntarily relaxed. A celebrated writer on the laws of nations, to whose authority British jurists have taken particular satisfaction in appealing, after stating, in the most explicit manner, the legitimacy of colonial settlements in America, the exclusion of all rights of uncivilized indian tribes, has taken occasion to praise the first settlers of New England, and the founder of Pennsylvania, for having purchased of the indians the lands they resolved to cultivate notwithstanding their being furnished with a charter from their sovereign. It is this

example, which the United States, since they became, by their independence, the sovereigns of the territory, have adopted and organized into a political system. Under that system, the Indians residing within the United States are so far independent, that they live under their own customs, and not under the laws of the United States; that their rights upon the lands where they inhabit, or hunt, are secured to them by boundaries defined in amicable treaties between the United States and themselves; and that whenever those boundaries were varied, it is also by amicable and voluntary treaties, by which they receive from the United States ample compensation for every right they have to the lands ceded by them. They are so far dependent as not to have the right to dispose of their lands to private persons, nor to any power other than the United States, and to be under their protection alone, and not under that of any other power. Whether called subjects or by whatever name designated, such is the relation between them and the United States.—That relation is neither asserted now for the first time, nor did it originate with the treaty of Greenville. These principles have been uniformly recognized by the Indians themselves, not only by that treaty, but in all the other previous as well as subsequent treaties, between them and the United States.

\* The treaty of Greenville neither took from the Indians the right, which they had not, of selling lands within the jurisdiction of the United States to foreign governments or subjects, nor ceded to them the right of exercising exclusive jurisdiction within the boundary line assigned. It was merely declaratory of the public law in relation to the parties, founded on principles previously and universally recognized. It left to the United States the rights of exercising sovereignty and of acquiring soil, and bears no analogy to the proposition of Great Britain which requires the abandonment of both.

The British plenipotentiaries state in their last note, that Great Britain is ready to enter into the same engagement with respect to the Indians living within her line of demarcation, as that which is proposed to the United States.—The undersigned will not dwell on the immense inequality of value between the two territories, which under such an arrangement, would be assigned, by each nation respectively to the Indians, and which alone would make the reciprocity merely nominal. The condition which would be thus imposed on G. Britain not to acquire lands in Canada from the Indians, would be productive of no advantage to the United States, and is, therefore, no equivalent for the sacrifice required of them. They do not consider that it belongs to the United States in any respect to interfere with the concerns of Great Britain in her American possessions, or with her policy towards the Indians residing there: and they cannot consent to any interference, on the part of Great Britain, with their own concerns, and particularly with the Indians living within their territories. It may be the interest of G. Britain to limit her settlements in Canada to their present extent, and to leave the country to the West a perpetual wilderness, to be forever inhabited by scattered tribes of hunters: but it would inflict a vital injury on the U. States to have a line run through her territory, beyond which her settlements should forever be precluded from extending, thereby arresting the natural growth of her population and strength; placing the Indians substantially, by virtue of the proposed guarantee, under the protection of Great Britain; dooming them to perpetual barbarism, and leaving an extensive frontier forever exposed to their savage incursions.

With respect to the mere question of peace with the Indians, the undersigned have already explicitly assured the British plenipotentiaries that so far as it depended on the United States, it would immediately and necessarily follow a peace with Great Britain. If this be her sole object, no provision in the treaty to that effect is necessary. Provided the Indians will now consent to it, peace will immediately be made with them, and they will be reinstated in the same situation in which they stood before the commencement of hostilities. Should a continuance of the war compel the United States to alter their policy towards the Indians, who may still take the part of Great Britain, they alone must be responsible for the consequences of her own act in having induced them to withdraw themselves from the protection of the United States. The employment of savages, whose known rule of warfare is the indiscriminate torture and butchery of women, children, and prisoners, is itself a departure from the principles of humanity observed between all civilized and christian nations, even in war.

The United States have constantly protested, and still protest against it as an unjustifiable aggravation of the calamities and horrors of war.—Of the peculiar atrocities of Indian warfare, the allies of Great Britain in whose behalf she now demands sacrifices of the United States, have during the present war, shewn many deplorable examples. Among them, the massacre in cold blood, of wounded prisoners, and the refusal of the rights of burial to the dead, under the eyes of British officers who could only plead their inability to control these savage auxiliaries, have been repeated, and are notorious to the world. The United States might at all times have employed the same kind of force against Great Britain, to a greater extent than it was in her power to employ it against them; but from their reluctance to resort to means so abhorrent to the natural feelings of humanity, they abstained from the use of them until compelled to the alternative of employing themselves Indians, who otherwise would have been drawn into the ranks of their enemies.—The undersigned suggesting to the British plenipotentiaries the propriety of an article by which G. Britain and the United States should reciprocally stipulate never hereafter, if they should be again at war, to employ savages in it, believe that it would be infinitely more honorable to the humanity and christian temper of both parties, more advantageous to the Indians themselves, and better adapted to secure their permanent peace, tranquillity, and progressive civilization, than the boundary proposed by the British plenipotentiaries.

With regard to the cession of a part of the District of Maine, as to which the British plenipotentiaries are unable to reconcile the objections made by the undersigned with their previous declaration, they have the honor to observe, that at the conference of the 8th ult. the British plenipotentiaries stated as one of the subjects suitable for discussion, a revision of the boundary line between the British and American territories, with a view to prevent uncertainty and dispute: and that it was on the point thus stated, that the undersigned declared that they were provided with instructions from their government; a declaration which did not imply that they were instructed to make any cession of territory in any quarter, or agree to a revision of the line, or to any exchange of territory, where no uncertainty or dispute existed.

The undersigned perceive no uncertainty or matter of doubt in the treaty of 1783, with respect to the part of the boundary of the District of Maine which would be affected by the proposal of Great



Britain on that subject. They never have understood that the British plenipotentiaries who signed that treaty, had contemplated a boundary different from that fixed by the treaty; and which requires nothing more, in order to be definitely ascertained, than to be surveyed in conformity with its provisions. This subject not having been a matter of uncertainty or dispute, the undersigned are not instructed upon it; and they can have no authority to cede any part of the state of Massachusetts, even for what the British government might consider a fair equivalent.

In regard to the boundary of the northwestern frontier, so soon as the proposition of Indian boundary is disposed of, the undersigned have no objection, with the explanation given by the British plenipotentiaries, in their last note, to discuss the subject.

The undersigned, in their former note, stated with frankness, and will now repeat, that the two propositions, 1st, of assigning in the proposed treaty of peace a definite boundary to the Indians living within the limits of the United States, beyond which boundary they should stipulate not to acquire, by purchase or otherwise, any territory; 2dly, of securing the exclusive military possession of the lakes to Great Britain, are both inadmissible; and that they cannot subscribe to, and would deem it useless to refer to their government, any arrangement, even provisional, containing either of these propositions. With this understanding, the undersigned are now ready to continue the negotiation; and as they have already expressed, to discuss all the points of difference, or which might hereafter tend in any degree to interrupt the harmony of the two countries.

The undersigned request the British plenipotentiaries to accept the assurance of their high consideration.

(Signed)

J. Q. ADAMS.  
J. A. BAYARD.  
H. CLAY.  
JONA. RUSSELL.  
A. GALLATIN.  
No. V.

*The British to the American commissioners.*

Ghent, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>, 1814.

The undersigned have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to them by the American plenipotentiaries on the 9th inst.

On the greater part of that note, the undersigned have no intention to make comments, having proposed to themselves throughout the negotiation to avoid all unnecessary discussions, more especially when tending to create irritation.

On the question of the north-western frontiers, they are happy to find that no material difficulty is likely to arise.

With respect to the boundary of the district of Maine, the undersigned observe with regret, that although the American plenipotentiaries have acknowledged themselves to be instructed to discuss a revision of the boundary line, with a view to prevent uncertainty and dispute, yet, by assuming an exclusive right at once to decide what is or is not a subject of uncertainty and dispute, they have rendered their powers nugatory or inadmissibly partial in their operation.

After the declaration made by the American plenipotentiaries, that the United States will admit of no line of boundary between their territory and that of the Indian nations, because the natural growth and population of the United States would be thereby arrested, it becomes unnecessary further to insist on the proof of a spirit of aggrandizement afforded by the purchase of Louisiana from France, against

the known conditions on which it had been ceded by Spain to that country, or the hostile seizure of a great part of the Floridas, under a pretence of a dispute respecting the boundary.

The reason given by the American plenipotentiaries for this declaration, equally applies to the assignment of a boundary to the United States on any side, with whatever view proposed; and the unlimited nature of the pretension would alone have justified Great Britain in seeking more effectual securities against its application to Canada than any which the undersigned have had the honor to propose.

Had the American plenipotentiaries been instructed on the subject of Canada, they would not have asserted that its permanent annexation had not been the declared object of their government. It has been distinctly avowed to be such at different times, particularly by two American generals on their respective invasions of Canada. If the declaration first made had been disapproved, it would not have been repeated. The declarations here referred to are to be found in the proclamation of general Hull, in July 1812, and of general Smyth, in November, 1812, copies of which are hereunto annexed.

It must be also from the want of instructions that the American plenipotentiaries have been led to assert that Great Britain has induced the Indians to withdraw from the protection of the United States. The government of the United States cannot have forgotten that Great Britain, so far from inducing the Indians to withdraw themselves from the protection of the United States, gave the earliest information of the intention of those nations to invade the United States, and exerted herself, though without success, to prevent and appease their hostility. The Indian nations, however, having experienced, as they thought, oppression, instead of protection from the United States, declared war against them previously to the declaration of war by that country against Great Britain. The treaty by which the Indians placed themselves under the protection of the United States, is now abrogated, and the American government cannot be entitled to claim, as a right, the renewal of an article in a treaty, which has no longer any existence. The Indian nations are therefore no longer to be considered as under the protection of the United States, (whatever may be the import of that term) and it can only be on the ground that they are regarded as subjects, that the American plenipotentiaries can be authorized to deny the right of Great Britain to interfere on their behalf in the negotiations for peace. To any such claim, it is repeated, that the treaties concluded with them, and particularly that of Greenville, are in direct opposition.

It is not necessary to recur to the manner in which the territory of the United States was at first settled, in order to decide, whether the Indian nations, the original inhabitants of America, shall have some spot assigned to them, where they may be permitted to live in tranquility; nor whether their tranquility can be secured without preventing an uninterrupted system of encroachment upon them under the pretence of purchase.

If the American plenipotentiaries are authorized peremptorily to deny the right of the British government to interfere with the pacification of the Indian nations, and for that reason refuse all negotiations on the subject, the undersigned are at a loss to understand, upon what principle it was, that at the conference of the 9th ultimo, the American plenipotentiaries invited discussion on the subject, and added, that it was not possible for them to decide without discussion, whether an article could be framed which should be mutually satisfactory, and

to which they should think themselves, under their discretionary powers, warranted in acceding.

The undersigned must further observe, that if the American government has not furnished their plenipotentiaries with any instructions since January last, when the general pacification of Europe could not have been immediately in contemplation, this subsequent silence, after an event so calculated (even in the view which the American plenipotentiaries have taken of it, in their note of the 24th ult.) to influence the negotiation, is, to say the least, no proof of a sincere desire to bring it to a favorable conclusion. The British government has entered into the negotiation with an anxious wish to effect an amicable arrangement. After convulsions unexampled in their nature, extent, and duration, the civilized world has need of repose. To obtain this in Europe, Great Britain has made considerable sacrifices. To complete the work of general pacification, it is her earnest wish to establish a peace with the United States, and in her endeavors to accomplish this object, to manifest the same principles of moderation and forbearance; but it is utterly inconsistent with her practice and her principles ever to abandon in her negotiations for peace those who have co-operated with her in war.

The undersigned, therefore, repeat that the British government is willing to sign a treaty of peace with the United States on terms honorable to both parties. It has not offered any terms which the U. States can justly represent as derogatory to their honor, nor can it be induced to accede to any which are injurious to its own. It is on this ground that the undersigned are authorized distinctly to declare, that they are instructed not to sign a treaty of peace with the plenipotentiaries of the U. States, unless the Indian nations are included in it, and restored to all the rights, privileges and territories which they enjoyed in the year 1811, previous to the commencement of the war, by virtue of the treaty of Grenville, and the treaties subsequently concluded between them and the United States. From this point the British plenipotentiaries cannot depart.

They are further instructed to offer for discussion an article by which the contracting parties shall reciprocally bind themselves, according to boundaries to be agreed upon, not to purchase the lands occupied by the Indians within their respective lines of demarcation. By making this engagement subject to revision at the expiration of a given period, it is hoped that the objection to the establishment of a boundary beyond which the settlement of the U. States should be forever excluded, may be effectually obviated.

The undersigned have never stated that the exclusive military possession on the lakes, however conducive they are satisfied it would be to a good understanding between the two countries, without endangering the security of the United States, was to be considered as a *sine qua non* in the negotiation. Whenever the question relative to the pacification of the Indian nations (which, subject to the explanations already given, is a *sine qua non*.) shall be adjusted, the undersigned will be authorized to make a final proposition on the subject of Canadian boundaries, so entirely founded on principles of moderation and justice, that they feel confident it cannot be rejected. This proposition will be distinctly stated by the undersigned, upon receiving an assurance from the American plenipotentiaries that they consider themselves authorized to conclude a provisional article on the subject, and upon their previously consenting to include the Indian nations in the treaty, in the manner above described.

The undersigned avail themselves of this oppor-

tunity of renewing to the American plenipotentiaries, the assurance of their high consideration.

(Signed)

GAMBLER,  
HENRY GOULBURN,  
WILLIAM ADAMS.

*The ministers plenipotentiary  
and extraordinary of the United States, &c.*

No. VI.

THE AMERICAN TO THE BRITISH COMMISSIONERS.

*Ghent, Sept 26, 1814.*

In reply to the note which the undersigned have had the honor of receiving from his Britannic majesty's plenipotentiaries, dated on the 19th inst. they are happy to concur with them in the sentiment of avoiding unnecessary discussions, especially such as may have a tendency to create irritation. They had hoped that, in the same spirit, the British plenipotentiaries would not have thought allusions again necessary to transactions foreign to this negotiation, relating to the United States, and other independent nations, and not suitable for discussion between the United States and Great Britain. The observation made with respect to Louisiana is the more extraordinary, as the cession of that province to the United States was, at the time communicated to the British government, who expressed their entire satisfaction with it, and has subsequently received the solemn sanction of Spain herself. The undersigned will further say, that whenever the transactions of the United States, in relation to the boundaries of Louisiana and Florida, shall be a proper subject of discussion, they will be found not only susceptible of complete justification, but will demonstrate the moderation and forbearance of the American government, and their undeviating respect for the rights of their neighbors.

The undersigned are far from assuming the exclusive right to decide, what is, or is not, a subject of uncertainty and dispute, with regard to the boundary of the district of Maine. But until the British plenipotentiaries shall have shown in what respect the part of that boundary which would be affected by their proposal, is such a subject, the undersigned may be permitted to assert that it is not.

The treaty of 1783 described the boundary as "a line to be drawn along the middle of the river St. Croix, from its mouth in the bay of Fundy, to its source, and from its source directly north to the highlands which divide the rivers that fall into the Atlantic ocean from those which fall into the river St. Lawrence, and thence along the said highlands to the northwesternmost head of Connecticut river."

Doubts having arisen as to the St. Croix designated in the treaty of 1783, a provision was made by that of 1794 for ascertaining it; and it may be fairly inferred, from the limitation of the article to that sole object, that even in the judgment of Great Britain, no other subject of controversy existed in relation to the extension of the boundary line from the source of that river. That river and its source having been accordingly ascertained, the undersigned are prepared to propose the appointment of commissioners by the two governments, to extend the line to the highlands, conformably to the treaty of 1783. The proposal, however, of the British plenipotentiaries was not to ascertain, but to vary those lines in such manner as to secure a direct communication between Quebec and Halifax; an alteration which could not be effected without accession by the United States to Great Britain of all that portion of the state of Massachusetts intervening between the province of New Brunswick and Quebec, although unquestionably included within the boundary lines fixed by that treaty. Whether it was contemplated on the part of Great Britain to obtain the cession,

with or without an equivalent in frontier or otherwise, the undersigned, in stating that they were not instructed or authorised to treat on the subject of cession, have not declined to discuss any matter of uncertainty of dispute which the British plenipotentiaries may point out to exist, respecting the boundaries in that or in any other quarter, and are, therefore, not liable to the imputation of having rendered their powers on the subject nugatory or inadmissibly partial in their operation.

The British plenipotentiaries consider the undersigned as having declared, "that the United States will admit of no line of boundary between their territory and that of the Indian nations because the natural growth and population of the United States would be thereby arrested." The undersigned, on the contrary, expressly stated in their last note "that the lands inhabited by the Indians were secured to them by boundaries, defined in amicable treaties between them and the United States;" but they did refuse to assign, in a treaty of peace with Great Britain, a definitive and permanent boundary to the Indians, living within the limits of the United States. On this subject, the undersigned have no hesitation in avowing, that the United States, while intending never to acquire lands from the Indians otherwise than peaceably, and with their free consent, are fully determined in that manner, progressively, and in proportion as their growing population may require, to reclaim from the state of nature and to bring into cultivation every portion of the territory contained within their acknowledged boundaries. In thus providing for the support of millions of civilized beings, they will not violate any dictate of justice or humanity, far they will not only give to the few thousand savages, scattered over that territory, an ample equivalent for any right they may surrender, but will always leave them the possession of lands more than they can cultivate, and more than adequate to their subsistence, comfort and enjoyment by cultivation.

If this be a spirit of aggrandizement, the undersigned are prepared to admit, in that sense, its existence; but they must deny that it affords the slightest proof of an intention not to respect the boundaries between them and European nations, or of a desire to encroach upon the territories of G. Britain. If, in the progress of their increasing population, the American people must grow in strength proportioned to their numbers, the undersigned will hope that Great Britain, far from repining at the prospect, will contemplate it with satisfaction. They will not suppose that that government will avow, as the basis of their policy towards the United States, the system of arresting their natural growth within their own territories, for the sake of preserving a perpetual desert for savages. If G. Britain has made sacrifices to give repose to the civilized world in Europe, no sacrifice is required from her by the United States to complete the work of general pacification. This negotiation at least evinces, on their part, no disposition to claim any other right, than that of preserving their independence entire, and of governing their own territories without foreign interference.

Of the two proclamations, purported copies of which the British plenipotentiaries have thought proper to enclose with their last note, the undersigned might content themselves with remarking, that neither of them is the act of the American government. They are enabled however to add, with perfect confidence, that neither of them was authorized or approved by the government. The undersigned are not disposed to consider as the act of the British government, the proclamation of admiral Cochrane,

herewith enclosed, exciting a portion of the population of the U. States, under the promise of military employment or of free settlement in the West Indies, to treachery and rebellion. The undersigned very sincerely regret to be obliged to say, that an irresistible mass of evidence consisting principally of the correspondence of British offices and agents, part only of which has already been published in America, establishes beyond all rational doubt, the fact, that a constant system of excitement to those hostilities was pursued by the British traders and agents, who had access to the Indians, not only without being discountenanced, but with frequent encouragement by the British authorities; and that if they ever dissuaded the Indians from commencing hostilities, it was only by urging them, as in prudence, to surpend their attacks until G. Britain could recognize them as her allies in the war.

When, in the conference of the 9th ult. the undersigned invited discussion upon the proposal of Indian pacification and boundary, as well as upon all the subjects presented by the British plenipotentiaries for discussion, they expressly stated their motives to be, 1st. to ascertain by discussion whether an article on the subject could be formed to which they could subscribe, and which would be satisfactory to the British plenipotentiaries; and 2dly, that if no such article could be formed, the American government might be informed of the views of Great Britain upon that point, and the British government of the objections on the part of the United States, to any such arrangement.—The undersigned have, in fact, already proposed no less than three articles on the subject, all of which they view as better calculated to secure peace and tranquility to the Indians, than any one of the proposals for that purpose, made by the British plenipotentiaries.

The undersigned had repeated their assurances to the British plenipotentiaries, that peace, so far as it depended on the United States, would immediately follow a peace with Great Britain, and added, that the Indians would thereby be reinstated in the same situation in which they stood before the commencement of hostilities. The British plenipotentiaries insist, in their last note, that the Indian nations shall be included in the treaty of peace between Great Britain and the United States, and be restored to all the rights, privileges, and territories which they enjoyed in the year 1811, previous to their commencement of the war, by virtue of the treaty of Greenville, and the treaties subsequently concluded between them and the United States. Setting aside the subject of boundary, which is presented as for discussion only, there is no apparent difference with respect to the object in view; the pacification and tranquility of the Indians, and placing them in the same situation in which they stood before the war, all which will be equally obtained in the manner proposed by the undersigned, and the only point of real difference is, the British plenipotentiaries insist that it should be done by including the Indians, as allies of Great Britain, in the treaty of peace between her and the U. States.

The U. States cannot consent that Indians residing within their boundaries, as acknowledged by G. Britain, shall be included in the treaty of peace, in any manner which will recognize them as independent nations, whom Great Britain, having obtained this recognition, would hereafter, have the right to consider in every respect, as such. Thus to recognize these Indians as independent and sovereign nations, would take from the United States, and transfer to those Indians, all the rights of soil and sovereignty over the territory which they inhabit; and this being accomplished through the agency of G.

Britain, would place them effectually and exclusively under her protection, instead of being, as heretofore, under that of the United States. It is not perceived in what respect such a provision would differ from an absolute cession by the U. States of the extensive territory in question.

The British plenipotentiaries have repeated the assertion, that the treaty by which the Indians placed themselves under the protection of the U. States, was abrogated by the war; and thence infer, that they are no longer to be considered as under the protection of the United States, whatever may be the import of the term; and that the right of G. Britain to interfere in their behalf in the negotiation of peace, can only be denied on the ground that they are regarded as subjects. In point of fact, several of the tribes, parties to the treaty of Greenville, have constantly been, and still are, at peace with the U. States. Whether that treaty be or be not abrogated, is a question not necessary to be now discussed. The right of the United States to the protection of the Indians within their boundaries, was not acquired by that treaty; it was a necessary consequence of the sovereignty and independence of the United States. Previous to that time the Indians living within the same territory, were under the protection of his Britannic majesty, as its sovereign. The undersigned may refer the British plenipotentiaries to all the acts of their own government, relative to the subject, for proof, that it has always considered this right of protection as one of the rights of sovereignty, which it needed no Indian treaty to confer, and which the abrogation of no Indian treaty could divest. They will particularly bring to their recollection, that when a similar proposition of considering Indian tribes as independent nations, to serve as a barrier between the French and English territories, was made by France to England, it was immediately rejected, by a minister to whom the British nation is accustomed to look back with veneration, and rejected on the express ground, that the king would not renounce his right to protection over the Indians within his dominions. But whatever the relation of the Indians to the United States may be, and whether under their protection or not, Great Britain having by the treaty of 1783, recognized the sovereignty of the U. States, and agreed to certain limits as their boundaries, has no right to consider any persons or communities, whether Indians or others, residing within those boundaries, as nations independent of the U. States.

The U. States claim, of right, with respect to all European nations, and particularly with respect to G. Britain, the entire sovereignty over the whole territory, and all the persons embraced within the boundaries of their dominions. G. Britain has no right to take cognizance of the relations subsisting between the several communities or persons living therein. They form as to her, only parts of the dominions of the United States, and it is altogether immaterial, whether, or how far, under their political institutions and policy, these communities or persons are independent states, allies, or subjects. With respect to her and all other foreign nations, they are parts of a whole, of which the U. States are the sole and absolute sovereigns.

The allegation of the British plenipotentiaries, that it is inconsistent with the practice or principles of G. Britain to abandon in her negotiations for peace, those who have co-operated with her in war, is not applicable to the Indians, but on the erroneous assumption of their independence, which, so far as she is concerned, has been fully disproved. And although no power from these tribes to the British government to treat in their behalf, would, for the

same reason be admitted by the undersigned, they may nevertheless observe, that the British plenipotentiaries having produced no such powers, having no authority to bind the Indians, to engage for their assent to the pacification, or to secure the continuance of peace on their part whilst speaking of them as allies, do really propose to treat for them not as if they were independent nations, but as if they were the subjects of G. Britain.

The undersigned so far from asking that, in relation to the Indians, Great Britain should pursue a course inconsistent with her former practice and principles, only desire that she would follow her own example respecting them, in her former treaties with other European nations, and with the United States. No provision for the Indians is found in the treaty of 1763, by which France ceded Canada to Great Britain, although almost all the Indians living within the territory ceded, or acknowledged to belong to Great Britain, had taken part with France in the war. No such provision was inserted in the treaty of peace of 1783, between G. Britain and the U. States, although almost all the Indian tribes living within the territory recognized by the treaty to belong to the United States, had during the war, co-operated with Great Britain, and might have been considered as her allies more justly than on the present occasion. So far as concerns the relations between G. Britain and the United States, these Indians can be treated for only on the principles by which amnesties are stipulated in favor of disaffected persons, who, in times of war and invasion, co-operate with the enemy of the nation to which they belong. To go as far as possible in securing the benefit of the peace to the Indians, now the only object professed by the British government in their present *sine qua non*, the undersigned offer a stipulation in general terms, that no person or persons, whether subjects, citizens, or Indians, residing within the dominions of either party, shall be molested or annoyed, either in persons or their property, for any part they may have taken in the war between the United States and Great Britain; but shall retain all the rights, privileges and possessions, which they respectively had at the commencement of the war; they, on their part, demeaning themselves peaceably, and conformably to their duties to the respective governments.— This the undersigned have no doubt will effectually secure to the Indians peace, if they themselves will observe it, and they will not suppose that G. Britain would wish them included in the peace but upon that condition.

The undersigned have never intimated that their government had not furnished them with any instructions since January last. On the contrary, they distinctly told the British plenipotentiaries in conference, though it appears to have escaped their recollection, that instructions had been received by the undersigned, dated at the close of the month of June. The undersigned will now add, that those instructions were drawn with a full knowledge of the general pacification in Europe, and with so liberal a consideration of its necessary bearing upon all the differences that had been until then subsisting between Great Britain and the United States, that the undersigned cannot doubt that peace would long since have been concluded, had not an insuperable bar against it been raised by the new and unprecedented demands of the British government.

With respect to the proposition which the British plenipotentiaries inform them they will be prepared to make, in relation to the Canadian boundaries, which appears to them so entirely founded on principles of moderation and justice, but the nature of which, they think proper at present to withhold, the

undersigned can only pledge themselves to meet any proposition from the British plenipotentiaries, characterized by moderation and justice, not only with a perfect reciprocity of those sentiments, but with a sincere and earnest desire to contribute to the restoration of peace, by every compliance with the wishes of G. Britain, compatible with their duty to their country.

The undersigned have the honor of tendering to the British plenipotentiaries, the renewed assurance of their high consideration.

(Signed) JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,  
J. A. BAYARD,  
HENRY CLAY,  
JONA RUSSELL,  
ALBERT GALLATIN.

No. VII.

THE BRITISH TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS.

*Ghent, October, 8, 1814.*

The undersigned have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of the plenipotentiaries of the United States, dated on the 29th ult.

As the continuance of the negotiation exclusively depends upon the question relating to the pacification and rights of the Indian nations the undersigned are unwilling to extend their observations to the other subjects brought forward in the note of the American plenipotentiaries, further than may be required for necessary explanation.

In advertiug for this purpose to the acquisition of Louisiana, the undersigned must observe, that the instrument by which the consent of his Catholic majesty is alleged to have been given to the cession of it, has never been made public. His Catholic majesty was no party to the treaty by which the cessation was made, and if any sanction has been subsequently obtained from him, it must have been, like other contemporaneous acts of that monarch, involuntary, and as such cannot alter the character of the transaction. The marquis of Yrujo, the minister of his Catholic majesty at Washington, in a letter addressed to the president of the United States, formally protested against the cession, and the right of France to make it. Yet, in the face of this protestation, so strongly evincing the decided opinion of Spain as to the illegality of the proceeding, the president of the United States ratified the treaty. Can it be contended that the annexation of Louisiana, under such circumstances, did not mark a spirit of territorial aggrandizement?

His Britannic majesty did certainly express satisfaction when the American government communicated the event, that Louisiana, a valuable colony in the possession of France, with whom the war had just been renewed, instead of remaining in the hands of his enemy, had been ceded to the United States, at that time professing the most friendly disposition towards Great Britain and an intention of providing for her interest in the acquisition. But the conditions under which France had acquired Louisiana from Spain, were not communicated; the refusal of Spain to consent to its alienation was not known; the protest of her ambassador had not been made, and many other circumstances attending the transaction, on which it is now unnecessary to dilate, were, as there is good reason to believe, industriously concealed.

The proof of a spirit of aggrandizement, which the undersigned had deduced from the hostile seizure of a great part of the Floridas, under the most frivolous pretences, remains unrefuted; and the undersigned are convinced that the occasion and circumstances under which that unwarrantable act of aggression took place, have given rise throughout

Europe to but one sentiment as to the character of the transaction.

After the previous communication which the undersigned have had the honor of receiving from the American plenipotentiaries, they could not, but feel much surprized at the information contained in their last note of their having received instructions dated subsequently to January, 1814. The undersigned have no recollection whatever of the American plenipotentiaries having communicated to them, either collectively, or individually at a conference or otherwise, the receipt of instructions from the government of the United States dated at the close of the month of June, and they must remind the American plenipotentiaries that their note of the 9th ult. distinctly stated that the instructions of January, 1814, were those under which they were acting. If therefore, the American plenipotentiaries received instructions drawn up at the close of the month of June, with a liberal consideration of the late events in Europe, the undersigned have a right to complain that while the American government justly considered those events as having a necessary bearing on the existing differences between the two countries, the American plenipotentiaries should nevertheless have preferred acting under instructions which, from their date, must have been without the contemplation of such events.

The British government never required that all that portion of the state of Massachusetts intervening between the province of New Brunswick and Quebec, should be ceded to Great Britain, but only that small portion of unsettled country which interrupts the communication between Halifax and Quebec, there being much doubt whether it does not already belong to Great Britain.

The undersigned are at a loss to understand how vice admiral Cochrane's proclamation illustrates any topic connected with the present negotiation, or bears upon the conclusion which they contended was to be drawn from the two proclamations of the American generals. These proclamations distinctly avowing the intention of the American government permanently to annex the Canadas to the United States, were adduced not as a matter of complaint, but simply for the purpose of proving what had been denied as a fact, viz. that such had been the declared intention of the American government.

The undersigned observe that although the American plenipotentiaries have taken upon themselves generally to deny that the proclamations were authorized or approved by their government, without stating in what mode that disapprobation was expressed, yet they avoid stating that the part of those proclamations containing the declaration in question, had not been so authorized or approved. It is indeed impossible to imagine, that if the American government had intimated any disapprobation of that part of general Hull's proclamation, the same declaration would have been as confidently repeated four months after by general Smyth.

His majesty's government have other and ample means of knowing that the conquest of the Canadas and their annexation to the United States was the object and policy of the American government.—For the present the undersigned will content themselves with referring to the remonstrance of the legislature of Massachusetts in June, 1815, in which this intention is announced as matter of notoriety.

The undersigned deny that the American government had proved, or can prove, that previous to the declaration of war by the United States, persons authorized by the British government endeavored to incite the Indian nations against the United States;

or that endeavors of that kind, if made by private persons, (which the undersigned have no reason to believe) ever received the countenance of his majesty's government.

The American plenipotentiaries have not denied that the Indian nations had been engaged in war with the United States, before the war with Great Britain had commenced, and they have reluctantly confessed that so far from his majesty having induced the Indian nations to begin the war, as charged against Great Britain in the notes of the 24th Aug. and 9th ult. the British government actually exerted their endeavors to dissuade the Indian nations from commencing it.

As to the unworthy motive assigned by the American plenipotentiaries to this interference so amicably made on the part of Great Britain, its utter improbability is sufficiently apparent from considering by which party the war was declared. The undersigned, therefore, can only consider it as an additional indication of that hostile disposition which has led to the present unhappy war between the two countries. So long as that disposition continues, it cannot but render any effort on the part of Great Britain to terminate this contest utterly unavailing.

The American plenipotentiaries appear unprepared to state the precise ground upon which they resist the right of his majesty to negotiate with the United States on behalf of the Indian nations, whose co-operation in the war his majesty has found it expedient to accept.

The treaty of Greenville, to the words, stipulations, and spirit of which the undersigned have so frequently appealed, and all the treaties previously and subsequently made, between the United States and the Indian nations, show, beyond the possibility of doubt, that the United States have been in the habit of treating with these tribes as independent nations, capable of maintaining the relations of peace and war, and exercising territorial rights.

If this be so, it will be difficult to point out the peculiar circumstances in the condition of those nations, which should either exclude them from a treaty of general pacification, or prevent Great Britain, with whom they have co-operated as allies in the war, from proposing stipulations in their behalf at the peace. Unless the American plenipotentiaries are prepared to maintain what they have in effect advanced, that although the Indian nations may be independent in their relations with the United States, yet the circumstance of living within the boundary of the United States disables them from forming such conditions of alliance with a foreign power, as shall entitle that power to negotiate for them in a treaty of peace.

The principle upon which this proposition is founded, was advanced, but successfully resisted so far back as the treaty of Munster. An attempt was then made to preclude France from negotiating in behalf of certain states and cities in Germany, who had co-operated with her in the war, because although those states and cities might be considered as independent for certain purposes, yet being within the boundary of the German empire, they ought not to be allowed to become parties in the general pacification with the emperor of Germany, nor ought France to be permitted in that negotiation to mix their rights and interests with her own.

The American plenipotentiaries, probably aware that the notion of such a qualified independence, for certain purposes, and not for others, could not be maintained, either by argument or precedent, have been compelled to advance the novel and alarming pretension, that all the Indian nations living within the boundary of the United States, must in effect,

be considered as their subjects, and, consequently, if engaged in war against the United States, become liable to be treated as rebels, or disaffected persons. They have further stated, that all the territory which these Indian nations occupy, is at the disposal of the United States; that the United States have a right to dispossess them of it: to exercise that right, whenever their policy or interest may seem to them to require it; and to confine them to such spots as may be selected, not by Indian nations, but by the American government. Pretensions such as these Great Britain can never recognize: however reluctant his royal highness the prince regent may be to continue the war, that evil must be preferred, if peace can only be obtained on such conditions.

To support those pretensions, and at the same time to show, that the present conduct of Great Britain is inconsistent with her former practice and principles, the American plenipotentiaries have referred to the treaty of peace 1783, to that of 1763, and to the negotiations of 1761, during the administration of a minister, whom the American plenipotentiaries have stated, and truly stated, to be high in the estimation of his country.

The omissions to provide in the treaty of 1783, for the pacification of the Indian nations, which were to be included within the proposed boundary of the United States, cannot preclude Great Britain from now negotiating in behalf of such tribes or nations, unless it be assumed, that the occasional non exercise of a right is an abandonment of it. Nor can the right of protection, which the American plenipotentiaries have failed in showing to have been ever claimed by Great Britain as incident to sovereignty, have been transferred by Great Britain to the United States, by a treaty, to which the Indian nations were not parties.

In the peace of 1763, it was not necessary for Great Britain to treat for the pacification of the Indian nations, and the maintenance of their rights and privileges, because there had been no Indian nations living without the British boundaries, who had co-operated with Great Britain, in the war against France.

With respect to the negotiations of 1761, between Great Britain and France, on which the American plenipotentiaries more particularly rely, they appear, in the judgment of the undersigned, to have much misunderstood the whole course of that negotiation.

It is very true that the French government brought forward, at one period of the negotiation, a proposition, by which a certain territory, lying between the dominions of the two contracting parties, was to have been allotted to the Indian nations.— But it does not appear that this formed a part of their ultimatum, and it is clear, that Mr. Pitt in his answer, did not object to the proposition. He objected, indeed, to the proposed line of demarcation between the countries belonging to the two contracting parties, upon the two grounds: 1st, that the proposed northern line would have given to France, what the French had themselves acknowledged to be part of Canada, the whole of which, as enjoyed by his most Christian majesty, it had been stipulated, was to be ceded entirely to Great Britain: 2dly, that the southern part of the proposed line of demarcation would have included within the boundary of Louisiana, the Cherokees, the Creeks, the Chickasaws, the Choctaws, and another nation, who occupied territories which had never been included within the boundaries of that settlement. So far was Mr. Pitt from rejecting, as alleged by the American plenipotentiaries, the proposition of considering Indian nations a barrier, that at one period of the negotiation he complained that

there was no provision for such a barrier; and he thus energetically urges his objections, in his letter to Mr. Stanley, the British plenipotentiary at Paris, dated on the 26th June, 1761, "As to the fixation of new limits to Canada towards the Ohio, it is capacious and insidious, thrown out in hope, if agreed to, to shorten thereby the extent of Canada, and to lengthen the boundaries of Louisiana, and in the view to establish, what must not be admitted, namely, that all which is not Canada is Louisiana; whereas by all the intermediate nations and countries, the true barrier to each province, would be given up to France."

The undersigned confidently expect, that the American plenipotentiaries will not again reproach the British government with acting inconsistently with its former practice and principles, or repeat the assertion made in a former note, that a definition of Indian boundary, with a view to a neutral barrier, was a new and unprecedented demand by any European power, and most of all by Great Britain; the very instance selected by the American plenipotentiaries, undeniably proves that such a proposition had been entertained both by G. Britain and France, and that Mr. Pitt on the part of Great Britain had more particularly enforced it.

It remains only to notice two objections which the American plenipotentiaries have urged against the proposal of Indian pacification, advanced by the undersigned; first, that it is not reciprocal: secondly, that as the United States could have no security that the Indian nations would conclude a peace on the terms proposed, the proposition would be in effect unilateral.

The article now proposed by the undersigned, and herewith enclosed, is free from both objections, and appears to them so characterized by a spirit of moderation and peace, that they earnestly anticipate the concurrence of the American plenipotentiaries.

In making a last effort in this stage of the war, the undersigned are not apprehensive that the motives which have influenced his royal highness the prince regent to direct a renewal of the proposition, with its present modifications, can be misunderstood or misrepresented.

Whatever may be the result of the proposition thus offered, the undersigned deliver it as their ultimatum, and now await with anxiety the answer of the American plenipotentiaries, on which their continuance in this place will depend.

The undersigned avail themselves of this opportunity of renewing to the American plenipotentiaries, the assurance of their high consideration.

(Signed)

GAMBIER,  
HENRY GOULBORN,  
WILLIAM ADAMS.

To the ministers plenipotentiary,  
and extraordinary, &c. &c. &c.

"The United States of America engage to put an end, immediately after the ratification of the present treaty, to hostilities with all the tribes or nations of indians with whom they may be at war, at the time of such ratification, and forthwith to restore to such tribes or nations, respectively, all the possessions, rights and privileges, which they may have enjoyed or been entitled to in 1811, previous to such hostilities: provided always, that such tribes or nations shall agree to desist from all hostilities against the United States of America, their citizens and subjects, upon the ratification of the present treaty being notified to such tribes or nations, and shall so desist accordingly.

"And his Britannic majesty engages, on his part, to put an end immediately after the ratification of

the present treaty, to hostilities with all the tribes or nations of indians with whom he may be at war, at the time of such ratification, and forthwith to restore to such tribes or nations respectively, all the possessions, rights and privileges, which they may have enjoyed or been entitled to in 1811, previous to such hostilities: provided always, that such tribes or nations shall agree to desist from all hostilities against his Britannic majesty and his subjects, upon the ratification of the present treaty being notified to such tribes or nations, and shall so desist accordingly."

#### No. VIII.

From the American to the British commissioners.

GHENT, October 13, 1814.

The undersigned have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of the plenipotentiaries of his Britannic majesty, dated on the 8th instant.

Satisfied of the impossibility of per-suading the world that the government of the United States was liable to any well founded imputation of a spirit of conquest or of injustice towards other nations, the undersigned, in affording explanations on several of the topics adverted to by the British plenipotentiaries during this negociation, were actuated by the sole motive of removing erroneous impressions.

Still influenced by the same motive, they will now add, that at the time when the Spanish minister was remonstrating at Washington against the transfer of Louisiana, orders were given by his government for its delivery to France; that it was, in fact, delivered a short time after that remonstrance; and that if the treaty by which the U. States acquired it had not been ratified, would have become, of course, a French colony. The undersigned believe that the evidence of the assent of Spain to that transfer has been promulgated. They neither admit the alleged disability of the Spanish monarch, nor the inference which the British plenipotentiaries would seem to deduce from it; on the contrary, the assent was voluntarily given in the year 1804, by the same king who, about the same time, ceded Trinidad to Great Britain, and prior to the time when he was again engaged in war with her. The cession by France was immediately communicated to Great Britain, no circumstance affecting it, and then within the knowledge of the United States, being intentionally concealed from her. She expressed her satisfaction with it; and if in any possible state of the case she would have had a right to question the transaction, it does not appear to the undersigned that she is now authorised to do so.

After stating, generally, that the proclamations of generals Hull and Smyth were neither authorized nor approved by their government, the undersigned could not have expected that the British plenipotentiaries would suppose that their statement did not embrace the only part of the proclamations which was a subject of consideration.

The undersigned had, indeed, hoped, that, by stating in their note of the 9th ultimo, that the government of the United States, from the commencement of the war, had been disposed to make peace without obtaining any cession of territory, and by referring to their knowledge of that disposition, and to instructions accordingly given from July, 1812, to January, 1814, they would effectually remove the impression that the annexation of Canada to the United States was the declared object of their government. Not only have the undersigned been disappointed in this expectation, but the only inference which the British plenipotentiaries have thought proper to draw from this explicit statement, has been, that either the American government, by not giving instructions subsequent to the pacification of Europe, or the undersigned, by not acting under

such instructions, gave no proof of a sincere desire to bring the present negotiations to a favorable conclusion. The undersigned did not allude, in reference to the alleged intention to annex Canada to the United States, to any instructions given by their government subsequently to January last, because, asking at this time for no accession of territory, it was only of its previous disposition that it appeared necessary to produce any proof. So erroneous was the inference drawn by the British plenipotentiaries, in both respects, that it was in virtue of the instructions of June last, that the undersigned were enabled, in their note of the 24th August, to state, that the causes of the war between the United States and Great Britain, having disappeared, by the maritime pacification of Europe, they had been authorised to agree to its termination upon a mutual restoration of territory, and without making the conclusion of peace to depend on a successful arrangement of those points on which differences had existed.

Considering the present state of the negotiation, the undersigned will abstain, at this time from adducing any evidence or remarks upon the influence which has been exerted over the Indian tribes inhabiting the territories of the United States, and the nature of those excitements which had been employed by British traders and agents.

The arguments and facts already brought forward by the undersigned, respecting the political condition of those tribes, render it unnecessary for them to make many observations on those of the British plenipotentiaries on that subject. The treaties of 1763 and 1783, were those principally alluded to by the undersigned, to illustrate the practice of Great Britain. She did not admit in the first, nor require in the last, any stipulations respecting the Indians who, in one case, had been her enemies, and, in the other, her allies, and who, in both instances, fell by the peace within the dominions of that power against whom they had been engaged in the preceding war.

The negotiation of 1761 was quoted for the purpose of proving, what appears to be fully established by the answer of England to the ultimatum of France delivered on the first of Sept. of that year, that his Britannic majesty would not renounce his right of protection over the Indian nations reputed to be within his dominions, that is to say, between the British settlements and the Mississippi. Mr. Pitt's letter, cited by the British plenipotentiaries, far from contradicting that position, goes still further. It states that "the fixation of the new limits to Canada, as proposed by France, is intended to shorten the extent of Canada, which was to be ceded to England, and to lengthen the boundaries of Louisiana, which France was to keep, and in the view to establish what must not be admitted, namely, that all which is not Canada is Louisiana, whereby all the intermediate nations and countries, the true barrier to each province, would be given up to France." This is precisely the principle uniformly supported by the undersigned, to wit: that the recognition of a boundary gives up to the nation, in whose behalf it is made, all the Indian tribes and countries within that boundary. It was on this principle that the undersigned have confidently relied on the treaty of 1783, what fixes and recognizes the boundary of the U. States, without making any reservation respecting Indian tribes.

But the British plenipotentiaries, unable to produce a solitary precedent of one European power treating for the savages inhabiting within the dominions of another, have been compelled, in support of their principle, to refer to the German empire, a body consisting of several independent states, re-

cognized as such by the whole world, and separately maintaining with foreign powers the relations belonging to such a condition. Can it be necessary to prove that there is no sort of analogy between the political situation of these civilized communities, and that of the wandering tribes of North American savages?

In referring to what the British plenipotentiaries represent as alarming and novel pretensions, what G. Britain can never recognize, the undersigned might complain that these alleged pretensions have not been stated, either in terms or in substance, as expressed by themselves. This, however, is the less material, as any further recognition of them by Great Britain is not necessary nor required. On the other hand, they can never admit nor recognize the principles or pretensions asserted in the course of this correspondence by the British plenipotentiaries, and which, to them, appear novel and alarming.

The article proposed by the British plenipotentiaries, in their last note, not including the Indian tribes as parties in the peace, and leaving the United States free to effect its object in the mode consonant with the relations which they have constantly maintained with those tribes, partaking also of the nature of an amnesty, and being at the same time reciprocal, is not liable to that objection; and accords with the views uniformly professed by the undersigned, of placing these tribes precisely, and in every respect, in the same situation as that in which they stood before the commencement of hostilities. This article, thus proposing only what the undersigned have so often assured the British plenipotentiaries would necessarily follow, if indeed it has not already, as is highly probable, preceded a peace between Great Britain and the United States. The undersigned agree to admit it, in substance, as a provisional article, subject, in the manner originally proposed by the British government, to the approbation or rejection of the government of the United States, which, having given no instructions to the undersigned on this point, cannot be bound by any article they may admit on the subject.

It will, of course, be understood, that if, unhappily, peace should not be the result of the present negotiation, the article thus conditionally agreed to shall be of no effect, and shall not, in any future negotiation, be brought forward by either party, by way of argument or precedent.

This article having been presented as an indispensable preliminary, and being now accepted, the undersigned request the British plenipotentiaries to communicate to them the project of a treaty embracing all the points deemed material by Great Britain; the undersigned engaging on their part to deliver immediately after a counter project with respect to all the articles to which they may not agree, and on the subjects deemed material by the United States, and, which may be omitted in the British project.

(Signed)

J. QUINCY ADAMS,  
JAMES A. BAYARD,  
HENRY CLAY,  
JONA. RUSSELL,  
ALBERT GALLATIN.

No. 12.

FROM THE BRITISH TO THE AMERICAN MINISTERS,  
Ghent, October 31, 1814.

The undersigned have had the honor of receiving the note of the American plenipotentiaries of the 13th inst. communicating their acceptance of the article which the undersigned had proposed on the subject of the pacification and rights of the Indian nations.

The undersigned are happy in being thus relieved from the necessity of recurring to several topics, which though they arose in the course of their discussions, have only an incidental connection with the difference remaining to be adjusted between the two countries.



With a view to this adjustment the undersigned preferring in the present state of the negotiation a general statement of the formal arrangement of articles, are willing so far to comply with the request of the American plenipotentiaries contained in their last note, as to waive the advantages to which they think they were fairly entitled, of requiring from them the first project of a treaty.

The undersigned having stated at the first conference the points upon which his majesty's government considered the discussions between the two countries as likely to turn, cannot better satisfy the request of the American plenipotentiaries than by referring them to that conference for a statement of the points which, in the opinion of his majesty's government yet remains to be adjusted.

With respect to the forcible seizure of manners from on board merchant vessels on the high seas, and the right of the king of G. Britain to the allegiance of all his subjects, and with respect to the maritime rights of the British empire, the undersigned conceive that after the pretensions asserted by the government of the United States, a more satisfactory proof of the conciliatory spirit of his majesty's government cannot be given than not requiring any stipulation on those subjects, which did most important in themselves no longer in consequence of the maritime pacification of Europe produce the same practical results.

On the subject of the fisheries the undersigned expressed with much frankness at the conference already referred to, the views of their government, that they consider any further observations on that topic as unnecessary at the present time.

On the question of the boundary between the dominions of his majesty and those of the United States, the undersigned are led to expect from the discussion which this subject has already undergone, that the N. W. boundary from the lake of the Woods to the Mississippi, the intended arrangement of 1803, will be admitted without objection.

In regard to other boundaries the American plenipotentiaries in their note of August 24th, appeared in some measure to object to the propositions then made by the undersigned as the basis of *uti possidetis*. The undersigned are willing to treat on that basis, subject to such modifications as mutual convenience may be found to require, and they trust that the American plenipotentiaries will show by their ready acceptance of this basis, that they duly appreciate the moderation of his majesty's government in so far consulting the honor and fair pretensions of the United States as in the relative situation of the two countries, to authorise such a proposition.

The undersigned avail themselves of this opportunity to renew to the American plenipotentiaries, the assurance of their high consideration.

(Signed)

GAMBIEP.  
HENRY GOULBURN,  
WILLIAM ADAMS.

True Copy.

C. Hughes, jr. Secretary of Legation.

No. X.

FROM THE AMERICAN TO THE BRITISH MINISTERS.

Ghent, October 24, 1814.

The undersigned have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of the British plenipotentiaries of the 21st inst.

Amongst the general observations which the undersigned, in their note of the 24th August, made on the propositions then brought forward on the part of the British government, they remarked that those propositions were founded neither on the basis of *uti possidetis*, nor on that of *status ante bellum*. But so far were they from suggesting the *uti possidetis* as the basis on which they were disposed to treat, that in the same note they expressly stated that they had been instructed to conclude a peace on the principles of both parties restoring whatever territory they might have taken. The undersigned also declared in that note, that they had no authority to cede any part of the territory of the United States, and that to no stipulation to that effect would they subscribe; and in the note of the 9th Sept. after having shown that the basis of *uti possidetis*, such as was known to exist at the commencement of the negotiation, gave no claim to his Britannic majesty to cession of territory founded upon the right of conquest, they added that even if the chances of war should give to the British arms a momentary possession of other parts of the territory of the United States such events would not alter their views, with regard to the terms of peace to which they would give their consent.

The undersigned can now only repeat those declarations and decline treating upon the basis of *uti possidetis*, or upon any other principle involving a cession of any part of the territory of the U. States. As they have uniformly stated, they can treat only upon the principle of mutual restoration of whatever territory may have been taken by either party. From this principle they cannot recede, and the undersigned after the repeated declarations of the British plenipotentiaries, that Great Britain had no view to acquisition of territory, in this negotiation, deem it necessary to add, that the utility of its continuance depends on their adherence to this principle.

The undersigned having declared in their note of 21st of Aug. that altho' instructed and prepared to enter into an amicable discussion of all the points, on which differences or uncertainty had existed, and which might hereafter tend to interrupt the harmony of the two countries, they would not make the consciousness of the peace at all depend upon a successful result of the discussion, and having since agreed to the preliminary article proposed by the British government, had believed that the negotiation already so long protracted, could not be brought to an early conclusion, otherwise than by the communication of a project embracing all the other specific propositions which Great Britain intended to offer. They repeat their request in that respect, and will have no objection to a simultaneous exchange of the projects of both parties. This course will bring fairly into discussion the other topics em-

braced in the last note of the British plenipotentiaries, to which the undersigned have thought it necessary to advert at the present time.

The undersigned renew to the British plenipotentiaries the assurance of their high consideration.

(Signed)

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,  
JAMES A. BAYARD,  
HENRY CLAY,  
JONATHAN RUSSELL,  
A. GALLATIN.

To the plenipotentiaries of his Britannic Majesty, &c. &c. Ghent.

True Copy.

C. Hughes, jr. secretary American mission extraordinary.

No. XI.

Copy of a letter from our commissioners to the secretary of state, dated

Ghent, 31st Oct. 1814.

Sir—The detention of the Chancery at Ostend, enables us to send you the enclosed note from the British plenipotentiaries, which we have just received.

We have the honor to be with perfect respect your obedient servants.

(Signed)

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,  
J. A. BAYARD,  
H. CLAY,  
JONA. RUSSELL,  
ALBERT GALLATIN.

To the hon. James Munroe, secretary of state.

No. XII.

FROM THE BRITISH TO THE AMERICAN MINISTERS.

Ghent, 31st October, 1814.

The undersigned have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to them by the American plenipotentiaries of the 24th inst. in which they object to the basis of *uti possidetis* proposed by the undersigned as that on which they are willing to treat in regard to part of the boundaries between the dominions of his majesty and those of the United States.

The American plenipotentiaries in their note of the 13th inst. requested the undersigned to communicate to them the project of a treaty embracing all the points insisted on by Great Britain, engaging on their part to deliver immediately after a contre project as to all the articles to which they might not agree, and as to all the subjects demanded material by the United States, and omitted in the project of the undersigned.

The undersigned were accordingly instructed to waive the question of etiquette and the advantage which might result from receiving the first communication, and, confiding in the engagement of the American plenipotentiaries, communicated in their notes of the 21st inst. all the points upon which they are instructed to insist.

The American plenipotentiaries have objected to one essential part of the project thus communicated: but to the undersigned can enter into the discussion on this objection; they must require from the American plenipotentiaries that, pursuant to their engagement, they will deliver a contre project containing all their objections to the points submitted by the undersigned, together with a statement of such further points as the government of the United States consider to be material.

The undersigned are authorised to state distinctly, that the article as to the pacification and rights of the Indian nations having been accepted, they have brought forward in their note of the 21st inst. all the propositions they have to offer. They have no farther demands to make, no other stipulations on which they are instructed to insist, and they are empowered to sign a treaty of peace forthwith in conformity with those stated in their former note.

The undersigned trust therefore that the American plenipotentiaries will no longer hesitate to bring forward in the form of articles or otherwise, as they may prefer, those specific propositions upon which they are empowered to sign a treaty of peace between the two countries.

The undersigned avail themselves of the present opportunity to renew to the plenipotentiaries of the United States the assurance of their high consideration.

(Signed)

GAMBIEP.  
HENRY GOULBURN,  
WILLIAM ADAMS.

True copy.

C. HUGHES, Secretary American mission.

Events of the War.

Head Quarters, 8th Military District,  
Detroit, November 18, 1814.

GENERAL ORDERS.

The commanding general congratulates the gallant volunteers under his command, upon their safe return and the fortunate issue of the expedition. He acknowledges with equal pride and pleasure the meritorious conduct of the troops, so conspicuously displayed in their patriotism in the first instance, in their patience under every difficulty, and in the enthusiasm which pervaded all ranks when they expected to meet the enemy.

Circumstances beyond military controul, and in their nature calculated to reflect on the fidelity of the citizens, on both sides of this river, rendered a movement around lake St. Clair absolutely necessary to the success of the expedition. This necessity exposed the troops to many difficulties and hardships, in wading frequently along the shores of the lake; in the passage of several deep and rapid rivers, sometimes without boats, and on all occasions encountering swamps.—They have the consolation, however, to know that they have performed a route of more than four hundred miles, one hundred and eighty of which is a wilderness and a considerable part of that distance too without any road. The detachment consisting of not more than seven hundred and twenty effectives, penetrated two hundred miles into the enemy's territory; destroyed upwards of two hundred stand of arms, defeated and dispersed four or five hundred of their militia, encamped in a strong position, with a loss on their part in the skirmishes of the 6th inst. at Grand river, and Malcolm's mills, of one captain and seventeen privates killed, and nine privates wounded, and three captains, five subalterns and one hundred and three privates made prisoners during the action and on the retreat, whilst our loss was only one killed and six wounded. 165 militia were paroled.

As the best evidence of the secrecy and rapidity of the expedition, the detachment was enabled, in despite of treason and stratagem, to enter the town of Oxford, 149 miles in the enemy's country, before the inhabitants were apprized that a force was approaching. The resources of the enemy have been essentially affected by the fact, that the detachment subsisted entirely upon them; this circumstance, together with the destruction of the five valuable mills in the vicinity of Grand river, which were employed in the support of the army in the peninsula, will present objections to any attempts during the winter against this place.—These important objects have been effected, and the detachment has returned in complete safety, with the exception of one killed.

The health of the troops was also unexampled; and the unexpected rise on Grand river alone prevented a visit to Burlington Heights, the head quarters of the province, distance only 25 miles.

The ardor and firmness manifested by the troops whenever they expected to meet the enemy, was not more conspicuous than the cheerfulness with which they obeyed orders, whilst the difficulties they encountered can only be known to those who participated in them. In representing the merits of the gallant corps, and the assistance afforded by each in their respective stations, particular credit is due to that zealous and intelligent officer major Dudley, and his staff, especially to the activity of adjutant Berry: to the good conduct of Capts. Simpson, Moore, McClemy and Lancaster; lieutenants Cardwell and McClain; ensigs Clarke and Whitaker, sergeants Fry and Sopes, all of the Kentucky battalion. Particular notice is also due to the activity of adjutant Wood and Dr. Chapez, of the Ohio battalion; and to captain Murray of the Ohio cavalry, captain Campbell and lieutenant Ellis of the Ohio battalion. The general regrets that captain Dewitt of that corps, in the skirmish at Malcolm's mill, did not animate his command by his example; and that quarter master Crouch of the Kentucky battalion possessed no other qualification than zeal.

The exertions of quarter-master Conner were duly appreciated by the detachment previously to its passage of the river St. Clair, and upon his return

to this place, that department was afterwards well conducted by quarter master Reed. Dr. Turner, of the 17th infantry, rendered many important services, and much is due to the activity, zeal and intelligence displayed by captain Bradford, of the 19th infantry, brigade major, already distinguished for his gallantry in the north, as well as the south. Lieutenant Ryburn and serjeant Martin, of the U. S. rangers, supported the character which that corps has established for bravery and enterprize. The honorable department of the indian chiefs, Lewis, Wolfe, and John, and interpreter Anthony Shane, was truly animating to all the troops.

The mounted troops will be mustered with all practicable dispatch, discharged and return to the interior by companies.

The commanding general returns his most unfeigned thanks to the volunteers under his command, and in taking leave of troops, so much deserving his confidence, begs them to be assured that he will never cease to cherish a lively recollection of their services, with a hope that they may return in safety to their respective homes, to enjoy the society of their families, and the just gratitude of their country. By command, C. S. TODD, *act. adj. gen.*

◊ FROM GHENT.—The despatches from our ministers at Ghent, (which we have the pleasure to lay before our readers in regular order,) have delighted and disgusted all that we have heard speak of them. There is a dignified firmness and manly moderation, with a power of argument and force of reasoning, in the notes of our ministers that excites an honest pride in the mind of every American, as tending to elevate the character of the republic in the eyes of an impartial world, while he is disgusted with the tergiversation and pettifoggish manner of their feeble opponents, the whole British cabinet.\* It was well observed in one of our papers, a few days ago, that our ministers had as well supported the honor of their country at Ghent, as our tars had done it on the sea and lakes, or (it might have been added) our soldiery by the bayonet, contending with "Wellington's invincibles."

What is the probable result of this negotiation is hard to suppose. The question of a speedy peace, we rather apprehend depends on the prospect of things in Europe, and the turn of events in the congress at Vienna. In case peace should not be made, this fact will be apparent to every one, that the war on our part, if offensive in its outset, will be purely defensive in its future progress and termination.—With the general pacification of Europe the chief causes for which we went to war with Great Britain have, from the nature of things, ceased to effect us; it is not for us to quarrel for forms—Britain may pretend to any "right" she pleases; provided she does not exercise it, to our injury.

We think the general opinion seems to be—that a peace will be made—the affairs on Champlain, at Plattsburg, Erie, Baltimore, &c. are powerful negotiators against "subjugation" and "unconditional submission."

We would have been glad to have left out of the first sheet that issues this day, many things we had in type and therein inserted, if we had contemplated the length of the papers from Ghent. As it is, many things must lie over.

◊ The quantity of matter, *on hand*, that we could wish to publish at once, is competent to occupy five or six sheets.

\* It is a fact that every note from our commissioners was submitted to the British cabinet; which, without doubt, prepared the answer.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 16 of VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 172.]

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.—VIRGIL.*

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann

## The Investigation.

### REPORT.

The committee charged with an enquiry so intimately concerning the character of administration, the sensibility of the nation, and the honor of its arms, as the causes of the success of the enemy in his recent enterprises against this metropolis, &c. have endeavored to combine despatch with effect, in the manner in which they have collected the facts and views presented in the following statement:

*Proceedings of the Cabinet of 7th June, 1814.*

Previous to the 21 of July this city composed a part of military district No. 5. Early in June last, the secretary of war furnished the president, at his request, with a general report of the strength of the regular troops and militia then in the service of the United States, and their distribution; which was submitted to the heads of departments by the president on the 7th June. The secretary of the navy had furnished the president with a similar estimate of our naval forces: that which was applicable to the limits of military district No. 10, will hereafter appear. By a reference to the estimate of the land forces it appears, that the aggregate number of land troops stationed in district No. 5, on the 7th of June, amounted to 2,298, of which there were 2,154 effectives, stationed as follows: at Norfolk, 224 artillerists: the 20th, 35th and 1st battalions of the 38th regiment of infantry, amounting to 912: at Baltimore, 111 artillerists: 2d battalion of the 38th infantry, amounting to 316; sea fencibles 173: at Annapolis, 40 artillerists: at fort Washington, 82 ditto; St. Mary's, 36th regiment of infantry, 350.—The meeting of the cabinet on the 7th, and the estimates of land and naval forces, had no particular relation to the defence of any part of military district No. 5; but for measures generally, and particularly in regard to the campaign on our territorial frontiers in the north and north-west.—Nor does it appear that this city had excited more than ordinary attention at this time.

*Proceedings of the cabinet the 1st of July,*

But soon after, certain intelligence being received of the complete success of the allies in the subjugation of France, the president believed that the enemy had the inclination and the power to increase his military and naval force against the United States; and in that event he believed a variety of considerations would present this city as one of the prominent objects of attack. On the 26 of June, despatches were received from Mr. Gallatin and Mr. Bayard, confirming the views of the president, which induced him to convene the heads of departments on the first of July; at which time he presented a plan of a force immediately to be called into the field, and an additional force to be kept in readiness to march without delay in case of necessity. It seemed to be his object that some position should be taken between the Eastern branch and Patuxent with two or three thousand men, and that an additional force of ten or twelve thousand militia and volunteers should be held in readiness in the neighboring states, including the militia of the district of Columbia, and that convenient depots of arms and military equipments should be established. The measures suggested were approved by

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the heads of departments; or, in other words, it does not appear that any dissent was expressed.

*Correspondence of the secretary of war and general Winder.*

The next day, July the 2, by a general order of the war department, the 10th military district was created, to embrace the state of Maryland, the district of Columbia, and that part of Virginia lying between the Rappahannock and the Potomac, under the command of brig. gen. Winder, who being then in Baltimore was advised of the fact by a letter from the secretary of war of the same date. On the 4th of July a requisition was made on certain states for a corps of 93,500 men, designating the quota of each, with a request to the executive of each state to detach and hold in readiness for immediate service their respective detachments, recommending the expediency of fixing the places of rendezvous with a due regard to points, the importance or exposure of which would most likely attract views of the enemy. Of that requisition, 2000 effectives from the quota of Virginia; 5000 from that of Pennsylvania; 6000, the whole quota of Maryland, and 2000, the estimated number of the militia of the District of Columbia, were, at the disposition of the commanding general, as hereafter appears, making the aggregate number of 15,000, exclusive of the regular troops, viz. the 36th regt., one battalion of the 38th, two troops of dragoons, two companies of the 10th infantry, one company of the 12th, and two companies of sea fencibles, supposed to amount to 1000 men, besides the artillery composing the garrisons of forts M'Henry and Washington.

On the 9th of July, general Winder in a letter to the secretary of war, on the subject of the duties which devolved upon him as commander of the 10th military district, a previous conversation is alluded to as having taken place between them, in consequence of the request of the secretary, in his letter of the 2d of July. General Winder appears to have understood the intention of the secretary of war to be, that the militia force proposed for the 10th military district should be drafted and designated, but that no part of it should be called into the field until the hostile squadron in the Chesapeake should be reinforced to such an extent as to render it probable that a serious attack was contemplated; states the difficulty of collecting a force in an emergency, sufficient to retard the advance of the enemy; and suggests the expediency of calling out four thousand of the militia, with a view to station them in equal proportions between South River and Washington, and in the vicinity of Baltimore.

On the 12th day of July the secretary of war, in a letter to general Winder, encloses a circular addressed to the governors of certain states, requiring a body of militia to be organized, equip, and held in readiness for future service, and authorises him, in case of actual or menaced invasion of the district under his command, to call for a part or the whole of the quota assigned to the state of Maryland; and in another of the 17th of July, the secretary authorises general Winder to draw from Virginia, 2,000 men; from Pennsylvania, 3,000 men; and informs him that the whole of the militia of the District of Columbia, amounting to about 2,900,

Q.

was in a disposable state and subject to his orders; making, together with the 6,000 from Maryland, the estimate of 15,000 militia. On the 15th of July the secretary of war advised general Winder, that general Porter had communicated the fact of the arrival of the van of Cochrane's fleet at Lynnhaven Bay, and that the agent at Point Look-out had represented that 2 seven-y-four, 2 frigates, an armed sloop and brig ascended the bay at half past 5, post meridien, on the 14th: that he considered it proper to call into service the brigade of militia which had been for some time held in readiness at Baltimore, and not knowing whether general Winder was at Baltimore or Annapolis, he had instructed the major-general under whose orders they were organized, to call them out.

General Winder in a letter of the sixteenth of July to the secretary of war, among other things, expresses his embarrassment in relation to the situation of Annapolis, and gives it as his opinion that a large force and many additional works would be necessary to defend it against a serious attack by land and water; states its importance to the enemy, and the ease with which it might be maintained by them with the command by water, and an entrenchment of 7 or 800 yards protected by batteries; represents fort Madison as exposed, and unhealthy in the months of August and September, provided with two 50 lb. columbiads, two twenty fours, two eighteens, 1 twelve and 1 ton, which might be turned with success against fort Severn; that these guns should be removed and arrangements made to blow up the fort; and represents the importance of defending the town if the means could be obtained; states the governor of Maryland and council had taken the necessary steps to comply immediately with the requisition of the general government. On the 17th July, a letter from general Winder to the secretary of war states, that information, that he deemed creditable, was received that the enemy was ascending the river in considerable force; that he had ordered the detachment of regulars at Nottingham, had sent out the alarm to assemble a militia force, and suggests the propriety of sending to that place the marine corps and all the militia that could be procured from the district of Columbia. The secretary on the same day acknowledges the receipt of the above letter, and states that the marine corps was not under his command; but had sent the request to the president, and, as the authority to call the militia was vested in the commanding general, he had transmitted his requisition upon the district to gen. Van Ness; he also reminds him that the two regiments near Baltimore had been called into actual service, and expresses the wish of the president that no less than two nor more than 3000 of the drafts under the requisition of the fourth of July, should be embodied and encamped at some middle point between Baltimore and this city.

From the letter of general Winder, of the 20th of July, it appears that the enemy proceeded up the Patuxent to Hunting creek, landed and committed some depredations in Calvert county, and returned down the river. Three companies of city volunteers had marched from the district, in obedience to the late call of gen. Winder, which he had halted at the Wood yard, and the detachments of the 36th and 38th regiments at Upper Marlboro' while he proceeded to Annapolis, to arrange with the governor the calling out the Maryland militia; which he states will be immediately attended to by the governor. He states that he had called for the largest number directed by the president, viz. 3000, expecting thereby to get 2000, the lowest number; that he for-

bore to dismantle fort Madison, as it might alarm the people, and produce disagreeable sensations; preferring rather to risk it in case of attack. On the 23d of July, general Winder informs the secretary of war that the governor of Maryland has issued his order for calling out 3000 of the drafts under the requisition of the 4th of July, and had appointed Bladensburg as the place of rendezvous according to his suggestion. In another letter of the same date, general Winder informs the secretary of war, that he had deemed it expedient to direct capt. Davidson, with the city volunteers, to return to the city of Washington, from the two-fold consideration that the facility with which they could turn out and proceed to any point, rendered them nearly as effective as if kept in the field, and the importance to them individually of attending to their private concerns. That the rifles used by captain Doughy's company were very defective, and that captain Burche's artillery were without swords. He recommends that the camp equipage should be left in charge of the company officers to facilitate their march. On the 25th of July, general Winder, in a letter to the secretary of war dated at Warburton, near fort Washington, represents the report in several respects to be incomplete in its preparation for defence; encloses a representation of lieutenant Edwards on the subject; makes a requisition of ammunition, and requests that col. Wadsworth may cause the platform to be enlarged so as to make the battery more effectual. The report of lieutenant Edwards speaks of the necessity of mounting heavy artillery in the block house; states that the 18 lb. columbiads were not mounted, and that the garrison wanted means to mount them, being destitute of gun and tackle; represents the width of the platform, which ought to be 21 feet, to be only 14, and that the heavy guns at their first discharge would recoil to the hurtoirs, and on being heated would rim over it; that five excellent long 18's were mounted on the water battery, which would be very useful in case of attack; but there was not a single pound of ammunition for them, and that some of the gun carriages in the fort were quite out of order.

This statement of lieutenant Edwards was referred upon its receipt to col. Wadsworth, with orders to supply what was wanting at the fort, of which the secretary advised general Winder, bearing date 23th July; and col. Wadsworth, in a representation about the same date, states, that two hands had been ordered from Greenleaf's point on the Monday previous, to execute the necessary repairs of the gun carriages; that the platform as well as the parapet was too narrow, but not so narrow as lieutenant Edwards had stated, for it was directed to be made 20 or 22 feet wide; and that the disadvantages of too narrow a platform could be obviated with no great difficulty, by means of an elastic handspike introduced between the spokes of the wheels, which would prevent them from turning, and thus check the recoil of the piece. Further states, that two hundred rounds of shot and cartridges for the eighteen's, could be sent down if ordered: that he had long since directed some grape shot to be prepared for the 18 lb. columbiads; that a tackle and fall to mount the guns in the block house should be prepared; that capt. Mestler had just informed him, that a good tackle and fall were at the fort when he left it, and that the platform was upwards of 20 feet wide. General Winder, in a letter of the 26th July, from Piscataway, advises the secretary of war, that the enemy had descended both the Potomac and Patuxent rivers; that he expected him up the bay, and should not be surprized to find Annapolis his object, which he feared would fall before 500 hundred

men; and that he should return to Marlborough as soon as he could ascertain the movements of the enemy. On the 27th of July, gen. Winder in two letters to the secretary of war from Piscataway, states the force under general Stewart at 800; col. Bean's regiment at Port Tobacco from 300 to 350 infantry, and 40 dragoons; col. Bowen's regiment at Nottingham at 300, and the detachment of regulars under command of lieutenant col. Scott, was also at Nottingham; and from gen. Winder's letter to the secretary of war of the 1st of August from Port Tobacco, it appears, that he had the detachment under lieutenant col. Scott, at Piscataway.

*Correspondence of general Winder, with the governor of Pennsylvania.*

In relation to the quota of Pennsylvania under the requisition of the 4th of July, and more especially as it regards the 5000 men subject to the call of general Winder, and assigned to his command, it appears that general Winder wrote to the governor of Pennsylvania, on the 6th of August, advising him that the secretary of war had destined a part of the quota to act under his command, in defending the country embraced in the 10th military district, and requesting that he might be informed of the place or places of rendezvous which would be fixed for such troops, and recommending places most contiguous to the cities of Washington and Baltimore. On the 8th of August, general Winder writes again to the governor of Pennsylvania, stating, that since his first communication he had read a letter from the secretary of war, dated the 17th of July, which had not reached him at an earlier period in consequence of his having been in constant motion since that time; which informed him that of the quota of militia of Pennsylvania under the requisition of the 4th of July, 5000 were destined for the 10th military district, subject to his call as commanding officer, and requested that as great a proportion of the detachment as possible should be riflemen.

On the 11th of August, secretary Beale, under the direction of the governor of Pennsylvania, in answer to general Winder, states, that in consequence of the deranged state of the militia system, great difficulties occurred to the executive in relation to the quota required to be held in readiness for the service of the United States. The only effort that could be made towards a compliance with the requisition, was to have ordered a designation for the service of the requisite troops, under the militia law of 1807, and before the expiration of that law; which order had been issued by the governor, and was in a course of execution; that the militia law of 1807 expired on the first of August, and that all commissions under it became void, except of such officers as might be in service on that day; and that, by an oversight in the legislature, no complete organization of the militia could be legally made in Pennsylvania, until the 4th Monday in October, when a classification was to take place.

On the 17th of August, general Winder makes a requisition on the governor of Pennsylvania, for one regiment, to march forthwith to the city of Washington; and on the day following, in consequence of large reinforcements of the enemy in the mouth of the Patuxent, he calls for the whole 5000 Pennsylvania militia, by virtue of his previous authority. The 5000 were ordered out, to ten levies at York, in Pennsylvania, on the 5th of September; of course, not in time to give any aid on the occasion for which they were called, nor was general Winder's letter of the 18th received by the governor of Pennsylvania until the evening of the 23d.

*Correspondence of the secretary of war and gen. Winder.*

On the 13th of August, general Winder, in a letter to the secretary of war, states, that in consequence of the acceptance of the 2d regiment detached from gen. Smith's division, under the requisition of April, for part of the requisition of the 4th of July, the impracticability, besides impropriety, of calling any portion of the drafted militia from the eastern shore of Maryland, and the necessity of leaving all the men immediately upon the bay, and lay down on the rivers of the western shore, for local defence; the remaining portion of the Maryland drafts to be assembled at Bladensburg, instead of being 3000 would not much exceed as many hundreds; yet he would require the governor to order out all the drafts that could possibly be spared from the three lower brigades on the western shore, but as the whole number drafted on the western shore, exclusive of the brigade drawn from gen. Smith's division, did not amount to 1500 men, he did not expect more than 1000 under the second order of the government, that of the 4th of July. The most immediate and convenient resource to supply this deficiency, was to take the militia drawn out under the state authority and assembled at Annapolis, to the amount of 1000, into the service of the United States, and to call on Pennsylvania for one regiment, which would make his militia between 2000 and 3000 men, besides the two regiments from general Smith's division.

In answer to this letter, the secretary of war, in a letter of the 16th of August, authorises general Winder to take into the service of the United States, the Maryland militia then at Annapolis, or elsewhere, that had been called out under the state authority, as part of the quota required by the order of the 4th of July.

*Correspondence of the secretary of war with the governors of Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia.*

On the 27th of July the governor of Maryland states, in a letter to the secretary of war, that in conformity to the request of the president of the United States, communicated in the requisition of the 4th, a detachment of 5,500 infantry and 600 artillery was directed to be organized and held in readiness to move at the shortest notice; and in order to comply with the requisition of general Winder, for calling into the field 3,000 drafts of the Maryland militia, by direction of the president, the whole of the drafts from the western shore, about 3,500 infantry, had been ordered to embody. He speaks of the exposed situation of the western shore, bordering upon the bay, and presumes that the drafts from that section of the country would not be drawn away, and expects Baltimore will be unwilling to have any force withdrawn from that place, by which any aid might be expected. These considerations had induced the order for the 3,500 men; this force was to be embodied and moved on the shortest route to Bladensburg; that the artillery of the state was about 900 men, two-thirds in Baltimore; it would create uneasiness to take from that place 400, the proportion, and he had suspended that order until general Smith should have some communication with the secretary of war.

In a letter of the 20th July, general Winder made the requisition on the governor of Maryland for the 5000 militia, urging the necessity of having them assembled and in service with the least possible delay; and on the 5th of August the governor of Maryland informed general Winder, by letter, that his demand for 3000 drafts could not be complied with without the brigade in service at Baltimore, from general

Smith's division; that the drafts from one brigade alone were under marching orders, the orders for the march of those lying on the Chesapeake and Potomac having been suspended.

On the 14th of July Mr. Boilieu, secretary of state for Pennsylvania, acknowledges the receipt of the communication from the war department, containing the requisition of the 14th of July, for 14,000 Pennsylvania militia, which was forwarded by express to the governor, who was absent at Selin's Grove, with assurances that the governor would execute with promptness the requisition of the general government. On the 25th the governor of Pennsylvania directs the secretary Boilieu to inform the secretary of war, that general orders had been issued in compliance with the requisition of the 4th of July; explains as before, the difficulties resulting from the militia laws of Pennsylvania, and relies on the patriotism and voluntary services of the people.

On the 14th of July the deputy adjutant-general of Virginia, acknowledged the receipt of the communication from the war department, containing the requisition of the 4th, and enclosed to the secretary of war the general orders issued by the governor of Virginia on the 22d of June, placing in readiness a provisional force of 15,000 men and upwards to repel sudden invasions, and for the purpose of defence, and the points of rendezvous designed, but not organized upon the military establishment of the United States, nor for a longer term than three months, which, with other considerations, prevented the acceptance of any part of those state troops as a compliance with the requisition of the general government. The secretary of war was apprized in this letter also, that the whole of the Virginia troops, then held in readiness, would be furnished with arms and ammunition by the state of Virginia; and on the 18th the secretary of war informs the governor of Virginia that 2000 of the requisition upon the Virginia militia would be placed at the disposition of general Winder as commander of the 10th military district.

Having presented a condensed view of the measures of the cabinet; the correspondence between the commanding officer and the war department, the governors of Pennsylvania, and Maryland and the commanding general, the correspondence with the governors of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia and the secretary of war, in regard to the requisition of the 4th of July, it will now be proper to present some facts connected with the movements and arrangements of the commanding general up to the revocation of his command.

Towards the close of the month of June, the secretary of war gave to general Winder the first intimation that it was in contemplation to constitute a new military district, embracing the country now composing the 10th military district, and that the president intended to invest him with its command. On the 4th or 5th of July, he received notice of his appointment to the 10th military district, and the order creating it; proceeded to Washington and called upon the secretary of war, who enumerated the regular force as before supposed to amount to 1000 or 1200; the residue of his command to be composed of militia to be drafted, and was shewn the circular to certain states, making the requisition of the 4th. He then returned to Baltimore, and after writing the letter of the 9th, proceeded to Annapolis to examine it and to explore the 10th military district generally. The letter of the 12th from the secretary of war, was not received until he went to Annapolis, to Upper Marlborough and back to Annapolis. On the 17th at Nottingham, received intelligence that the enemy was proceeding

up the Patuxent; wrote to the secretary of war and to general West, advising him to call out the militia of the county. The detachment of the 36th and 38th regiments was ordered from South river to Nottingham, and three companies of city militia were dispatched to him promptly. On the 25th visited fort Washington; and on the 1st of August fixed his permanent headquarters at the city of Washington; viewed and inspected the district militia. The people of St. Mary's and Charles had become importunate for aid and protection, and in obedience to the wish of the president, the 36th and 38th were ordered down to unite with general Stewart; but the enemy having retired, this detachment was encamped at Piscataway. He understood by letters from general Smith of Baltimore, and the governor of Maryland, that Stansbury's brigade, upon application of general Smith, had been accepted by the secretary of war, as part of the quota of Maryland militia, under requisition of the 4th of July. On the morning of the 18th of August, *Thursday*, intelligence was received from the observatory at Point Look out, that on the morning of the 17th the enemy's fleet off that place had been reinforced by a formidable squadron of ships and vessels of various sizes. The commanding general immediately made requisitions on the governors of Pennsylvania and Maryland, various officers of militia, and the militia of the district of Columbia were ordered out en masse.

On the 19th, general Winder, in a letter to the secretary of war, submitted several propositions to the president: 1st, Would it be expedient, under the direction of the navy department, to have vessels ready to be sunk in the Potomac, at fort Washington or other points, at a moment's warning, to obstruct the navigation? 2d, Would it not be proper to put all the boats, which can be propelled by oars, that are at the city of Washington, under the control of the navy, at Washington, to transport troops as events may require? 3d, Would it not be convenient to put the marine corps into service, at all events, to cause them to be in readiness to reinforce fort Washington at a moment's notice, or to be applied as events may require to any point of defence? 4th, That the force under commodore Barney may co-operate with the commanding general, in case of the abandonment of the flotilla. On the same day the secretary of war, in a letter states, that the propositions had been submitted to the president, and general Winder is referred to the navy department on the subject of the propositions relating to the means in that department. General Winder's call upon the militia en masse, is approved, and on the same day the secretary of war, in a letter to general Winder, advises, that the cavalry be pushed into the neighborhood of the enemy without delay, if he indicated an attack upon the city of Washington, for the purpose of driving off all horses and cattle and supplies of forage, &c. in their route. Not a moment was to be lost. Colonel Monroe, with captain Thornton's troop of horse, proceeded to find and reconnoitre the enemy on Friday the 19th; on the same day the militia of Georgetown and the city of Washington, under general Smith, were mustered. On Saturday, the 20th, this and some other forces commenced their line of march towards Benedict about 1 o'clock, and encamped that night about four miles from the Eastern Branch Bridge, on the road to Upper Marlborough. On this day colonel Monroe communicated the intelligence of the arrival of the enemy at Benedict in force. Same day col. Tilghman and capt. Caldwell, with their commands of horse, were ordered and dispatched to annoy the enemy, impede his march, to remove and destroy forage and provisions before the enemy.

On Sunday morning, the 21st, the troops were mustered, and the articles of war read to them. At 12 o'clock the marines under captain Miller joined the army; the regulars of the 36th and 38th also joined at the Wood-Yard, seven miles in advance, to which the main body of our troops were marched and encamped on Sunday night. Two letters from colonel Monroe, on the 21st, one stating that he had viewed the enemy near Benedict, enumerating 27 square rigged vessels, some bay craft and barges; the other dated from Nottingham, stating the advance of the enemy upon that place by land and water; and recommending the commanding general to dispatch 500 or 600 men to fall upon the enemy. Colonel Monroe and colonel Beall both joined the army at night, and gave an account that the enemy had been viewed by them. Colonel Beall calculated that he had seen 4000, without supposing he had seen all. Colonel Monroe estimated the enemy at about 6000; captain Herbert joins with his troop; colonel Laval had joined with two companies of cavalry on the day previous; the enemy remained at Nottingham, except an advance detachment about three miles from town. Monday the 22d, early in the morning a light detachment was ordered to meet the enemy, composed of the 36th and 38th, lieutenant-colonel Scott, colonel Laval's cavalry, and three companies from the brigade of general Smith, under major Peter, viz: his own company of artillery, captain Stull's rifle corps, captain Davidson's light infantry. This detachment marched on the road to Nottingham, about 9 o'clock; the remainder of the army marched about mile in advance to an elevated position; the commanding general with his staff, accompanied by colonel Monroe, proceeded in advance to reconnoitre the march of the enemy. Com. Barney had joined the army with his flotilla men, besides the marines under captain Miller; the horse preceded the advance detachment of our forces, met the enemy and retired before them. This induced the advance corps to take a position to impede the march of the enemy; but the advance detachment was ordered to retrograde and join the main body of the army that had remained some hours in line of battle, expecting the enemy to come that route to the city; but who took the road to Upper Marlborough, turning to his right after having come within a few miles of our forces; upon which the commanding general fell back with his whole forces to the Battalion Old fields, about 8 miles from Marlborough, and the same distance from the city of Washington. At this time heavy explosions in the direction of Marlborough announced the destruction of the flotilla under command of commodore Barney. The enemy arrived at Upper Marlborough about 2 o'clock, and remained there until late next day, to be joined it is presumed, by the detachment of the enemy which had been sent against the flotilla.

The commanding general proceeded to Marlborough, and found the enemy encamped; several prisoners taken gave information that the enemy would remain in that position until the next day; and, after making observations of the enemy, till the close of the day, general Winder returned to the army. Late in the evening of this day the president with the secretary of war and navy and attorney general, joined general Winder at the Battalion Old fields, and remained with him till the evening of the 23d. In the morning the troops were drawn up and reviewed by the president. The most contradictory reports prevailed as to the movements and force of the enemy, and it was doubtful in camp whether Annapolis, Fort Washington, with a view to co-operate with his naval forces, or the city of Washing-

ton, was his object. As to numbers, rumors vibrated from 4000 to 12000; the best opinion was from 5 to 7000. Our forces at this time at the Old fields, are variously estimated, with no material difference, at about 3000 men, in the following corps; about 400 horse under the command of the following officers; lieutenant colonel Laval, colonel Tilghman, captains Caldwell, Thornton, Herbert, Williams, &c. 400 regular troops, under the command of lieutenant colonel Scott, viz: 36th, 38th and captain Morgan's company of the 12th infantry; 600 marines and flotilla men, under commodore Barney and captain Miller, with five pieces of heavy artillery, two 18 pounders and three twelve pounders; 1,800 militia and volunteers; general Smith's brigade of Georgetown and city militia, and Maryland militia under colonel Kramer, of which there were two companies of artillery under captain Burch and major Peter; with six 6 pounders each, making an aggregate of 3,200, with 17 pieces of artillery. The enemy was without cavalry, and had two small field pieces and one howitzer, drawn by men; and the whole country well calculated for defence, skirmishing, and to impede the march of an enemy.

The enemy remained at Upper Marlborough till after 12 o'clock; about which time, general Winder again ordered the detachment under lieutenant colonel Scott and major Peter to advance and meet the enemy if he should be found advancing, or to attack his positions. About this time, 12 o'clock, some prisoners were taken, and from information given by them and the observations of the videts, general Winder was induced to believe that the enemy intended to remain stationary for the day, which induced him to think of uniting with the forces at Bladensburg, and despatched others to general Stansbury, and other corps at Bladensburg, to move direct for Upper Marlborough, and proceeded himself towards Bladensburg, to meet and hurry on the forces to form a junction. When general Winder left the command with general Smith, and proceeded towards Bladensburg, with several troops of cavalry, he left orders that the advance corps should march upon the enemy, and annoy him by all possible means if in march, or if not, then in his positions; and if he advanced upon Bladensburg, general Smith, with the main body, should fall upon his flank, or be governed by circumstances in other movements.

Captain Caldwell joined the advance corps at 2 o'clock, P. M. An express brought intelligence that the enemy had left Upper Marlborough; that our advance had met the enemy about six miles in advance of our forces, and after a skirmish, in which captain Stull's company had about 4 or 5 rounds, was compelled to retreat, and that the enemy was advancing. One of the aids of general Smith was despatched for general Winder: the whole army was placed in a favorable attitude of defence, in which position it continued until about sunset, when general Winder, who had arrived some time previous, ordered the army to march to the city of Washington. The enemy were about three miles distant, and remained there that night. Having remained till the going down of the sun, the retreat to the city was induced by several considerations, stated by the commanding general. 1st, To effect a union of his whole forces. 2d. The fear of a night attack, from the superiority of the enemy, and want of discipline in his troops. And 3d. In a night attack his superiority in artillery could not be used. The march of our army to the city was extremely rapid and precipitate, and orders occasionally given to the captains of companies to hurry on the men, who were extremely fatigued and exhausted before the

camping ground was reached, near the Eastern branch bridge, within the District of Columbia.

General Stansbury had arrived at Bladensburg on the 2d, and the 5th Baltimore regiment, including the artillery and rifle corps, on the evening of the 23d; and at 12 o'clock at night, colonel Minor, in passing through Bladensburg to the city of Washington, advised general Stansbury to fall upon the rear of the enemy forthwith, as it was understood that he was in motion for the city. General Stansbury having been ordered to take possession of Bladensburg, did not think he was at liberty to leave it; but, independent of this consideration, the fatigue of the troops under colonel Sterrett made it impracticable.

It is here proper to state that on the 22d, the secretary of war made it to general Winder, which closes the written communications previous to the 24th, except a short note of that morning, stating that he had ordered general Douglass to march with his command to the district without seeking a rendezvous with general Hangerford; that a detachment of the 12th infantry had arrived; that it should be armed, equipped and marched to the Wood Yard; that the Baltimore brigade would arrive at Bladensburg, on the 24th, and suggests the propriety of throwing Barney's seamen and some other troops on the right of Nottingham, a demonstration which would menace the rear of the enemy, and his communication with his shipping, which would, if not stop, much retard his progress. On the morning of the 24th, in a short note to the secretary of war, general Winder says, the information up the river is threatening; Barney or some other force should occupy the batteries at Greenleaf's Point and Navy Yard, and wishes counsel from the government or secretary of war. Upon this note is an endorsement in the hand writing of general Armstrong to this effect; "went to general Winder, was not necessary for ordering Barney to Greenleaf's Point or Navy Yard, advised the commodore to join the army at Bladensburg, and ordered Minor's regiment to that place."

On the 21st, late at night, colonel Taylor arrived in the city from the Northern Neck, where he had been charged with orders in relation to the Virginia drafts, and reported himself to general Armstrong, who issued the following general order:

"War Department, Aug 22d,  
1814. (12 o'clock)"

**"GENERAL ORDER.**

"General Douglass will assemble his brigade at Alexandria, and hold it there subject to orders.

"JOHN ARMSTRONG."

Colonel Taylor executed his order, and Tuesday night, the 23d, again reported himself to general Armstrong, who issued the following orders:

"War Department,

**"GENERAL ORDER.**

"Lieutenant colonel Minor will repair to Washington with the regiment under his command with the utmost dispatch; he will report on his arrival to colonel Carberry of the 36th regiment, and make a requisition for arms and ammunition.

(Signed)

"JOHN ARMSTRONG"

"War Department, Aug. 23, 1814

**"GENERAL ORDER,**

"All the militia now in and marching to Alexandria, besides colonel Minor, will march immediately to Washington; these orders will be communicated by colonel Taylor."

"JOHN ARMSTRONG"

On the 18th of August, the Virginia Navy ordered general Young to call out, en masse, the brigade un-

der his command, including the Alexandria militia; the same day two troops of Cavalry attached to the brigade were ordered to rendezvous at Bladensburg on the 19th at 4 o'clock in the morning, to accompany colonel Monroe, secretary of state, and to be subject to his order. On the 20th, in the afternoon, general Young's brigade was ordered by general Winder to cross the Potomac, opposite Alexandria, and encamp in the best position and wait further orders, which was effected. The brigade consisting of 454 men, two brass six-pounders, and one brass four pounder. On the 21d, early, general Young, by order of general Winder, marched his brigade and took a position on a height near the head of Piscataway creek, about three miles in the rear of fort Washington, where the ground was favorable for a small detachment to defend the country against a much greater force, and remained in this position until the morning of the 24th, when several orders were given to him; first, to march towards the Eastern branch bridge; second, to cross the Potomac to the Virginia side, &c. This brigade was intended in its dispositions to aid fort Washington, the town of Alexandria, and to be in a situation to join general Winder.

On the morning of the 24th, general Winder established his head quarters near the Eastern Branch bridge; detachments of his force were out in various directions as videttes and reconnoitering parties, and arrangements made to destroy the Eastern Branch bridge. Colonel George Minor, with his regiment of Virginia militia, composed of 600 infantry and 100 cavalry, arrived at the city of Washington in the twilight of the evening of the 23d; he called on the president who referred him to the secretary of war for orders; the secretary informed him that arms could not be had that night, but gave orders to report himself to colonel Carberry early in the morning, who would furnish him with arms and ammunition, as he was charged with that duty by general Winder. From early in the morning till late in the afternoon, colonel Minor sought colonel Carberry diligently, but he could not be found. He rode to head quarters and obtained an order from general Winder upon the arsenal for arms, &c. marched to the place with his regiment, and its care he found committed to a young man whose caution in giving out arms, &c. very much delayed the arming and supplying of this regiment. An instance is here given when the flints were counted out by the officers of the regiment, to expedite business at this crisis, the young man would count them over before they could be obtained.

Colonel Carberry arrived at this moment, apologized for his absence, and informed colonel Minor that he had the evening previous ridden out to his country seat. Colonel Minor was again delayed some small length of time in having to remain to sign receipts, &c. His men were ordered to Capitol Hill. In the mean time various reports were brought into head quarters as to the movements and intentions of the enemy; the president and heads of departments collected at head quarters, in the following order: the president, next secretary of state, next the attorney general, next the secretary of the navy, and last the secretaries of war and treasury together. Colonel Monroe had left head quarters upon a rumour that gained ground, that the enemy was marching upon the city by the way of Bladensburg, with a view of joining general Stansbury, advising him of the rumor and to aid him in the formation of a line of battle to meet the enemy. General Stansbury, for reasons given in his report, had marched from his position in advance of Bladens-



burg, and occupied the ground west of that village on the banks of the Eastern Branch. Here the front line of our army was formed by general Stansbury and his officers, with the aid of colonel Monroe, on the presumption that general Stansbury's brigade, and the command of col. Sterrett, including the command of major Pinkney and Baltimore artillery.

There is a bridge over the Eastern branch at Bladensburg, and a large turnpike road leading direct to the city of Washington. About 400 yards from this bridge, some small distance to the left of the road, the Baltimore artillery, six pieces of six pounders, occupied a temporary breast work of earth, well calculated to command the pass over the bridge. Part of the battalion of riflemen, under major Wm. Pinkney, and one other company, took position on the right of the artillery, partially protected by a fence and brush; and on the left of the battery, leading to the rear of a barn, two companies, from the regiment under colonel Sherz, and the other part of the riflemen from Baltimore. Col. Ragan was posted in the rear of m. j. Pinkney, his right resting on the road; col. Sautz continuing the line on the left, with a small vacancy in the centre of the two regiments; and col. Sterrett formed the extreme left flank of the infantry. At this moment, colonels Beall and Hood entered Bladensburg, with the Maryland militia from Annapolis, crossed the bridge and took a position on a most commanding height, on the right of the turnpike, about three hundred yards from the road, to secure the right flank. In the mean time, (about 11 o'clock) certain intelligence was received at head quarters, that the enemy was in full march towards Bladensburg, which induced gen. Winler to put in motion his whole force, except a few men and a piece of artillery left at the Eastern-branch bridge to destroy it. The day was hot, and the road dusty—the march was rapid to Bladensburg. The cavalry and mounted men arrived, and were placed on the left flank, and some small distance in its rear. General Winler now arrived, and told gen. Stansbury and col. Monroe, that his whole force was marching for Bladensburg, and approved the dispositions which had been made of the troops; at which moment, it had become impracticable in the opinion of the officers, to make any essential change; for the two armies were now coming to the battle ground, in opposite directions; and the enemy appeared on the opposite heights of Bladensburg, about a mile distant, and halted 15 or 20 minutes. This was about 12 o'clock. The troops from the city were disposed of as they arrived. Capt. Burch, with three pieces of artillery, was stationed on the extreme left of the infantry of the first line; and a rifle company, armed with muskets, near the battery to support it. About this time the secret cry of war arrived, and in a few minutes after the president and the attorney general, and proceeded to examine the disposition of the troops. In the mean time, as the enemy advanced into Bladensburg, the officers were forming rapidly the second line. The command of commodore Barney came up in a trot; and formed his men on the right of the main road, in a line with the command under colonels Beall and Hood, with a considerable vacancy, owing to the ground. The heavy artillery com. Barney planted in the road; the three 12 pounders to the right under capt. Miller, who commanded the flotilla men and marines, as infantry to support the artillery. Lieut. colonel Kramer, with a battalion of Maryland militia, was posted in a wood, in advance of the marines and colonels Beall and Hood's command. The regiment under the command of col. Magruder, was stationed on the left of commodore Barney, in a line with him and

col. B. I. The regiment under command of col. Brent, and major Waring's battalion, and some other small detachments, formed the left flank of this second line, and in the rear of major Peter's battery; and lieut. col. Scott, with the regulars, was placed in advance of col. Magruder, and to the left, forming a line towards m. j. Peter's battery, but in such a manner as not to mask it; other small detachments in various directions.

About half past twelve o'clock, while the second line was forming, the enemy approached and the battle commenced: the Baltimore artillery opened a fire and dispersed the enemy's light troops now advancing along the street of the village, who took a temporary cover behind the houses and trees, in loose order, and presented objects only occasionally for the fire of the cannon. The enemy commenced throwing his rockets, and his light troops began to concentrate near the bridge, and to press across it and the river which was fordable above. The battalion of riflemen under major Pinkney, now united gallantly with the fire from the battery. For some minutes the fire was continued with considerable effect; the enemy's column was not only dispersed while in the street, but while approaching the bridge they were thrown into some confusion, and the British officers were seen exerting themselves to press the soldiers on. Having now gained the bridge, it was passed rapidly, and as the enemy crossed, flanked, formed the line and advanced steadily on, which compelled the artillery, and battalion of riflemen to give way, after which major Pinkney was severely wounded. He exerted himself to rally his men, and succeeded at a small distance in the rear of his first position, and united with the fifth Baltimore regiment.

It appears from reports of several officers, Stansbury, Pinkney, Law, Sterrett, &c. that the command of general Stansbury was 3 or 400 yards in the rear of the battery, and m. j. Pinkney's riflemen and some other small corps to the left of the battery; of course, this small party had to fight with the whole force of the enemy until they retired, and the enemy occupied the ground they left without any considerable resistance, as the enemy marched on without halting after the bridge was passed. Capt. Burch and colonel Sterrett were about the same distance, when col. Sterrett was ordered to advance to support the first line. One of the pieces of artillery was abandoned, but spiked previously. The enemy soon took advantage of the trees of an orchard which was occupied or held by the force which had just retreated and kept up a galling fire on part of our line. Captain Burch's artillery and a small detachment near it now opened a cross fire upon the enemy. Col. Sterrett, with the fifth Baltimore regiment, was ordered to advance, and made a prompt movement until ordered to halt, as at this movement the rockets assuming a more horizontal direction and passing near the heads of colonels Schultz and Ragan's regiments, the right gave way, which was followed in a few minutes by a general flight of the two regiments, in defiance of all the exertions of generals Winler, Stansbury and other officers. Burch's artillery and the 5th regiment remained with firmness; the orchard obstructed their fire; but notwithstanding, the enemy's light troops were, for a moment, driven back by them, the enemy having gained the right flank, of the fifth; which exposed it, Burch's artillery and colonel Sterrett, who commanded the fifth, were ordered by general Winler to retreat, with a view of forming at a small distance in the rear; but, instead of retreating in order, the fifth, like the other two regi-

ments under general Stansbury, in a very few minutes were retreating in disorder and confusion, notwithstanding the exertions of col. Sterret to prevent it. From reports of various officers exertions were made to rally the men and to bring them again to the battle, which partly succeeded in the first instance, but ultimately, and in a short time, all attempts were vain, and the forces routed; and the first line, together with the horse, were totally routed and retreated in a road which forked in three directions; one branch led by Rock Creek Church, to Taney Town and Montgomery court house, another led to George Town and a third to the city of Washington. It does not appear that any movement was made or attempted by the cavalry or horsemen, although the enemy to the left were in open and scattered order, as they pursued or pressed upon our lines, and a most fortunate moment presented itself for a charge of cavalry and horsemen.

It may be proper here to observe, that general Winder states his exertions to direct the retreating line to the capitol, with a view of rallying. This intention is corroborated by col. Sterret; but it appears that this determination was not generally understood by the officers or men. Colonel Kramer, posted on the right of the road and in advance of commodore Barney, was next drawn from his position after having maintained his ground with considerable injury to the enemy, and retreated upon the command of colonels Beall and Hood, on a commanding eminence to the right. After the retreat of the militia under colonel Kramer from his first position, the enemy's column in the road was exposed to an animated discharge from major Peter's artillery, which continued until they came in contact with commodore Barney: here the enemy met the greatest resistance and sustained the greatest loss, advancing upon our retreating line. When the enemy came in full view, and in a heavy column in the main road, commodore Barney ordered an 18 pounder to be opened upon them, which completely cleared the road, scattered and repulsed the enemy for a moment. In several attempts to rally and advance, the enemy was repulsed, which induced him to flank to the right of our lines in an open field.—Here captain Miller opened upon him with the three 12 pounders, and the flotilla men acting as infantry, with considerable effect. The enemy continued flanking to the right and pressed upon the command of colonels Beall and Hood, which give way after three or four rounds of ineffectual fire, at a considerable distance from the enemy, while colonel Beall and other officers attempted to rally the men on this high position. The enemy very soon gained the flank and even the rear of the right of the second line. Commodore Barney, captain Miller and some other officers of his command being wounded, his ammunition waggons having gone off in the disorder and that which the marines and flotilla men had being exhausted; in this situation a retreat was ordered by commodore Barney, who fell himself into the hands of the enemy.

The second line was not exactly connected, but posted in advantageous positions in connection with and supporting each other. The command of general Smith, including the Georgetown and city militia, still remained in order and firm without any part having given away, as well as the command of lieutenant col. Scott of the regulars, and some other corps. The enemy's light troops had in the meantime advanced on the left of the road, and had gained a line parallel with Smith's command, and endeavoring to turn the flank, colonel Brent was placed in a position calculated to prevent it; the enemy also advanced and came within long shot

of part of colonel Magruder's command, which opened a partial fire, but without much effect; and at this moment and in this situation general Winder ordered the whole of the troops, then stationary, to retreat, which was effected with as much order as the nature of the ground and the occasion would permit: these troops after retreating 5 or 600 paces, were halted and formed, but were again ordered to retreat by general Winder. General Winder then gave orders to collect and form the troops on the heights west of the turnpike gate, about one mile and a half from the capitol, which order was in part executed, and the forces formed by general Smith and the other officers, when col. George Minor came up with his regiment of Virginia volunteers, and united his forces with general Smith's command, having been detained, as before stated, in obtaining arms, ammunition, &c.; but, while in the act of forming, general Winder gave orders to retire to the capitol, with an expectation of being united with the troops of the first line. Col. Minor was ordered to take a certain position and disposition, and cover the retreat of all the forces by remaining until all had marched for the capitol. The troops were again halted at the capitol while general Winder was in conference with colonel Monroe and general Armstrong.

The first line and the cavalry, except one troop of col. Laval's, had taken a route which did not bring them to the capitol: the most of them had proceeded north of the district of Columbia, and others dispersed and returned home, and sought refreshment in the country. The commanding general represented the diminution of his force, the dispersion of a large portion of it, the want of discipline, the great fatigue of the troops, and believed that it would be impossible to make effectual resistance to the invasion of the city; nor did he think it would be proper to attempt to defend the capitol, the troops being without provisions, and which would leave every other part of the city to the mercy of the enemy, and the prospect of losing his army.—In this consultation the secretaries of state and war, it appears, concurred in their views with general Winder, and advised him to retire and rally the troops upon the heights of Georgetown; this produced an order for the whole forces to retreat from capitol hill through Georgetown. On receiving this order the troops evinced the deepest anguish, and that order which had been previously maintained was destroyed. General Smith in his report uses this language—"when the order for a retreat from capitol hill was received, the troops evinced an anguish beyond the power of language to express."—The troops were halted at Taneytown, and an attempt was made to collect them together, which only partially succeeded. Some returned home; some went in pursuit of refreshments, and those that halted gave themselves up to the uncontrolled feelings which fatigue, exhaustion, privation and disappointment produced. The force thus collected were marched about five miles up the Potomac, and early in the morning, Thursday the 25th, orders were given to assemble the troops at Montgomery court-house. Gen. Winder seems to have taken this position with a view to collect his forces, and to interpose for the protection of Baltimore, in case the enemy marched upon it, as was anticipated by him. On the 23d, general Winder despatched an order to the commanding officer at fort Washington to place patrols on every road leading to the garrison; and upon the event of his being taken in the rear of the fort, to blow it up and retire across the river. On the 26th, the army at Montgomery took up the line of march about ten o'clock towards Baltimore; gen.

Winder proceeded on to Baltimore. On the 27th, gen. Smith's brigade marched to this district.

The distance from Benedict to the city of Washington, by Bladensburg, is upwards of fifty miles. The enemy was without baggage waggons or means of transportation; his troops much exhausted with fatigue; many compelled to quit the ranks, and extraordinary exertions used to keep others in motion; and as if unable to pursue our forces, remained on the battle ground: the enemy's advance reached the city about 8 o'clock in the evening, the battle having ended about 2 o'clock, or before. The main body of the enemy remained on the heights west of the turnpike gate.

Doctor Catlett, the superintending surgeon, who was admitted to attend upon the wounded; and who passed through the enemy's camps and remained at Bladensburg until the city was evacuated, had the best opportunity of estimating the loss on both sides, as well as a good opportunity to ascertain the number and force of the enemy. His estimate is as follows:

*Of the enemy.*—On capitol hill, 700; turnpike hill, 2000; wounded at Bladensburg, 300; attendants, 300; wounded and attendants in the city of Washington, 60; killed at Bladensburg and the city, 180; total force, 3540. This statement is corroborated by all the information in his power, besides his own observations. Mr. Law estimated the enemy, on its march, at 5000; but from the best information, his estimate would be about 4,500.—Col. Monroe, who viewed the enemy on his march, estimated the number at about 6000. General Winder states that the best opinion at the Wood Yard, made the enemy from 5 to 7000. *Our forces*, are variously estimated; and, indeed, from the manner of collecting them, and their dispersion, makes it difficult to ascertain the number with perfect accuracy. General Stansbury represents colonel Ragan's regiment at 550; 60. Schutz's regiment at 800; colonels Beall's and Hood's at 800; colonel Sterret's regiment at 500; major Pinkney's command, including two companies of artillery, 300; making 2953. But general Winder estimates colonel Beall, 6 or 700; deduct 100, this leaves 2853. To which add the command of general Smith, and militia that united with him at the Wood-yard, Battalion Old fields, the regulars under lieutenant-colonel Scott, Barney's command, the cavalry, &c. 3200; making an aggregate number of 6053. Besides this force, several detachments are spoken of by general Winder's officers, not known, amounting to several hundred. But as a small detachment was left at the Eastern Branch bridge, others, particularly some of the cavalry, were on detachment, reconnoitering, &c. the number of our forces may be estimated at least 6000, including about twenty pieces of artillery, two 18-pounders, three twelves, and the others six-pounders. Our loss on the field of battle, killed, is estimated, by the superintending surgeon, at ten or twelve, and the wounded, some of whom died, at about thirty. Gen. Winder's official report estimate our loss at about thirty killed and fifty wounded.

The probable estimate of British forces on the 24th August: Total, 4,500. Killed at Bladensburg and in the city, 180; wounded at both places, 300. American forces, 6,000. Killed, 20; wounded 40; besides the regiment under colonel Minor, 600 infantry and 100 horse, which met the retreat on the west of the turnpike gate; and general Young's brigade, about 500, which was ordered to remain on the banks of the Potomac, about twelve miles from the city of Washington, until the evening of the 24th, when he crossed over to Alexandria, and proceeded

to Montgomery court-house, to join the main army.

The enemy, on the evening of the 25th, made the greatest exertions to leave the city of Washington. They had about 40 indifferent looking horses, 10 or 12 carts and waggons, one ox cart, one coach, and several gigs; these were sent to Bladensburg to move the wounded; a drove of 60 or 70 cattle preceded this party. Arriving at Bladensburg, the British surgeon was ordered to select the wounded who could walk; the 40 horses were mounted by those who could ride; the carts and waggons loaded, and upwards of 90 wounded left behind. About 12 o'clock at night, the British army passed through Bladensburg; and parties continued until morning, and stragglers until after mid-day. The retreat of the enemy to his shipping was precipitate and apparently under an alarm, and it is supposed that it was known to him that our forces had marched to Montgomery court-house.

The hon. Richard Rush, gen. Stansbury, major Wm. Pinkney, Dr. Catlett, and Mr. Law, all remark, that general Winder was active and zealous; encouraged the men and exposed himself, and acted as a man of firmness during the engagement, and endeavored to rally, with other officers, the lines as they gave way.

There seems to be a general concurrence of statement; that our forces were much fatigued, and worn down with marching, counter-marching, and their strength much exhausted, during their service, by remaining under arms much of the night, as well as the day, by false alarms, and otherwise. Nor does it appear, that it was generally known, among the officers and men of the first line, that the forces from the city were formed behind in the second line, to meet the enemy and support them. This statement is made by gen. Stansbury, major Wm. Pinkney, and some other officers of the first line.

#### RECAPITULATION.

This statement of facts has brought the committee to a recapitulation of some of the prominent circumstances in this part of the transaction. Without entering into the consideration of the means in the power of the administration, and the equal claims of every part of the extensive maritime and territorial frontier of the United States, in proportion to its importance and exposure, to defensive measures, the committee are of opinion that the means authorised for the security of the 10th military district by the president of the United States, in a cabinet council of the 1st of July, were ample and sufficient as to the extent of the force, and seasonable as to the time, when the measures were authorised. On the 2nd of July the 10th military district was constituted, and the command given to gen. Winder. On the 4th of July the requisition upon the states for 93,500 men was made. On the 14th of July the governors of Pennsylvania and Virginia acknowledged the receipt of the requisition of the 4th, and promised promptitude. About the 10th of July the governor of Maryland was served with the requisition, and took measures to designate a corps of 6,000 men, the whole quota from that state. On the 12th of July gen. Winder was authorised, in case of menaced or actual invasion, to call into service the whole quota of Maryland. On the 17th general Winder was authorised to call into actual service not less than 2 nor more than 3,000 of the drafts assigned to his command, to form a permanent force to be stationed in some central position between Baltimore and the city of Washington. On the same day, 17th of July, gen. Winder was authorised to call on the state of Pennsylvania for 5,000 men, on Virginia, 2,000, on the militia of the district of

Columbia, in a disposable state, 2,000; together with the 6,000 from Maryland, making an aggregate force of 15,000 drafted militia, 3,000 of which authorized to be called into actual service, the residue in case of actual or menaced invasion, besides the regular troops estimated at 1,000 making 16,000, independent of marines and flotilla men. This was the measure of defence contemplated for the military district No. 10, and the measures taken by the war department up to the 17th of July, in execution of it.

In relation to the collection of this force several unfortunate circumstances intervened to produce a great and manifest failure. 1st, on the 17th of July gen. Winder was authorized, in consequence of his own suggestions and in conformity to the wishes of the president, to call into actual service as many as 3,000, and not less than 2,000 of the drafts, under the requisition of the 4th of July, assigned for the operations of his district, as a permanent corps and rallying point with his other forces in a central position as before stated, to protect Baltimore, the city of Washington, &c. in case of invasion. Gen. Winder upon the receipt of this authority, proceeded direct to Annapolis, and made this requisition upon the governor of Maryland for the actual service of 3000 men; and on the 23d of July, 32 days previous to the battle of Bladensburg, gen. Winder informs the secretary of war, that the arrangement for the forces had been made, orders had issued and Bladensburg fixed as the place of rendezvous; and encourages expectation that the collection of the force would be prompt and certain. On the 27th, the governor of Maryland informs the secretary of war that measures had been taken to comply with the requisition of the 4th of July, and his orders had issued calling into actual service 3,500 men, to rendezvous at Bladensburg, to comply with the demand of gen. Winder, in conformity to the wishes of the president. In the mean time Stansbury's brigade had been called into service at Baltimore, on account of the alarm about the 15th of July, by the secretary of war, and altho' this force constituted a part of the Maryland quota of six thousand, by the consent of the secretary of war, it was to make no part of the 3,000 to be called into actual service for the purposes mentioned.

To form a correct estimate of this failure, which did not bring as many hundred men into the field, in the words of gen. Winder, it may be proper to state that at all times the marines, flotilla men and regular troops, including the different garrisons, amounted to upwards of 1,000 men. The militia of the District of Columbia amounted to 2000 men. These were always in a disposable state, and acknowledged by general Winder, in his letter of the 23d to be almost as efficient as if in actual service, and the event proved this to be correct. The disposable force at Baltimore, including Stansbury's brigade, amounted to upwards of 2,000 men, as the event proved, making an efficient force of at least 8,000 men, if the call for 3000 had been complied with. To this add the designated force assigned to the 10th military district, and the force to be raised on the spur of the occasion by calls upon the militia and population of the country en masse, and whose disposition is always operated upon more or less in proportion to the prospect of success. On the 13th of August, 21 days after the secretary of war was informed that this arrangement had been made, gen. Winder advises him that there would be almost a total failure in relation to the call for 3000 men, and as a temporary remedy proposes the acceptance of certain state troops supposed to be about 1,000, under colonels Beall and Hood, then in service at Annapolis, which was authorized; and these troops

met in a little ground, as before stated, about one half hour before the action on the 24th of Aug. The reasons which operated to produce this failure have been detailed, and there can be no object in having them repeated, as the committee do not consider it a duty to discuss the merits of those considerations.

2dly. On the 17th of July, the secretary of war, by letter, authorized the commanding general to call on Pennsylvania for 5000 men; on Virginia for 2,000 men, &c. as before stated. This letter was not received by gen. Winder until about the 8th of August, as appears by his correspondence with the governor of Pennsylvania, after a lapse of about 23 days. In explaining the delay in the receipt of this letter, gen. Winder says it originated from his being in constant motion in traversing and examining the situation and various military positions of his command, and the letter had gone the circuit with him without having received it. It is impossible for the committee to say what particular influence this circumstance had upon the collection of the troops; and it may be proper here to state, that the difficulties explained in relation to the militia laws of Pennsylvania had no bearing upon the failure of our arms, as no specific call was made upon that state till the 17th of August, when one regiment was demanded, and on the 18th the whole 5,000 were demanded; but this requisition was not received by the governor of Pennsylvania until the evening of the 25d, at which time the Pennsylvania detachment had been designated under the requisition of the 4th and ready for the call which was made upon it.

3dly. The unfortunate circumstances which delayed the arming of a Virginia regiment under col. George Minor, consisting of 600 infantry and 100 horse, who arrived in the city of Washington late on the evening of the 25d. Col. Minor called on the secretary of war, after early candle light, for orders. Col. Carberry had been charged with supplying the various corps with arms, ammunition, &c. Colonel Minor was directed to report himself to col. Carberry early next morning, who would furnish him. Col. Minor was in pursuit of col. Carberry from very early in the morning until late in the forenoon, without finding him; and after obtaining an order from general Winder, marched his regiment to Greenleaf's Point to the arsenal and magazine; where he again met with difficulties as before stated, which delayed his march and prevented him from being in the action. Having made this recapitulation of facts, the military question is presented for consideration: and having furnished the most ample means to the house, to form correct opinions on this part of the enquiry, and as most of the communications from military characters enter more or less into this military view, the committee take it for granted that they have discharged their duty, by the view they have taken, and submit this question to the consideration of the house.

#### THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

As it regards the part taken by the secretary of the navy, including the destruction of the navy yard, &c. the solicitude of the president, in anticipation of the probable designs of the enemy against this city and the adjacent country, induced the secretary of the navy to cause three 12 pounders to be mounted on field carriages, and completely furnished for field service, in the month of May last, and the marines trained to act as infantry or artillery. Previous to the reinforcement of the enemy in the Patuxent, he caused to be mounted two long eighteen pounders on field carriages and prepared for field service, to be given to com. Barney, in case of emergency, to co-operate with the land forces; and com.

Binney was instructed to prepare for this event, and service in case he had to abandon his flotilla. On the 18th of August, the secretary received the first intelligence of the reinforcement of the enemy; the day on which they landed at Benedict. Commodore Binney was ordered to destroy any flotilla whenever it appeared certain it would otherwise be captured, and to unite and co-operate with the forces under the command of general Winder. Letters were despatched to commodore Rodgers and capt. Porter, with orders to repair with their forces towards the city of Washington, with the utmost expedition. With every exertion, com. Rodgers was unable to reach the city by the 24th. The enemy entered our waters on the 15th; it was known in this city on the 18th; marched from Benedict on the 20th; and entered the city on the 21st; and left it precipitately on the 25th. The secretary of the navy called on gen. Winder on the 20th; pointed out the volunteer mechanics of the navy yard, then in his army, who were good axe-men, and would act with effect as pioneers. It was understood that a large squadron of the enemy's fleet had passed the principal obstacle in the navigation of the Potomac, and was ascending to co-operate with their land forces. The secretary of the navy expressed solicitude for fort Washington, and proposed to throw into that fort the marines and part of the seamen for its defence; the commanding general did not think it expedient to lessen his force by the abstraction of a part so efficient as the marines and seamen.

The secretary of the navy visited the navy yard on the 21st; inquired the means of transportation and the assistance to be given in the yard. The mechanics of the yard had been with the army from the first attack; 4 officers and a few of the ordinary, chiefly black, remained; two of the old gun-boats, the only craft for transport in the navy, the waggon of his majesty had been purchased for the army; and the blocks usually in the market for hire, were employed at the works at Biddensburgh. Orders were given for every means of transportation to be used. The public vessels floating were the new sloop of war Argus, the new schooner Lynx, 3 barges and 2 gun-boats. On the *hip*, the frigate Columbia, of the largest class, nearly ready for launching; her equipments generally made and ready, or in great forwardness. Besides, the buildings, engines, fixtures, shop furniture, of the several mechanical branches in the navy yard, there were about 100 tons of cordage, some canvass, considerable quantity of salt petre, copper, iron, lead, block tin, naval and military stores, implements, and fixed ammunition, with a variety of manufactured articles in all the branches; 1745 bbls. of beef and pork, 279 bbls. of whiskey, some plank and timber.

The secretary states, that he had no means left to transport the sloop Argus, to a place of safety, in his opinion if the enemy took possession of the city. He ordered the barges to the Little Falls. On the morning of the 24th the secretary visited the head quarters of general Winder, near the *Eastern Branch bridge*. The president and some of the heads of departments were present. The secretary of the navy presented to the president the consideration of the navy yard, in presence of the secretaries of war and treasury. The public vessels and public property were described; the importance of the supplies and shipping to the enemy; and no doubt seemed to be entertained of the union of the squadrons of the land forces, should the enemy succeed in the capture of the city of Washington, gen. Winder having distinctly stated that morning that fort Washington could not be defended. In this event nothing could be more clear than the plunder and destruction of the public buildings and property of

the navy yard; and whether a junction was formed, or the land forces alone took the city, the loss of the navy yard and public property was certain.— Upon this representation the secretary of the navy, in his report, says, it was distinctly understood, as the result of the conversation, that the public shipping, naval and military stores, and provisions at the navy yard, should be destroyed in the event of the enemy's obtaining possession of the city. It appears that the articles to be destroyed were in store and could not be separated from those establishments which might have been left; one of the barges was sent to Alexandria and remained there until taken by the enemy; one gun boat, with salt provisions, has been recovered, the other was laden with provisions and gun-powder, but run aground and was plundered by the inhabitants about the navy yard. The powder and part of the provisions have been recovered. The new schooner Lynx escaped the flames and remains without much injury. The metallic articles are chiefly all saved, and the timber in dock and that which is partially consumed will be useful. The machinery of the steam engine is not much injured; the boiler is perfect. The buildings, with the exception of the house of the commandant, the lieutenant of the guards, the guard house, the gate way, and one other building, are all destroyed; the walls of some appear entire. The monument to perpetuate the memory of the naval heroes who fell in the attack upon Tripoli, is a little defaced. The issuing store of the yard and its contents, which escaped the original conflagration, were destroyed by the enemy on the 25th.

The following estimate of the public property and buildings is the most accurate that the committee have been able to obtain, and which to them is as satisfactory and as accurate as the nature of the inquiry would admit.

No.	Description	Original Value	Real Value	Total Loss
1	Frigate Columbia	116,123 00	10,432 00	105,691 00
2	Sloop of war Argus	750 00	10,146 50	9,396 50
3	Ship Columbia	4,500 00	1,477 47	3,022 53
4	300 small boats	60 00	722 80	662 80
5	One armed sloop	1,000 00	5,277 50	6,277 50
6	One armed ship	1,000 00	6,434 50	7,434 50
7	Gun-boats and barges, &c.	6,000 00	985 00	6,985 00
8	Boat-sweepers' shop	2,500 00	577 50	2,977 50
9	Blacksmith's and joiner's shop	4,834 88	1,096 40	5,931 28
10	Carpenter's shop	7,500 00	2,881 04	10,381 04
11	Gun carriage shop, &c.	525 00	884 97	1,409 97
12	Painter's shop	809 97	1,810 00	2,619 97
13	Blacksmith's shop	1,610 00	1,579 84	3,189 84
14	Blacksmith's shop	2,075 81	18,769 91	20,845 72
15	Ordinance store, &c.	18,763 93	78,062 50	96,826 43
16	Naval store, cordage, &c.	78,062 25	42,599 40	120,661 65
17	Copper, iron, lead, &c.	49,661 22	2,931 87	52,593 09
18	Shipyards' stores, &c.	10,431 77	2,931 87	13,363 64
19	Shipyards' stores, &c.	17,328 91	12,558 75	29,887 66
20	Ordinance small arms	46,062 04	4,071 44	50,133 48
21	Iron, brass, pipes, knees, &c.	45 00	450 00	495 00
22	Air gun	12,000 00	1,141 00	13,141 00
23	Ships lancets articles	1,580 85	648 85	2,229 70
		678,210 71	1,200,405 21	1,878,615 92

The capital, from its location to its destruction, including original cost, sit-rations, repairs, &c. 787,163 22  
 The president's house, including all costs, 33,334 09  
 Public offices, treasury, state, war and navy, 93,513 62  
 Dollars 1,214,011 10

The buildings have been examined by order of a committee of the senate. The walls of the capital and president's house are good, and no more repairs only. The walls of the public offices do not suffice. It is supposed that the sum of 450,000 dollars will be sufficient to place the buildings in the situation they were in previous to their destruction, 450,000 00  
 Loss sustained at the navy yard,

In moveable property,	417,745 51
In buildings and fixtures,	91,425 53
	Dolls. 969,171 04
To this sum must be added the public library, estimated at	
An estimate of the expense of rebuilding in a plain and substantial manner, the navy yard, so as to carry on all the public works with as much advantage and convenience as previous to its destruction,	63,370 00

*The capture of Alexandria.*

In relation to the conduct of the corporation of Alexandria, and its capture by the enemy in his recent enterprizes, the committee have been furnished with various documents and information, and to which the committee refer: but in justice to the town and to the public, a brief retrospect may not be deemed improper, as connecting certain events with the surrender of that town on the 29th of August. October, 1812, a volunteer company was raised in Alexandria, amounting to about 70 including officers, clothed by voluntary aid and donation from the citizens of Alexandria; intended for the lines, but stationed at Fort Washington; remained in garrison till December; ordered to Annapolis, and there discharged. March, 1813, captain Marsteller's company of artillery stationed at Fort Washington, for upwards of three months. 21st of March, 1813, corporation, by committee, called on the secretary of war for arms, &c. for the defence of Alexandria. 8th of May, corporation, by committee, waited upon the president to apprise him of the defenceless state of the town: president acknowledged that attention was due to the representations of respectable men, and the proper attention should be given, and at the same time apprized the committee of the impossibility, in the nature of things, to give complete protection to every assailable point of the country. 11th of May, committee of vigilance appointed to co operate with the committee of Georgetown and the city of Washington: a deputation from the three committees waited upon general Armstrong, and represented the necessity of additional fortifications at Fort Washington: Col. Wadsworth was ordered to attend the committee, examine and report upon their suggestions. The examination was made, and colonel Wadsworth reported that the battery at Fort Washington was in such a state, and it so effectually commanded the channel of the Potomac, that it was not to be apprehended that the enemy would attempt to pass it while its present defences remain entire. Its elevated situation should prevent dread of a cannonading from ships; that in case of designs against the District of Columbia, an assault by land was most probable; to guard against this some inconsiderable work on the land was recommended; an additional fort in the same neighborhood was considered unnecessary. On the 5th and 13th of August, 1814, the corporation loaned to the U. States 55,000 dollars, upon condition that it should be expended south of Alexandria. After the defeat of Gen. Winder at Bladensburg, the corporation, by committee, waited upon the British commander at this city, to know what treatment was to be expected provided Alexandria should fall into his hands. Admiral Cockburn assured the deputation that private property would be respected; that probably some fresh provisions and flour might be wanted, but they should be paid for. Without firing a gun, on the 27th, Fort Washington was blown up and abandoned by the commanding officer, captain Dyson, who has been dismissed from the service of the United States by a sentence of a court martial, in consequence of it.

On the 23th, after the enemy's squadron passed the fort, the corporation, by deputation, proceeded to the ship commanded by captain Gordon, who

commanded, and requested to know his intentions in regard to Alexandria; which he proposed to communicate when he should come opposite the town, but promised that the persons, houses and furniture of the citizens should be unmolested if he met with no opposition. Next day, the 29th, the British squadron was drawn up in line of battle so as to command the whole town. There were 2 frigates, the Seahorse, 38 guns, and Euryalus, 36 guns, 2 rocket ships of 18 guns each, 2 bomb ships of 8 guns each, and a schooner of 2 guns arranged along the town. The committee will not attempt to condense the correspondence and terms of surrender, but refer to it as part of the report. One hour was allowed the corporation to decide. It was stated to the British officer that the common council had no power to compel the return of merchandize carried to the country, nor to compel the citizens to aid in raising the sunken vessels. these two points were yielded by the enemy. The enemy was requested to explain what was included in the term merchandize which was to be taken, and in answer it was stated that it would embrace such as was intended for exportation, such as tobacco, cotton, flour, bale goods, &c. The plunder of the enemy was indiscriminate and not confined to any particular class of individuals, and included alike non-residents and inhabitants. The plunder of the enemy was confined principally to flour, cotton and tobacco.

Estimate of the loss: 3 ships, 3 brigs, several bay and river craft, some vessels burnt, 15,000 barrels flour taken, 1,000 hogsheads of tobacco, 150 bales of cotton, 5,000 dollars worth of wines, sugar, &c. In relation to a letter written by admiral Codrington to capt. Gordon, the committee will refer to the entire letter of gen. John Mason, who gives a satisfactory history of this transaction; and to complete this part of the subject, reference is had to the statement of gen. Hungerford, giving the movements of his troops, and explains the interviews he had with the deputation from Alexandria, on his march to the city of Washington.

Conclusion.—In the inquiry into the causes of the success of the enemy in his recent enterprizes against this metropolis and the neighboring town of Alexandria, &c. the committee consulted a mode of investigation least embarrassing to themselves and to others. They determined that as it was indispensable to resort to some of the parties for information, not derivable from other sources, it would be equally their duty to hear as far as practicable those who were deeply concerned as to character and reputation, from the agency they had in this unfortunate transaction, with a determination, that in the event of any contradictions in material circumstances, to resort to impartial sources for explanation or correction. In the mean time the committee called upon those who may be considered as impartial observers for statements, that a just comparison might be made of different allegations and representations. If, therefore, the committee have failed to call upon persons in possession of any additional facts and views not submitted, it has not been through a want of inclination to receive all that could be important, but from a want of a knowledge of such persons and such facts. It was a question with the committee at its earliest meeting, whether personal examinations before the committee should be adopted, or whether resort should be had, in the first instance, to call for written communications or to views and interrogatories submitted by the committee, and best calculated to extract every important fact. Several considerations induced the adoption of the latter mode.

It gave the committee command of part of their

time to attend to other public duties equally important and obligatory. It incurred no expense to government or individuals, who were not interrupted in either their private concerns or public duties. The committee knew the anxiety of the house to have this inquiry closed as soon as possible, and which, by a different course, would have taken up the whole of the session, and encumbered with more useless and irrelevant matter and views than will be found in the communications. The committee feel therefore confident, that the house will be satisfied with the manner in which the subject has been developed; and to correct any possible error, and to receive any important fact or additional matter, although it is not very probable that much can remain, the committee will ask leave to report with a reservation of a right to make any other communication that may be found necessary to an impartial examination of this subject.

## APPENDIX.

In addition to the report of the committee, in order to give a more satisfactory view and detail upon the main subjects of inquiry, and variety of incidental matter which has arisen from the investigation, the following communications are referred to as an appendix:

1st, In relation to the measures adopted by administration, and the part taken by the president and the heads of departments, the committee refers to the letters from the secretaries of state, war, navy, and the attorney general; one is also expected from the secretary of the treasury which shall be communicated when received.

2. In relation to the steps taken and measures adopted by the secretary of war, the committee refers to the correspondence with the commanding general, the governors of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, the letter of colonel Fayloe, two reports from the ordnance office, as to arms, military stores, &c.

3. The conduct of the commanding general, the collection and disposition of the forces and the conduct and movements of different corps, the committee refers to the narrative of general Winder, his correspondence with the states of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, the war department and various officers, the reports of general Smith, general Young, general Stansbury, colonel Sterret, major William Pinkney, general Douglass, colonel Minor, colonel Beall, and commodore Barney's official letter.

4. In relation to the measures and arrangements and acts of the navy department, including the destruction of the navy yard and the public property, as well as the destruction of the public buildings in the city, the committee refers to a report from the secretary of the navy, a report from commodore Tingey, and a report from Mr. Munroe, superintendent of the public buildings.

5. In relation to the capture and capitulation of Alexandria, the committee refers to the proceedings of the court martial upon capt. Dyson; the correspondence between him and the secretary of war, as to the abandonment of the fort; the report of the corporation of Alexandria, including the terms of surrender, &c. and the letter from general Mason, relating to a letter from admiral Codrington.

6. In relation to general information and incidental topics, the committee refers to Mr. Law, general Van Ness, and doctor Catlett.

Destruction of the General Armstrong.

The details that follow, though they regard only a private armed vessel, will be read with

great interest. We are called as much to admire the gallantry and perseverance of our seamen as the impudence of the enemy, in violating a neutral territory. But they paid dearly for this irruption on the sovereignty of Portugal, and the rights of hospitality!—The vessels that attacked the general Armstrong arrived at Jamaica on the 5th ult. and acknowledge a loss of *sixty three* killed and *one hundred and ten* wounded!—having three lieutenants killed and three wounded! Total 173!—This is not the whole by a great deal. They lost about 300, as the captain of the Rota acknowledged to our consul, that they had 190 men killed, or dead of their wounds, the day after the battle; and, according to the general scale of such things; there must have been at least double that number remaining wounded. Some of the most splendid victories the British have gained were less dearly purchased. Sir *Richard Strachan*, with four ships of the line and four frigates, fought a French fleet for several hours on the 3d of Nov. 1805, and captured four ships of 74 and 80 guns, with a loss of only 135 killed and wounded—less according to his account than by the British accounts of the attack on the Armstrong, they lost in capturing a privateer, hemmed up in a port! A few such *victories* as this would teach them better manners.

The court of *Portugal* is bound to pay for the privateer, and receive satisfaction for the outrage from that of *Great Britain*.

Copy of a letter from our consul at Fayal to the secretary of state,

Fayal, 5th October 1814.

Sir—I have the honor to state to you that a most outrageous violation of the neutrality of this port, in utter contempt of the laws of civilized nations, has recently been committed here, by the commanders of his Britannic majesty's ships *Plantagenet*, *Rota* and *Carnation*, against the American private armed brig General Armstrong, Samuel C. Reid, commander, but I have great satisfaction in being able to add, that this occurrence terminated in one of the most brilliant actions on the part of captain Reid, his brave officers and crew, that can be found on naval record.

The American brig came to anchor in this port in the afternoon of the 26th of September, and at sun set of the same day, the above named ships suddenly appeared in these roads; it being nearly calm in the port, was rather doubtful if the privateer could escape if she got under way, and relying on the justice and good faith of the British captains, it was deemed most prudent to remain at anchor. A little after dusk captain Reid, seeing some suspicious movements on the part of the British, began to warp his vessel close under the guns of the castle, and while doing so, he was at about eight o'clock P. M. approach

ed by four boats from the ships filled with armed men. After hailing them repeatedly and warning them to keep off, he ordered his men to fire on them and killed and wounded several men. The boats returned the fire, and killed one man and wounded the first lieutenant of the privateer, and returned to their ships; and, as it was now light moonlight, it was plainly perceived from the brig as well as from the shore, that a formidable attack was premeditating. Soon after midnight, twelve or more large boats crowded with men from the ships and armed with cannonades, swivels and blunderbusses, small arms, &c. attacked the brig; a severe contest ensued which lasted about 40 minutes and ended in the total defeat and partial destruction of the boats, with a most unparalleled carnage on the part of the British. It is estimated by good judges that near four hundred men were in the boats when the attack commenced, and no doubt exists in the mind of the numerous spectators of the scene, that more than one half of them were killed or wounded: several boats were destroyed: two of them remained along side of the brig literally loaded with their own dead. From these two boats only seventeen reached the shore alive, most of them were severely wounded. The whole of the following day the British were occupied in burying their dead; among them were two lieuts. and one midshipman of the *Rota*—the first lieut. of the *Plantagenet*, it is said, cannot survive his wounds and many of the seamen who reached their ships were mortally wounded and have been dying daily. The British, mortified at this signal and unexpected defeat, endeavored to conceal the extent of the loss; they admit however that they lost in killed and who have died since the engagement, upwards of 120 of the flower of their officers and men. The captain of the *Rota* told me lost 70 men from his ship. Two days after this affair took place the British sloops of war *Thais* and *Calypso* came into port, when capt. Lloyd immediately took them into requisition to carry home the wounded officers and seamen—they have sailed for England, one on the 2d and the other on the 4th inst. each carried 25 badly wounded. Those who were slightly wounded, to the number, as I am informed, of about 30, remained on board of their respective ships, and sailed last evening for Jamaica. Strict orders were given that the sloops of war should take no letters whatever to England, and those orders were rigidly adhered to.

In face of the testimony of all Paval and a number of respectable strangers who happened to be in this place at the moment, the British commander endeavors to throw the odium of this transaction on the American captain, Reid, alledging that he sent the boats merely to reconnoitre the brig, and without

any hostile intentions; the pilots of the port did inform them of the privateer the moment they entered the port. To reconnoitre an enemy's vessel in a friendly port, at night, with four boats, carrying by the best accounts 120 men, is certainly a strange proceeding! The fact is, they expected, as the brig was warping in, that the Americans would not be prepared to receive them, and they had hopes of carrying her by a "coup de main." If any thing could add to the baseness of this transaction on the part of the British commander, it is the want of candor openly and boldly to avow the facts. In vain can he expect by such subtlety to shield himself from the indignation of the world and the merited resentment of his own government and nation, for thus trampling on the sovereignty of their most ancient and faithful ally and for the wanton sacrifice of British lives.

On the part of the Americans the loss was comparatively nothing, two killed and seven slightly wounded; of the slain, we have to lament the loss of the second lieut. Mr. Alexander O. Williams, of New York, a brave and meritorious officer.

Among the wounded are messrs. Worth and Johnson, first and third lieutenants, captain Reid was thus deprived early in the action, of the services of all his lieutenants; but his cool and intrepid conduct secured him the victory.

On the morning of the 27th ult. one of the British ships played herself near the shore and commenced a heavy cannonade on the privateer. Finding further resistance unavailing, capt. Reid ordered her to be abandoned after being partially destroyed, to prevent her falling into the hands of the enemy, who soon after sent their boats and set her on fire.

At 9 o'clock in the evening (soon after the first attack) I applied to the governor requesting his excellency to protect the privateer either by force or by such remonstrance to the commander of the squadron as would cause him to desist from any further attempt. The governor indignant at what had passed, but feeling himself totally unable with the slender means he possessed, to resist such a force, took the part of remonstrating, which he did in forcible but respectful terms. His letter to captain Lloyd had no other effect than to produce a menacing reply insulting in the highest degree. Nothing can exceed the indignation of the public authorities, as well as of all ranks and description of persons here, at this unprovoked enormity. Such was the rage of the British to destroy this vessel, that no regard was paid to the safety of the town; some of the inhabitants were wounded and a number of houses were much damaged. The strongest representations on this subject are prepared by the governor for his court.

Since this affair the commander, Lloyd,



threatened to send on shore an armed force and arrest the privateer's crew, saying there were many Englishmen among them, and our poor fellows afraid of his vengeance have fled to the mountains several times and have been harassed extremely. At length capt. Lloyd, fearful of losing more men if he put his threats in execution, adopted this stratagem: he addressed an official letter to the governor, stating that in the American crew were two men who deserted from his squadron in America, and as they were guilty of high treason, he required them to be found and given up. Accordingly a force was sent into the country, and the American seamen were arrested and brought to town, and as they could not designate the said pretended deserters, all the seamen here passed an examination of the British officers, but no such persons were to be found among them. I was requested by the governor and British consul to attend this humiliating examination, as was also captain Reid; but we declined to sanction by our presence any such proceedings.

Captain Reid has protested against the British commanders of the squadron for the unwarrantable destruction of his vessel in a neutral and friendly port, as also against the government of Portugal for their inability to protect him.

No doubt this government will feel themselves bound to make ample indemnification to the owners, officers and crew of this vessel, for the great loss they have severally sustained.

I shall as early as possible transmit a statement of this transaction to our minister at Rio Janeiro for his government.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant.

JOHN B. DABNEY.

To the secretary of state of the U. S. Washington.

The following are the British accounts of this destructive affair.

*Canterbury, Eng. Oct. 21.*—It appears that about the 28th ult. the Plantagenet, of 74 guns, capt. Lloyd, Rota, captain Somerville, and Carnation, captain Bentham, arrived off Fayal, a neutral port belonging to the Portuguese, and one of the Azores, perceiving a large schooner in the roads. A boat with 2 lieutenant was immediately dispatched on shore to ascertain her force, and to what nation she belonged; but the tide running strong the boat drifted near the schooner which was then getting under way. After hailing her and desiring the boat to keep off, which was impracticable from the schooner having so much stern way, she fired into the boat and killed seven men. The remainder returned with the boat to the squadron, and the commodore considering the neutrality broken by this outrage, immediately ordered the Carnation in to destroy the privateer; but the wind being light and variable, the Carnation made a signal for boats to tow. Nine boats

were accordingly dispatched, with three lieutenants and about two hundred men, but not being able to get the Carnation near enough, it being rocky, the boats proceeded to destroy the vessel, and finally set her on fire, but not till we had suffered a severe loss in men and officers. On the approach of the boats a most destructive fire was opened from a thirty two pounder amidships on board the privateer, filled with langrage, nails, knives, buttons, and other destructive matter. The crew of the privateer then escaped on shore, and fired on our men, who were ultimately successful in destroying the American. Lieutenants Multerface and Noman, of the Rota, were killed, and lieutenant Bowerbaux, of the Plantagenet, received a shot through his lungs. Altogether we suffered a loss of 135 killed and wounded.

*Kingston, Jam. Nov. 15.*—The following vessels came to anchor in the ciffing last night.

His majesty's ships Plantagenet, of 74 guns, captain Lloyd; Rota, 38, captain Somerville; and Carnation, brig of 18, captain Bentham, from a cruise off Fayal, and the Emulous brig, captain Gore, from Negril.

On the 25th of September, the Plantagenet, Rota, and Carnation, touched at Fayal, and on a boat from the former going ashore, she was fired at by a large privateer schooner, which killed an officer and two men; shortly after it was ascertained that she was an American and was the General Armstrong. Her having broke the neutrality of the port, by such conduct, boats from the squadron were immediately dispatched after her, but the crew lashed her to the rocks under protection of the fort, and repaired to the summit of the cliffs, from whence they kept up a destructive fire on the boats as they approached, and we are sorry to add that lieutenants Bowerbank, Cosswell, and Rogers of the Rota, were killed, as well as 38 seamen, and 83 wounded, the first, fourth and fifth lieutenants of the Plantagenet, were wounded, and 22 seamen killed and 24 wounded; the boats then retreated, and the Carnation went close to the privateer the next morning, and after discharging one or two broadsides, she was entirely abandoned. Captain Bentham then took possession, and finding her much shattered, burnt her to the water's edge. The privateer had been 19 days from New-York, and was fitted out for a nine months' cruise. She mounted eight long nines and a 24 pounder on a pivot, with a complement of 120 men. Her consort, the Grampus, was cruising in the neighborhood of the Canary Islands.

## Events of the War.

Of the present, has been called "a range of documents," and our pages are again almost monopolized by a single report laid before congress. Many articles in manuscript, with a host of facts and pa-

pers that belong to these eventful times, are laid over, as well as the regular detail of congressional proceedings and of other things that we are accustomed to insert—the mere enumeration of which would occupy more room than we have left in this number.

The "prize list" though not lately inserted, is by no means neglected. The present number is 1373; it shall appear anon, accompanied with many interesting details of "privateering news."

We are not yet certainly informed of the extent of the depredations of the enemy in the *Rappahanock*—a regular detail, from the information we may receive, will probably appear in our next. It appears that they burnt the little town of *Tappahanock*, broke open the tombs at that place and abused the dead!—with the usual spoliation of property that belongs to the character of their leader, *Cockburn*. It seems however that they have not done all these things without loss—for a number of them were killed and some taken prisoners by the Virginia militia.

Congress has had a busy week. The bank bill that passed the senate has been before the house of representatives, and will probably pass, with some amendments. The act for filling the ranks of the army has become a law. The bill respecting militia drafts, that came from the senate, has passed the house of representatives with amendments. This bill appears little more than to extend the period of service for which the militia may be called out, from 5 to 12 months. It has, however, met with the most violent opposition. Much other business has been done, of which a due record shall be made in our next, among which will appear an interesting letter from the secretary of the treasury.

We have nothing new from Europe since our last—but in the papers brought by the *Chauncey*, arrived at New York, there is a great body of matter that must be inserted, as fast as possible.

Maj. gen. *Gaines* has left Philadelphia for New Orleans. Gen. *Scott* takes his late command, whether in addition to the 10th District, or not, is not stated.

We may expect, for our next, some account of the proceedings of the Hartford convention, which was to have met on Thursday last. Our own remarks on that subject are only postponed for a little.

FROM GHENT. The N. Y. "Commercial Advertiser" says—We have seen a letter from one of our commissioners at Ghent, and have been permitted to copy the following sentence:

"We shall make peace if Great Britain is disposed to make it. Heretofore the war was ours; if it continues, hereafter it will be hers."

Copy of a letter from the president of the United States to the governor of New-York, in answer to a communication covering the resolution of the legislature of New-York.

WASHINGTON, November 12, 1814.

SIR—I have received your letter of the 5th inst. conveying an unanimous resolution of the two houses of the legislature of New-York, expressing the emotions with which they view the terms of peace proposed by the British commissioners at Ghent, and recommending the most vigorous measures for bringing the war to an honorable termination.

This language does great honor to the patriotism and just sentiments of the state by whose public councils it has been adopted; and the resolution derives additional value from the unanimity stamped upon it.

Such a devotion every where to the rights and dignity of our country, is alone necessary to a speedy triumph over the obstacles to an honorable peace; and such an example could proceed from no source

more entitled or more conducive to patriotic emulations.

Accept, sir, an assurance of my high esteem, and my friendly respects,

(Signed)

JAMES MADISON.

The governor of New-York.

Canada papers furnish us with the following items. *Seventy* vessels, richly laden with British goods, were unloading at Quebec about the 25th ult. Of these a large part will be smuggled into the United States during the winter, if a good look out is not kept. The neutral vessel on lake Champlain was to sail from the Isle aux Noix for the head of the lake on the 25th ult. with a full cargo of British manufactures. Thirty American deserters are said to have arrived at Montreal on the 23d. There has been a violent gale on Ontario, by which many (British) merchant boats, with their cargoes and crews were lost. Among the supplies received at Quebec, there are 9,000 barrels pork.

One would have thought that the frequent beatings of the English at sea might have taught them a little humility. But so long accustomed to consider themselves invincible on the water, they cannot easily yield the supposed superiority. The following is from a *Junonia* paper. To the wish that *Rodgers* may meet a British vessel of equal force, we heartily say Amen. The crew he had at Baltimore last September would like no better "fun!"—"The Java and Guerriere American ships of war, had been launched, and were getting ready to start the first opportunity. The latter is to be commanded by commodore *Rodgers*, who is said to have promised his countrymen, that he never will return into port unless he has captured or destroyed a British ship of at least equal force with his own. We hope he may be fortunate enough to fall in with one!"

Commodore *Chauncey* arrived at New-York on the 9th instant. An attack upon Sackett's Harbor was neither expected or feared.

According to a resolution intimated some time ago, *William Jones* esquire, resigned the office of secretary of the navy about the 1st instant. The nation has reason to regret the loss of this valuable officer, who has done more than all that preceded him (being a practical man, with a strong mind and discriminating judgment) to give a system to the whole business of our glorious little navy. The cause of his resignation, we understand, to have been entirely of a private nature. The National Intelligencer of the 12th says, "the office of secretary of the navy is yet vacant; and possibly may remain so until congress determine on the proposition submitted to them by the late secretary of the navy, for the establishment of a navy board in aid of the head of the department. Meanwhile *Benjamin Homans*, esquire, chief clerk in the department acts as secretary."

The enemy off the coast of Georgia is busy—but a great in-shore trade is carried on, and many valuable vessels arrive from foreign ports. A Russian ship with a rich cargo of salt, crates, dry goods and hardware entered the port of Savannah, the latter end of last month, in distress. She was in Liverpool, ostensibly for Amelia.

The accounts of our privateers on the British coasts, are "truly alarming." They go about quite in "mobs" three, six or twelve together—according to the imaginations of those that are chased by them.

A good one.—The Alexandria Herald, speaking of the British account of the action between the *Wasp* and *Avon*, says: "we can excuse them for magnifying an action of forty-five minutes into two hours and an half, as we have no doubt they thought the time long."

A British frigate and a brig have been off the mouth of the *Patuxee* several days. We have no reason to believe that the enemy's force in the Chesapeake has been considerably reinforced. It would appear that their present grand object is *New-Orleans*, or the southern coast; where we are tolerably well prepared for them.

The senate are busy with the tax bills that lately passed the house. It is probable they will all be concurred with,

It was reported at Boston, that the president of the U. S. had required 5000 men of the governor of Massachusetts, to be placed under the command of maj. gen. *King* of the militia of that state, for an "important expedition"—probably to drive the invader from the state of *Massachusetts*.

We have not yet received an official account of the capture of *Pensacola* by gen. *Jackson*. It is certain, however, that he has captured that place, and driven off the British. It is also understood that he would immediately retire from the same to Mobile.

Major-general *Carroll* marched from Nashville on the 23d ult. with 5000 men to reinforce general *Jackson*, whose force at *Pensacola* was 6000, and he will probably have at least 15,000 brave men, independent of the local militia.

That part of the district of *Maine* which is held by the British, contains about 20,000 inhabitants.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 17 OF VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1814. [WHOLE NO. 173.]

*Hec olim meminisse juvabit.—VIRGIL.*

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## New-England Convention.

No. III.

I have room at present only for the following brief statement and remarks. But the folly of the jacobins as well as their *ignorance*, or, what is far worse, their *FALSEHOOD*, shall be exposed in detail, before I have done with them.

I think the most hardened will feel a little awkward hereafter when he shall speak of the "GREAT COMMERCIAL STATES OF NEW-ENGLAND!" That bubble has burst—*truth* divested it of the thin coat or covering it had, and dissolved it in air. But for the outrageous noise made by the jacobins, it might have floated yet longer to attract the gaze of an unthinking multitude. I have in reserve some ideas on this subject which, as soon as I can obtain the *documents*, will perfect the humiliation of those declainers on *commerce*. I believe I can shew that *one-third* of the exports of *Boston*, (that great place, almost as big as *Baltimore!*) were not of the product or manufacture of the "nation of *New-England*;" and that *two-thirds* of said exports were of the growth or product of the middle, southern and western states. I allude to *foreign trade* and have reference only to *domestic articles*—the fruits of agricultural or mechanical industry.

It is said, in *Baltimore*, by those disposed to put the most favorable construction on the intended proceedings of the convention at *Hartford*, that they will only propose some amendments to the constitution of the United States; intimating, that the "New-England states" have not their just portion of power in the government. So much has been said on this subject that a few *figures* may be useful.

The *power* of the government is, at least, as much in the senate as in the house of representatives of the United States. Nay, the senate is more stable, more dignified, and *more powerful* than the house. They can as well originate laws as the house, except those for raising a revenue, which they may amend or reject; and have, besides, many high prerogatives, or duties, that specially belong to them, particularly in the appointment of officers, civil, military or naval; and *one* vote has as much weight in the senate, as *six* votes in the house of representatives—"ergo" a senator, independent of the said special prerogatives or duties, is six times as powerful as a representative. This is very plain, and cannot be denied.

Do not be surpris'd, reader, but I intend to shew you that the "New England states" instead of complaining of a want of power in the government, should be complain'd against for having too much of it. Never mind the blowing about the "slave representation" that has caused the shedding of a hundred gallons of ink in the town of *Boston* alone. We will take the *free* population, and see how it stands.

The whole white population of the United States, according to the census of 1810, was	5,862,093
Other free persons	186,446

6,048,539

This amount, 6,048,539, divided by 213, the whole

VOE. VII.

number of senators and representatives, gives a ratio of 28,002 persons for each member of congress.

The whole white population of the five eastern states, by the same census, was	1,452,085
Other free persons	19,383
	1,471,470

This amount divided by the above ratio (28,002) gives to those states the right to have *fifty-two* members in congress; *one more* than they now have. This is the utmost length to which the "slave representation" can be *supposed* to affect them. But—The amount, 6,048,539, divided by 36, the whole number of senators: including "raw headed and bloody boned" *Louisiana*, gives us a ratio of 168,015 free persons, for every senator. Then as the population of the "New England states" is 1,471,470, and this being divided by 168,015, they ought to have less than *nine* (say nine) senators—they have *ten*; therefore, though in point of mere *numbers*, they want one of their full allowance, yet it being a fact, as before observed, that *one* senator has the influence of *six* representatives, it follows that the "New England states" have a *power* equal to that of *four* representatives *more than their just proportion*, according to the *white* population of the United States.

How will it stand 15 years hence, say in 1830?

Admitting the United States to increase as they have hitherto done, the population of the "New England States" may be,

White inhabitants	2,178,127
That of the other states will be	8,920,651

Total white persons	11,098,778
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In this time, it is probable, that *Maine* may be erected into a state, as well as the *Mississippi* and *Indiana* territories, making the whole number of states 21, with 42 senators. Then will the power, the *under power*, of the "New England states," be felt (and much more so thereafter)—for, with a population of about one *sixth* of the whole, they will have an influence in the most stable branch of the government equal to between a third and a fourth of the whole, (12—42nds) and a *general power* in the business of *government* equal to not less than *twenty* members more than their population will entitle them to. See WEEKLY REGISTER, vol. VI, page 187.\*

If, therefore, gentlemen of the convention, you are not content with the *extra* taxes that the "slave states" as you call them, pay for the *one* extra member they have in congress, amend the constitution

\*Whole white population, 11,098,778, divided by 42, whole number of senators, gives a ratio of 264,255 for each senator. Population of the New England states, 2,178,127, divided by 264,256, gives them *eight* senators—but they will have *twelve*. In 1840, at the same rate, they would be entitled to about *six*; in 1850, to *five*. Still they will have *twelve*!

R

as to relieve them from *that* tax, and fairly represent the white population of the U. States in *both* branches of the legislature, according to their numbers in the several states. Take the pen and calculate, and see what you will gain by it!

In my next I shall offer some speculations as to the *property* represented in congress, by the senators and representatives from the several states.

☞ I am inclined reluctantly to believe, that this Hartford convention *may* have the effect to prevent a peace, by holding out hopes to the enemy of a *separation*: and, with it, the prospect of a *subjugation* of the whole of our country.

## Mr. Randolph's Letter.

[From the United States' Gazette.]

Letter to a gentleman in Boston, late a member of the senate of the United States, from the state of Massachusetts.

Philadelphia, Dec. 15, 1814.

DEAR SIR—You will doubtless be surprised, but (I trust) not offended at the receipt of this letter. Of the motives which dictate it, I shall forbear to speak; let them be gathered from its context. But should you ascribe my selection of you as the object of its address to any other cause than respect for your character and confidence in your love of country, you will have done much injustice to me; but more to yourself.

At Washington, I learned the result of the despatches brought by the John Adams (a name of evil omen) and, there, rumors were afloat, which have since gathered strength, of a disposition in Massachusetts, and indeed throughout New England, to follow the example of Nantucket, and declare for a neutrality in the present contest with Great Britain. I will not believe it. What! Boston, the cradle of American independence, to whose aid Virginia stepped forth unsolicited, when the whole vengeance of the British ministry was wreaked on that devoted town. Boston! now to desert us, in our utmost need, to give up her old ally to ravage, at the price of her own impunity from the common enemy?—I cannot, will not believe it. The men, if any such there be among you, who venture to insinuate such an intent by the darkest intendo, do they claim to be the disciples of Washington?—They are of the school of Arnold. I am not insensible to the vexations and oppressions, with which you have been harassed, with little intermission, since the memorable embargo of 1807. These I am disposed, as you well know, neither to excuse, nor to extenuate. Perhaps I may be reminded of an authority, to which I always delight to refer, "*Signis irritant animos, &c.*" but let me tell such gentlemen, that our sufferings under political ills, of our own calling in, are not matter of *hear say*. It is true they are considered by the unhappy, misguided patient as evidence of the potency and consequently (according to his system of logic) of the efficacy of the medicine, as well as the inveteracy of the disease. It is not less true that this last has become, from preposterous treatment, in the highest degree alarming. The patient himself begins to suspect something of the sort, and the doctors trembling, each for his own character, are quarrelling and calling hard names among themselves. But they have reduced us to such a condition, that nothing short of the knife will now do. "We must fight, Mr. Speaker!" said Patrick Henry in 1775, when his sagacious mind saw there was nothing else left for us but manly resistance, or slavish submission; and his tongue dared to utter what

his hear suggested. How much greater the necessity now, when our country is regarded not as a property to be recovered, and therefore spared, so far as is compatible with the end in view; but as an object of vengeance, of desolation.

You know my sentiments of the men at the head of our affairs, and of the general course of administration during the last eight years. You know also that the relation, in which I stand towards them is not of my own deliberate choice; sanctioned not more by my judgment than by my feelings. You, who have seen men (in the ranks, when I commanded in chief in the house of representatives, and others, at that time too green to be on the political muster roll—whose names had never been pronounced out of their own parish) raised to the highest offices; you who are thoroughly acquainted with the whole progress of my separation from the party, with which I was once connected in conduct, do not require to be told, that "there was a time in which I stood in such favor in the closet, that there must have been something extravagantly unreasonable in my wishes, if they might not ALL have been gratified." But I must acknowledge that you have seen instances of apostasy among your quondam political associates, as well as my own, that might almost justify a suspicion, that I too, tired of holding out, may wish to make my peace with the administration, by adding one more item "to the long catalogue of venality from Esau to the present day." Should such a shade of suspicion pass across your mind, I can readily excuse it in consideration of the common frailty of our nature, from which I claim no peculiar exemption, and the transcendent wickedness of the times we live in: but you will have given me credit for a talent which I do not possess. I am master of no such ambidexterity; and were I to attempt this game, which it is only for adepts (not novices) to play! I am thoroughly conscious, that like other bungling rogues, I should at once expose my knavery and miss my object—not that our political church refuses to open her arms to the vilest of heretics and sinners who can seal their abjuration of their old faith by the prosecution of the brethren with whom they held and professed it: but I know that my nerves are of too weak a fibre to bear the question ordinary and extraordinary from our political inquisitors. I can sustain with composure and even with indifference the rancorous hatred of the numerous enemies, whom it has been my lot to make in the course of my unprosperous life—but I have not yet steeled myself to endure the contemptuous pity of those noble and high minded men, whom I glory to call my friends, and I am on too bad terms with the world, to encounter my own self disrespect.

You may however very naturally ask, why I have chosen you for the object of this address? Why I have not rather selected some one of those political friends, whom I have yet found "faithful among the faithless," as the vehicle of my opinions. It is because the avenue to the public ear is shut against me in Virginia, and I have been flattered to believe that the sound of my voice may reach New-England; N. Y., that it would be heard there, not without attention and respect. With us the press is under a virtual *imprimatur*, and it would be more easy, at this time, to force into circulation the treasury notes, than opinions militating against the administration, through the press in Virginia. We were indeed beginning to open our eyes in spite of the opiate with which we were drugged by the newspapers, and the busy hum of the insects that bask in the sunshine of court patronage, when certain events occurred, the most favorable that could have happened for our

rulers; whose "luck," verifying the proverb, is in the inverse ratio of their wisdom; or, perhaps I ought to say, who have the cunning to take advantage of glaring acts of indiscretion, in their adversaries at home and abroad, as these may affect the public mind: and such have never failed to come to their relief, when otherwise their case would have been hopeless. I give you the most serious assurance, that nothing less than the shameful conduct of the enemy and the complexion of certain occurrences to the eastward could have sustained Mr. Madison after the disgraceful affair at Washington. The public indignation would have overwhelmed, in our common ruin, himself and his hiring newspapers—The artillery of the press, so long the instrument of our subjugation, would, as at Paris, have been turned against the destroyer of his country: when we are told that old England says, he "shall," and New England that he "must," retire from office, as the price of peace with the one, and of union with the other. We have too much English blood in our veins to submit to this dictation, or to any thing in the form of a threat. Neither of these people know any thing of us. The ignorance of her foreign agents, not only of the country to which they are sent, but even of their own, has exposed England to general derision. She will learn, when it is too late that we are a high minded people, attached to our liberty and our country, because it is free, in a degree inferior to no people under the sun. She will discover that "our trade would have been worth more than our spoil," and that she has made deadly enemies of a whole people, who, in spite of her and of the world, of the sneers of her sophists, or of the force of her arms, are destined to become, within the present century, a mighty nation. It belongs to New England to say, whether she will constitute a portion, an important and highly respectable portion of this nation, or whether she will dwindle into that state of insignificant, nominal independence, which is the precarious curse of the minor Kingdoms of Europe. A separation made in the fulness of time, the effect of amicable arrangements, may prove mutually beneficial to both parties: such would have been the effect of American independence, if the British ministry could have listened to any suggestion but that of their own impotent rage: but a settled hostility embittered by the keenest recollections, must be the result of a disunion between you and us, under the present circumstances. I have sometimes wished that Mr. Madison (who endeavored to thwart the wise and benevolent policy of general Washington "to regard the English like other nations, as enemies in war, in peace friends,")\* had succeeded in embroiling us with the court of St. James, twenty years sooner. We should in that case, have had the father of his country to conduct the war and to make the peace; and that peace would have endured beyond the life time of the authors of their country's calamity and disgrace. But I must leave past recollections. The present and the immediate future claim our attention.

It may be said, that in time of peace, the people of every portion of our confederacy find themselves too happy to think of division; that the sufferings of a war, like this, are requisite, to rouse them to the necessary exertion: war is incident to all governments; and wars I very much fear will be wickedly declared, and weakly waged, even by the New-England confederacy, as they have been by every government (not even excepting the Roman republic) of which we have any knowledge; and it does ap-

\* This is the language of the declaration of independence.

pear to me, no slight presumption that the evil has not yet reached the point of amputation, when peace alone, will render us the happiest (as we are the freest) people under the sun; at least too happy to think of dissolving the union, which, as it earned us through the war of our revolution, will, I trust, bear us triumphant through that in which we have been plunged, by the incapacity and corruption of men, neither willing to maintain the relations of peace, nor able to conduct the operations of war. Should I, unhappily, be mistaken in this expectation, let us see what are to be the consequences of the separation, not to us, but to yourselves. An exclusion of your tonnage and manufactures from our ports and harbors. It will be our policy to encourage our own, or even those of Europe in preference to yours; a policy more obvious than that which induced us of the south, to consent to discriminating duties in favor of American tonnage, in the infancy of this government. It is unnecessary to say, to you, that I enforce the duties on imports, as well as the tonnage duty, when I allude to the encouragement of American shipping. It will always be our policy to prevent your obtaining a naval superiority, and consequently to cut you off entirely from our carrying trade. The same plain interest will cause us to prefer any manufactures to your own. The intercourse with the rest of the world, that exchanges our surplus for theirs, will be the nursery of our science. In the middle states you will find rivals, not very heartily indisposed to shut out the competition of your shipping. In the same section of country and in the boundless west, you will find jealous competitors of your mechanics—you will be left to settle, as you can, with England, the question of boundary on the side of New Brunswick, and unless you can bring New York to a state of utter blindness, as to her own interests, that great, thriving and most populous member of the southern confederacy will present a hostile frontier to the only states of the union of Hartford, that can be estimated as of any efficiency. Should that respectable city be chosen as the seat of the eastern congress, that body will sit within two days march of the most populous county of New York, (Duchess) of itself almost equal to some of the New England States. I speak not in derision, but in soberness and sadness of heart. Rather let me say, that like a thorough bred diplomatist, I try to suppress every thing like feeling, and to treat this question as a dry matter of calculation: well knowing, at the same time, that in this, as in every question of vital interest, "our passions instruct our reason." The same high authority has told us that Jacobinism is of no country, that it is a sect found in all. Now, as our Jacobins in Virginia would be very glad to hear of the bombardment of Boston, so, I very much fear, your Jacobins would not be very sorry to hear of a servile insurrection in Virginia. But such I trust is the general feeling in neither country, otherwise I should at once agree that union, like the marriages of Mezentius, was the worst that could befall us. For, with every other man of common sense, I have always regarded union as the means of liberty and safety, in other words of happiness, and not as an end, to which these are to be sacrificed. Neither, at the same time, are means so precious, so efficient (in proper hands) of these desirable objects, to be thrown, rashly aside, because, in the hands of bad men, they have been made the instrument almost of our undoing.

You in New England (it is unnecessary I hope to specify when I do not address myself personally to yourself) are very wide of the mark, if you suppose that we to the south, do not suffer at least as much as yourselves, from the incapacity of our rulers to

conduct the defence of the country. Do you ask why we do not change those rulers? I reply, because we are a people, like your own Connecticut, of steady habits. Our confidence once given is not hastily withdrawn. Let those who will, abuse the fickleness of the people; I shall say such is not the character of the people of Virginia. They may be deceived, but they are honest. Taking advantage of their honest prejudices, the growth of our revolution, fostered not more by Mr. Jefferson than by the injuries and (what is harder to be born) the insults of the British ministry since the peace of 1783, a combination of artful men, has, with the aid of the press and the possession of the machinery of government (a powerful engine in any hands) led them to the brink of ruin. I can never bring myself to believe, that the whole mass of the landed proprietors in any country, but especially such a country as Virginia, can seriously plot its ruin. Our government is in the hands of the landed proprietors only. The very men of whom you complain, have left nothing undone that *they* dared to do, in order to destroy it. Foreign influence is unknown among us. What we feel of it is through the medium of the general government, which acted on itself, by foreign renegades, serves as a conductor, between them and us, of this pernicious influence. I know of no foreigner who has been, or is, in any respectable office in the gift of the people, or the government of Virginia. No member of either house of congress, no leading member of our assembly, no judge of our supreme courts: of the newspapers printed in the state, as far as my knowledge extends, without discrimination of party, they are conducted by native Virginians. Like yourselves, we are an unmixed people. I know the prejudice that exists against us, nor do I wonder at it, considering the gross ignorance on our subject that prevails north of Maryland, and even in many parts of that neighboring state.

What member of the confederacy has sacrificed more on the altar of public good than Virginia? Whence did the general government derive its lands beyond the Ohio, then and now, almost the only source of revenue? From our grant,—a grant so curiously worded, and by our present Palmyrus too, as to except ourselves, by its limitations, from the common benefit.

By its conditions it was forbidden ground to us, and thereby the foundation was laid of incurable animosity, and division between the states on each side of the great natural boundary, the river Ohio. Not only their masters, but the very slaves themselves, for whose benefit this regulation was made, were sacrificed by it. Dispersion is to them a bettering of their present condition and of their chance for emancipation. It is only when this can be done without danger and without ruinous individual loss that it will be done at all. But what is common sense to a political Quixote?

That country was ours by a double title, by charter and by conquest. George Rogers Clark, the American Hannibal, at the head of the state troops, by the reduction of Post Vincennes, obtained the lakes for our northern boundary at the peace of Paris. The march of that great man and his brave companions in arms across the drowned lands of the Wabash, does not shrink from a comparison with the passage of the Thracian marsh. Without meaning any thing like an invidious distinction, I have not heard of any cession from Massachusetts of her vast wilds; and Connecticut has had the address, out of our grant to the *firm*, to obtain, on her own private account, some millions of acres; whilst we, as we, I blush to say it, have descended to beg for

a pittance, out of the property once our own, for the brave men by whose valor it had been won and whom heedless profusion had disabled us to recompense. We met the just fate of the prodigal. We were spurned from the door, where once we were master, with derision and scorn; and yet we hear of undue Virginian influence. This fund yielded the government, when I had connexion with it, from half a million to eight hundred thousand dollars, annually. It would have preserved us from the imposition of state taxes, founded schools, built bridges and made roads and canals throughout Virginia. It was squandered away in a single donative at the instance of Mr. Madison. For the sake of concord with our neighbors, by the same generous but misguided policy, we ceded to Pennsylvania Fort Pitt, a most important commercial and military position, and a vast domain around it, as much Virginia as the city of Richmond and the county of Henrico. To Kentucky, the eldest daughter of the union, the Virginia of the west, we have yielded on a question of boundary, from a similar consideration. Actuated by the same magnanimous spirit at the instance of other states (with the exception of New-York, North Carolina and R. Island) we accepted, in 1783, the present constitution. It was repugnant to our judgment and fraught, as we feared, with danger to our liberties. The awful voice of our ablest and soundest statesmen, of Patrick Henry and of George Mason, never before, or since, disregarded, warned us of the consequences. Neither was their counsel entirely unheeded, for it led to important subsequent amendments of that instrument. I have always believed this disinterested spirit, so often manifested by us, to be one of the chief causes of the influence which we have exercised over the other states.—Eight states having made that constitution their own, we submitted to the yoke for the sake of union. Our attachment to the union is not an empty profession. It is demonstrated by our practice at home. No sooner was the convention of 1788 dissolved, than the feuds of federalism and anti-federalism disappeared. I speak of their effects on our councils. For the sake of union, we submitted to the lowest state of degradation; the administration of John Adams. The name of this man calls up contempt and derision, wheresoever it is pronounced. To the fantastic vanity of this political Malvolio may be distinctly traced our present unhappy condition. I will not be so ungenerous as to remind you that this personage (of whom, and his addresses, and his answers, I defy you to think without a bitter smile) was not a Virginian, but I must in justice to ourselves, insist upon making him a set off against Mr. Madison. They are of such equal weight, that the trembling balance reminds us of that passage of Pope, where Jove "weighs the beaux wits against the lady's hair;

"The doubtful beam long nods from side to side,  
At length the wits mount up, the hairs subside."

Intoxicated not more by the fulsome adulation with which he was plied, than by the fumes of his own vanity, this poor old gentleman saw a visionary coronet suspended over his brow, and an air drawn sceptre "the handle towards his hand," which attempting to clutch, he lost his balance, and disappeared never to rise again. If it was, who "enacting" Nat. Lee's Alexander, raved about the people of Virginia as "a faction to be humbled in dust and ashes," when the sackcloth was already prepared for his own back.

But I am spinning out this letter to too great a length. What is your object—PEACE? Can this be attained on any terms, whilst England sees a prospect of disuniting that confederacy, which has al-

ready given so deep a blow to her maritime pride, and threatens at no very distant day to dispute with her the empire of the ocean? The wound which our gallant tars have inflicted on her tenderest point has maddened her to rage. Cursed as we are with a weak and wicked administration, she can no longer despise us. Already she begins to hate us; and she seeks to glut a revenge as impotent as it is rancorous, by imroads that would have disgraced the the mercenaries, and bulletins that would only not disgrace the sovereign of Elba. She already is compelled to confess in her heart, what her lips deny, that if English bull dogs and game cocks degenerate on our soil, English men do not:—and should (which God forbid!) our brethren of the East desert us in this contest for all that is precious to man, we will maintain it, so long as our proud and insulting foe shall refuse to accede to equitable terms of peace. The government will then pass into proper hands—The talents of the country will be called forth, and the schemes of moon-struck philosophers and their disciples pass away and “leave not a rack behind.”

You know how steady and persevering I endeavored, for eight years, to counteract the artful and insidious plans of our rulers to embroil us with the country of our ancestors, and the odium which I have thereby drawn upon myself. Believing it to be my duty to soften, as much as possible, the asperities which subsisted between the two countries, and which were leading to a ruinous war, I put to hazard, nay exposed to almost certain destruction, an influence such as no man, perhaps, in this country, at the same age, had ever before attained.—(The popularity that dreads exposure is too delicate for public service. It is a bastard species: the true sort will stand the hardest frosts.) Is it my fault (as Mr. Burke complained of the crowned heads of Europe) that England will no longer suffer me to find palliatives for her conduct? No man admired more than I did her magnanimous stand against the tyrant, before whom all the rest of Christendom at one time bowed: No man, not even her own Wilberforce and Perceval, put up more sincere prayers for her deliverance. In the remotest isle of Austral-Asia, my sympathy would have been enlisted, in such a contest, for the descendants of Alfred and Bacon, and Shakespeare, and Milton, and Locke on whom I love to look back as my illustrious countrymen—in any contest I should have taken side with liberty; but on this depended (as I believed and do still believe) all that made my own country dear in my sight. It is past—and unmindful of the mercy of that protecting Providence which has carried her through the valley of the shadow of death, England “feels power and forgets right.” I am not one of that whining set of people who cry out against mine adversary for the force of his blow. England has, unquestionably, as good a right to conquer us, as we have to conquer Canada: the same right that we have to conquer England, and with about as good prospect of success. But let not her orators declaim against the enormity of French principles, when she permits herself to arm and discipline our slaves, and to lead them into the field against their masters, in the hope of exciting by the example, a general insurrection, and thus render Virginia another St. Domingo. And does she talk of jacobinism! What is this but jacobinism? and of the vilest stamp. Is this the country that has abolished the slave trade? that has made that infamous, inhuman traffic a felony? that feeds with the bread of life all who hunger after it, and even those who, but for her, would never have known their perishing condition. Drunk with the cup of the abominations of Moloch, they have been roused from the sleep of

death, like some benighted traveller perishing in the snows, and warmed into life by the beams of the only true religion. Is this the country of Wilberforce and Howard? It is;—but, like my own, my native land, it has fallen into the hands of evil men, who pour out its treasure and its blood at the shrine of their own guilty ambition. And this impious sacrifice they celebrate amidst the applauses of the deluded people, and even of the victims themselves.

There is a proneness in mankind to throw the blame of their sufferings on any one but themselves. In this manner, Virginia is regarded by some of her sister states; not adverting to the fact, that all (Connecticut and Delaware excepted) are responsible for the measures that have involved us in our present difficulties. Did we partition your state into those unequal and monstrous districts which have given birth to a new word in your language, of uncouth sound, calling up the most odious associations. Did we elect the jacobins whom you sent to both houses of congress—the Bidwells, and Cannetts, and Skinners,—to spur on the more moderate men from Virginia to excesses which they reluctantly gave into at the time, and have since been ashamed of. Who hurried the bill suspending the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* through a trembling servile senate, in consequence, as he did not blush to state, of a *verbal*\* communication from the president? A senator from Massachusetts and professor in her venerable university. In short, have not your first statesmen (such I believe was the reputation of the gentleman in question at the time) your richest merchants and the majority of your delegation in congress vied in support of the men and the measures that have led to our present suffering and humiliated condition.

If you wished to separate yourselves from us, you had ample provocation in time of peace, in an embargo the most unconstitutional and oppressive; an engine of tyranny, fraud and favoritism. Then was the time to resist (we did not desert England in a time of war) but you were then under the dominion of a faction among yourselves, yet a formidable minority, exhibiting no signs of diminution; and it is not the least of my apprehensions from certain proceedings to the eastward, that they may be made the means of consigning you again, and forever, to the same low, insolent domination. The reaction of your jacobins upon us (for although we have some in Virginia, they are few and insignificant) through the men at Washington (“who must conciliate good republicans”†) is dreadful. Pause, I beseech you pause! You tread on the brink of destruction. Of all the Atlantic states you have the least cause to complain.—Your manufactures, and the trade which the enemy has allowed you, have drained us of our last dollar. How then can we carry on the war? With men and steel—stout hearts,

\*The constitution admits of the suspension of this writ only when invasion, or insurrection, shall assume such a shape as to make it indispensable.—And yet a bill passed the senate for that purpose, without any official communication from the president of the existence of the one or the other fact, upon which alone it could be bottomed. The honorable senate sat with closed doors. The yeas and nays were not taken, and no record remains of the names of those who voted against it. If that body was unanimous (as is believed) in the vote, this omission was well advised.

† A Virginian and New England republican are about as much alike as an English whig and a French democrat.

and willing hands—and these from the days of Darius and Xerxes, in defence of the household gods of freedom, have proved a match for gold. Can they not now encounter paper? We shall suffer much from this contest, it will cut deep: but dismissing its authors from our confidence and councils for ever (I speak of a few leaders and their immediate tools, not of the deluded, as well in, as out of authority) we shall pass, if it be the good pleasure of Him whose curses are tempered with mercies, through an agony and a bloody sweat, to peace and salvation; to that peace which is only to be found in a reconciliation with H. M. "Atheists and madmen have been our law givers," and when I think on our past conduct I shudder at the chastisement that may await us. How has not Europe suffered for her sins! Will England not consider, that, like the man who but yesterday bestrode the narrow world, she is but an instrument in his hands, who breaketh the weapons of his chastisement, when the measure of his people's punishment is full?

When I exhort to further patience—to resort to constitutional means of redress only, I know that there is such a thing as tyranny as well as oppression. And that there is no government however restricted in its power, that may not, by abuse, under pretext of exercise of its constitutional authority, drive its unhappy subjects to desperation. Our situation is indeed awful. The members of the union in juxta position—held together by no common authority to which men can look up with confidence and respect. Smitten by the charms of Upper Canada, our president has abandoned the several states to shift for themselves as they can.—Congress is *felo de se*. In practice there is found little difference between a government of requisitions on the states, which these disregard, or a government of requisitions on the people, which the governors are afraid to make until the public faith is irretrievably ruined. Congress seemed barred by their own favorite act of limitations, from raising supplies; prescription runs against them. But let us not despair of the common wealth. Some master spirit may be kindled by the collision of the times, who will breathe his own soul into the councils and armies of the republic; and here indeed is our chiefest danger. The man who is credulous enough to believe that a constitution, with the skeleton of an establishment of 10,000 men, not 2,000 strong, (such was our army three years ago) is the same as with an army of 60,000 men, may be a very amiable neighbor but is utterly unfit for a statesman. Already our government is in fact changed. We are become a military people, of whom more than of any other it might have been said—*fortunatos sua si bona norint*. If under such circumstances you ask me what you are to do, should a conscription of the model of Bonaparte be attempted? I will refer you to its reputed projector, colonel Monroe. Ask him what he would have done, whilst governor of Virginia and preparing to resist federal usurpation, had such an attempt been made by Mr. Adams and his ministers; especially in 1800. He can give the answer.

But when you complain of the representation of three-fifths of our slaves, I reply that it is one of the articles of that compact, which you submitted to us for acceptance and to which we reluctantly acceded.—Our constitution is an affair of compromise between the states, and this is the master key which unlocks all its difficulties.—If any of the parties to the compact are dissatisfied with their share of influence, it is an affair of amicable discussion, in the mode pointed out by the constitution itself, but no cause for dissolving the confederacy. And when I read and hear the vile stuff against my country

printed and uttered on this subject, by fire-brands who ought to be quenched forever, I would remind, not these editors of journals and declaimers at clubs, but their deluded followers, that every word of these libels on the planters of Virginia, is as applicable to the father of his country as to any one among us; that in the same sense that we are "slave holders" and "negro drivers" and "dealers in human flesh" (I must be pardoned for culling a few of their rhetorical flowers) so was he, and whilst they upbraid Virginia with her Jeffersons and her Madisons, they will not always remember to forget that to Virginia they were indebted for a Washington.

I am, with the highest respect and regard, dear sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN RANDOLPH, of Roanoke.

## Proceedings of Congress.

*Brief abstract of things necessary to be known and preserved.*

### SENATE.

Friday, Dec. 2. The bill (reported some days ago) to authorize the purchase of the library of Thomas Jefferson, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The bill to extend Oliver Evans's patent for steam engines, was read a third time, passed, and sent to the house for concurrence.

The following motion of Mr. Anderson, made some days ago, was taken up, and agreed to:

*Resolved*, That the committee to whom was referred so much of the message of the president of the United States as relates to naval affairs, be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making provision by law, that the officers and crews of the vessels authorized to be built or purchased, by an act passed the 15th day of November, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, may be entitled to receive the whole of the prize money which may arise from the sale of such vessel or vessels, and their cargoes, as they may capture, and which may be condemned as good prize according to law; and that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

The bill further in addition to an act, entitled "an act more effectually to provide for the national defence by establishing a uniform militia throughout the United States," reported by Mr. Worthington (lately a senator from Ohio) was taken up and considered.

On motion of Mr. Horsey to postpone the further consideration of the same to the 1st Monday in December next—in other words to reject the bill—the vote stood as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, Gore, Goldsborough, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason, Smith, Tait, Taylor, Thompson, Turner, Walker—16

NAVS—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Bledsoe, Chase, Condit, Gaillard, German, Lacoek, Morrow, Roberts, Varnum, Wharton—12.

Mr. King, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry bankers and merchants of New York on the subject, reported a bill to in-

\* One of our great complaints against the mother country, previous to the declaration of independence, was the repeated rejection, by the crown, of our bills abolishing the slave trade. With our connexion with Great Britain that traffick ceased. England thus forced upon us, for the benefit of the merchants of Bristol, the very slaves whom we are now reproached with holding, and whom she disciplines for our destruction. Does she forget Jamaica and Barbadoes.



incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America. [This bill is materially of the same character as the first reported by the committee of ways and means.] The bill was read and passed to a second reading.

*Tuesday, Dec. 6.*—Mr. Tait, from the committee on naval affairs, reported a bill for the appointment of certain naval officers (three admirals)—which was read and passed to a second reading.

The bill from the house to provide for the defraying the expences of the government, and for the payment of the public debt, by additional duties on whiskey, &c. was taken up, considered and amended.

A motion was made by Mr. German of N. Y. to strike out that section of the bill which authorizes the sale by distillers of liquors in any quantity not less than one gallon; which question was decided in the affirmative by the following vote: for the motion 15; against it 13.

A motion was then made by Mr. Bledsoe of Ky. to strike out twenty cents (the proposed additional duty per gallon) and insert *fifteen*; which motion was rejected as follows:

**YEAS**—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Bledsoe, Chase, Lacombe, Morrow, Roberts, Turner, Walker, Wharton—10.

**NAYS**—Messrs. Brown, Condit, Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason, Smith, Tait, Taylor, Thompson, Varnum—19.

The question on the passage of this bill to a third reading, as amended, was decided in the affirmative by the following decisive vote:

**YEAS**—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Brown, Chase, Condit, Daggett, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lacombe, Lambert, Mason, Morrow, Roberts, Smith, Tait, Taylor, Thompson, Turner, Varnum, Walker, Wharton—27.

**NAY**—Mr. Bledsoe.

The house then resumed the consideration of the national bank bill—Mr. Mason's motion to reduce the capital from fifty to twenty millions yet under consideration. Mr. Smith of Md. opposed, and Mr. King of N. Y. supported the motion—And the bill was postponed to to-morrow.

*Wednesday, Dec. 7.*—The bill authorizing the appointment of certain naval officers was read a second time.

The senate took up the amendments of the house of representatives to the bill sent from this house making further provision for filling the ranks of the army of the United States, which they agreed to.

The senate resumed the consideration of the bill to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America.

Mr. Mason's motion to reduce the proposed capital of the bank from *fifty* to *twenty* millions being yet under consideration—

An able and comprehensive debate arose as well on the expediency of the proposed bank as on the particular motion before the senate, in which Mr. King supported and Messrs. Bibb of Geo. Taylor and Smith opposed the reduction of the capital.

The question was then taken on Mr. Mason's motion, and decided as follows:

**YEAS**—Messrs. Brown, Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, German, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason, Thompson—13.

**NAYS**—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Bledsoe, Brent, Chase, Condit, Gaillard, Lacombe, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Smith, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Walker, Wharton—18.

So the motion was lost.

The bill proposes that subscriptions shall be forthwith opened for *forty* millions of the capital stock. Mr. Mason moved to strike out *forty* and insert *thirty* in lieu thereof; and a division of the question being required by Mr. Dana—

The question on *striking out* the word *forty* was negative, by precisely the same vote as that just recorded.

After making further progress in the bill, the senate adjourned.

*Thursday, December 8.* The bill to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America, was further discussed; and amendments proposed thereto, some of which were agreed to, and others rejected.

The question to engross the bill for a third reading (a decisive question) exhibited the following result in favor of the bill:

**YEAS**—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Bledsoe, Brent, Chase, Condit, Gaillard, Lacombe, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Smith, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Walker, Wharton—18.

**NAYS**—Messrs. Brown, Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, German, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason, Thompson—13.

*Friday, December 9.* The bill from the house for laying additional duties on carriages and carriage harness, as amended in the senate, ordered to a third reading.

The bill making additional appropriations for the service of the year 1814, and the bill requiring the staff officers of the army to comply with the requisitions of marine and naval officers in certain cases, were ordered to be read a third time.

The engrossed bill to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America, was read a third time. The question "shall the bill pass?" was decided by the following vote:

**YEAS**—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Bledsoe, Brent, Chase, Condit, Lacombe, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Smith, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Walker, Varnum, Wharton—17.

**NAYS**—Messrs. Brown, Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason, Thompson—14.

So the bill was passed and sent to the house for concurrence.

*Saturday, December 10.* The bill to provide for defraying the expences of the government and for the maintenance of the public credit, by duties on carriages and carriage harness; the bill to require staff officers of the army to comply with the requisitions of naval officers in certain cases; and the bill making additional appropriations for the service of the year 1814; were read a third time and passed, and the first and last of them returned to the house for concurrence in the amendments.

*Tuesday, December 13.* The bill authorizing the appointment of certain naval officers therein named, was read a third time and passed.

[The bill authorizes the president of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, to appoint one vice-admiral, and two rear admirals; and fixes their compensation.]

No other legislative business of moment has been done by the senate within the two last days.

*Wednesday, Dec. 14.* The senate resumed the consideration of the bill to lay additional duties on sales at auction, postage on letters, and retailer's licences.

Mr. Horsey moved to strike out of the bill the section laying an additional duty of fifty per cent on the present rates of postage.

This motion was decided thus:

**YEAS**—Messrs. Daggett, Dana, German, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason, Smith, Thompson—11.

**NAYS**—Messrs. Bibb, Bledsoe, Chase, Condit, Fromentin, Gaillard, Morrow, Roberts, Tail, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Walker, Wheaton—14.

This bill having been otherwise amended, was ordered to a third reading.

The senate re-considered its vote to amend the whiskey tax bill by striking out the section allowing distillers to sell any quantity of liquor not less than one gallon; and having determined to insist thereon, and request a conference on the same with the house, Messrs. Taylor, King and Bledsoe were appointed managers thereon on the part of this house.

Mr. Gore gave notice that he should to-morrow ask leave to bring in a bill for allowing to the widow of the late vice president his salary for the remainder of the term for which he was elected.

**Thursday, Dec. 15.** The bill from the house for laying additional taxes on sales at auction, postages and retailer's licences, as amended, was read a third time, and the amendments sent to the senate for their concurrence therein. The following was the vote on the passage of the bill.

**YEAS**—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Bledsoe, Brown, Chase, Condit, Fromentin, Gaillard, Liscock, Mason, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Smith, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Walker, Wharton—19.

**NAYS**—Messrs. Daggett, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Thompson—7.

Mr. Gore, agreeably to notice given by him having obtained leave, introduced a bill, "authorising the payment to the widow of Elbridge Gerry, deceased, late vice-president of the United States, of such salary, as would have been payable to him during the residue of the term for which he was elected, had he so long lived;" which bill was read and passed to a second reading.

The amendments of the house to the senate's militia draft bill, were read, and, on motion of Mr. Smith, referred to the military committee.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

**December 1.**—A report was received from the secretary of the navy relative to the cost, expenditures and state of the navy yard. The house resolved to meet at ten o'clock in the morning for the remainder of the session.

The engrossed bill to provide additional revenue for defraying the expenses of government and maintaining public credit, by duties on sales at auction, on the postage of letters, and on licenses to retail wines, spirituous liquors, and foreign merchandise, was read a third time. The question on the passage of the bill was decided by the following votes:

**YEAS**—Messrs. Alexander, Alton, Anderson, Avery, Barbour, Bard, Bayly, of Va. Bowen, Bradley, Brown, Burwell, Butler, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cannon, Chappell, Clark, Clifton, Constock, Condit, Conrad, Cox, Crawford, Craighon, Cuthbert, Dana, Davis, of Penn. Denoyelles, Desha, Duvall, Earl, Eppes, Evans, Farrow, Fisk, of Va. Fisk, of N. Y. Forney, Forsyth, Franklin, Gaston, Goddard, Gholson, Glasgow, Goodwin, Gourdin, Griffin, Grosvenor, Hall, Harris, Hasbrouck, Hawes, Hopkins, of Ken. Howell, Hubbard, Humphreys, Ingham, of Mass. Ingham, Irving, Irwin, Johnson, of Virg. Johnson, of Ken. Kennedy, Kent, of N. Y. Kent, of M. Kerr, Kershaw, Kilbourn, Lefferts, Lowndes, Lyle, Macon, McCoy, McKee, McKim, McLean, Montgomery, Moore, Murfree, Nelson, Newton, Oakley, Ormsby, Parker, Pearson, Piper, Pleasant, Rea, of Penn. Rhea, of Ten. Rich, Roane, Robertson, Sage, Seybert, Sharp, Sheffield, Skimmer, Smith, of N. Y. Smith, of Penn. Smith, of Virg. Stanford, Stockton, Stuart, Tammehill, Taylor, Telfair, Troup, Udree, Ward, of N. J. Williams, Wilson, of Penn. Winter, Yancey—114.

**NAYS**—Messrs. Baylies, of Mass. Bigelow, Boyd, Bradbury, Clumpton, Cilly, Cooper, Davenport, Davis, of Mass. Ely, Hale, Hendon, Hurbert, Jackson, of R. I. King, of Mass. Lewis, Law, Lovett, Miller, Mosely, Markell, Pickens, Pitkin, J. Reed, Ruggles, Schureman, Shipperd, Sturges, Taggart, Thompson, Vose, Ward, of Mass. Webster, Wheaton, Wilcox—32.

So the bill was past and sent to the house for concurrence. The engrossed bill to provide additional revenue for defraying the expenses of government and maintaining public credit, by duties on carriages, &c. was then read a third time and passed without debate, by the following vote:—For the bill 120—Against it 24. The president's message, communicating the despatches from Genl. was received and read.

**December 2.**—The speaker laid before the house a letter from the secretary of the treasury, in reply to one from the speaker requiring a warrant for money to defray the charges of this house, appraising him that, the appropriation on this head being exhausted, a further provision therefor by law was necessary. The letter was ordered to lie on the table, on the intimation of Mr. Ingham that the committee of ways and means were about to act on the subject.

The bill from the senate to call out 80,430 militia was discussed in committee of the whole, and substantially agreed to. The house then took up the other bill from the senate to fill the ranks of the army—"[This bill authorizes the enlistment of minors and a motion to strike out that part of it was lost—83 to 51.] Afterwards some time was spent on the volunteer bill.

**December 3.**—Progress was made in the bill to fill the ranks of the army, and in some other business.

**December 5, (Monday).**—Mr. Eppes from the committee of ways and means reported a bill supplemental to the act authorizing a loan for the several sums of twenty-five millions of dollars and three millions of dollars, which was twice read and committed.

[This bill authorizes the issuing by the treasury department of the amount of any part of the authorized loans not borrowed, or not having come into the treasury, treasury notes, in lieu thereof, in the usual form.]

The house took up the bill for filling the ranks of the army—an amendment was made so that the recruit under twenty-one years of age should be allowed four days, unextended, after enlistment, to re-consider and withdraw the same. The bill was then ordered to a third reading 92 to 55, as follows:

**YEAS**—Messrs. Alexander, Alton, Anderson, Archer, Avery, Barbour, Bard, Barnett, Bines, Bowen, Bradley, Burwell, Calhoun, Cannon, Chappell, Clark, Clifton, Constock, Condit, Conrad, Crawford, Crouch, Cuthbert, Dana, Davis, of Penn. Denoyelles, Desha, Duvall, Eppes, Fisk, of N. Y. Forney, Forsyth, Franklin, Gholson, Goodwin, Gourdin, Griffin, Hall, Harris, Hasbrouck, Hawes, Hopkins, of Ken. Hubbard, Humphreys, Ingersoll, Ingham, Irving, Irwin, Johnson, of Virg. Johnson, of Ken. Kennedy, Kerr, Kershaw, Kilbourn, King, of N. C. Lefferts, Lowndes, Lyle, McCoy, McKee, McKim, McLean, Montgomery, Moore, Nelson, Newton, Ormsby, Parker, Pickens, Piper, Pleasant, Rea, of Penn. Rhea, of Ten. Rich, Roane, Robertson, Sevier, Seybert, Sharp, Skimmer, Smith, of Virg. Tammehill, Taylor, Telfair, Troup, Udree, Ward, of N. J. Williams, Wilson, of Penn. Yancey—92.

**NAYS**—Messrs. Baylies, of Mass. Bayly, of Virg. Bigelow, Boyd, Bradbury, Breckenridge, Brigham, Butler, Caperton, Cilly, Cox, Culpepper, Davenport, Davis, of Mass. Ely, Gaston, Goddard, Grosvenor, Hale, Henderson, Howell, Hurbert, Jackson, of R. I. Kent, of N. Y. King, of Mass. Lewis, Lovett, Macon, Mosely, Markell, Oakley, Pearson, Pickering, Pitkin, Patter, John Reed, Wm. Reed, Ruggles, Schureman, Shiple, Shipperd, Smith, of N. Y. Stanford, Stockton, Sturges, Taggart, Thompson, Vose, Ward, of Mass. Webster, Wheaton, White, Wilcox, Wilson of Mass. Winter, —55.

**December 6.**—The volunteer bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading—read a third time, passed and sent to the senate.

The bill to fill the ranks of the army was read a third time as amended and passed—95 to 52, and sent to the senate for concurrence. Several other bills were progressed in.

The house, on motion of Mr. Eppes, of Virg. resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Breckenridge, of Va. in the chair, on the bill supplemental to the act authorising a loan for 25 millions, and the act lately passed authorising a loan of three millions for the service of the current year.

[The first section of the bill authorizes the secretary of the treasury, with the approbation of the president of the United States, to direct treasury notes to be prepared, signed and issued for and in lieu of so much of the sum authorized to be borrowed on the credit of the United States, by the twenty-five million and three million loan acts, as has not been borrowed or otherwise employed in the issue of the treasury notes according to law, provided the whole amount so to be issued shall not exceed 750,000, and applied to the same uses as the loans so authorized were intended to be applied.

The second section authorizes the issuing of treasury notes in like manner for a further sum of three millions, to defray the expenses of the war department for the remainder of this year, and one million for the navy department.

The third, fourth, fifth and sixth sections provide these treasury notes shall be, in the same form and possess the same qualities as the treasury notes already authorized, be redeemable in the same manner, appropriate money therefor, &c. as well as for the expenses of issuing and distributing said notes and for punishing counterfeiters thereof.]

The bill having been read through—

Mr. Eppes quoted extracts from the letter last received from the secretary of the treasury, which we take this opportunity to publish at length, viz:

Washington, Dec. 9, 1814.

Sir—Your letter of the 27th of November has been referred to the committee of ways and means, and I am instructed to ask for the amount of the payments to be made during the present quarter on account of the public debt; the funds prepared to meet those payments, and any other information which may enable the committee to decide as to the necessity of adopting additional measures for meeting the public engagements during the present quarter of the year.

I have the honor to be your most obedient,

JOHN W. EPPES.

Honorable Mr. Dallas,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Treasury Department, December 2, 1814.

Sir—Have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated this morning, stating that nine of the 27th of November, addressed to the committee on a national bank, has been referred to the committee of ways and means.

In my communications to the committees of congress, I have never been disposed to disguise the embarrassments of the treasury. A frank and full development of existing evils will always, I hope, be best calculated to secure the attention and exertion of the public authorities; and, with legislative aid, I am still confident, that all the difficulties of a deficient revenue, a suspended circulating medium, and a depressed credit, may be speedily and completely overcome. My only apprehension arises from the lapse of time; as a remedy which would be effectual to-day, will, perhaps, only serve to increase the disorder to-morrow.

In answering the enquiries of your letter, permit me to state: 1st. The amount of the payments which were to be made during the whole of the present quarter on account of the public debt, and the funds prepared, or applicable, to meet those payments: 2d. The payments that remain to be made and the funds that remain to meet them, for the residue of the quarter: and, 3d. General information in relation to additional measures, for meeting the public engagements.

1st. point. It is respectfully stated, agreeably to an estimate which was formed on the 4th of October, 1814:

Dr.	
1. That during the quarter commencing the 1st of Oct. 1814, and ending the 1st of January, 1815, including both days, there was payable for the principal and interest of treasury notes, during the whole quarter, chiefly at Boston, New-York and Philadelphia, a sum of	4,457,000 80
2. That during the same period, there was payable for the principal and interest of temporary loans, at Boston, Baltimore and Charleston, the sum of	771,125
2. That during the same period, there was payable in dividends upon the public funded debt, at the several loan offices, the sum of	1,000,000
	dolls. 7,128,124 80

Cr.

1. That there were bank credits scattered throughout the United States, on the first of October, 1814, amounting by estimate to	2,500,000
2. That there was receivable from the customs during the whole quarter, the sum of	1,800,000
3. That there was receivable on account of the sales of public lands, during the same period, a sum of	160,000
4. That there was receivable on account of the internal duties and direct taxes, during the same period, a sum of	900,000
5. That there was receivable on account of loans, during the same period, a sum of	1,700,000
6. That there might be obtained, upon an issue of treasury notes, during the same period, a sum of about	2,570,000
	dolls. 9,560,000

From which it results,

1. That the amount of the whole payments for dividends of public debt, for temporary loans, and for treasury notes, during the whole of the current quarter, was	7,128,124 80
2. That the amount of the whole of the estimated receipts of the treasury, was	9,560,000
Leaving a surplus of receipts of	dolls. 2,431,875 20

It is believed that this estimate, formed upon official facts and experience, would have been substantially realized in the event, if the banks had not suddenly determined to suspend their payments in specie. But for that occurrence, the dividend on the public debt would have been punctually paid to the individual creditors of Boston on the first of October last; the transfer of the public funds from one place to another place, in order to meet the public engagements, would have continued easy and certain; the credit and use of treasury notes (limited to the specified amount) would probably have been preserved; and the revenue arising from duties and taxes, would not have been materially intercepted, if at all in its passage to the treasury, by payments in treasury notes.

2. Point.

Dr.	
1. That of the principal and interest of the treasury notes; payable during the present quarter, and which have already fallen due, there remains on this day unpaid, at the places mentioned in the schedule A, the sum of	1,902,680 80
2. That the principal and interest of the treasury notes which will become due on or before the first of January, 1815, at the places mentioned in the schedule B, amount to	1,143,720
3. That the dividends on the public debt payable on the first of January, 1815, at the places mentioned in schedule C, amount to the sum of	1,373,000
4. That the principal and interest of temporary loans, payable during the present quarter, and contracted at the treasury, in part execution of the author-	

ity granted by the act of congress, passed the 14th of March 1812 and payable at Boston on the fifteenth and thirty first of December, amount to

506,875

dolls. 5,526,275 80

Cr.

1. That on the 23th ultimo, there were bank credits in the banks specified in the schedule D, applicable to the payment of the public debt during the present quarter (deducting the amount of bank credits (\$13,000) which, as it could not be transferred for the payment of public debt, has been recently applied to the appropriations for the war and navy departments) amounting to	2,371,287 13
2. That the amount receivable during the remainder of the present year, on account of the loan of 6 millions, applicable, also, to the payment of the public debt, if no failure in payment occurs, will be about	450,000
3. That the estimated amount, receivable during the remainder of the present year, on account of customs, applicable, also, to the payment of the public debt (subject, however, to various contingencies, such as the non-payment of bonds, the payment of bonds in treasury notes, &c. may be stated at	350,000
4. The estimated amount, receivable during the remainder of the present year, on account of the sales of public land, subject, however, to contingent payments in treasury notes, may be stated at	150,000
5. The estimated amount, receivable during the remainder of the present year, for internal duties and direct tax, subject, however, to contingent payments in treasury notes, may be stated at	450,000
	dolls. 3,772,287 13

From this second view of the debt and credit of the account, limited merely to the payment of the public debt, becoming due for the residue of the present quarter, it appears,

1. That the debt amounts to the sum of	5,526,275 80
2. That the resources to pay the debt (excluding the sum applied to the army and navy departments as before stated, and excluding the possible proceeds of new loans, and new issues of treasury notes, for the single purpose of paying public debt) amount to	3,772,287 13
	dolls. 1,753,988 67

The difference between the results of the statements, under the first and second points, will be accounted for, by the unexpected effect of payments in treasury notes, on account of duties, taxes and lands; by the total cessation of the use of treasury notes, either to pay the public creditors or to raise money; and by an unavoidable variance in estimates, depending upon a variance in the state of information at the treasury. A priority of payment may be justly claimed by the holders of the funded debt; and, therefore, it is proper to add,

1. That the amount of public credit, as estimated in the preceding statement, is the sum of	3,772,287 13
2. That the amount of the dividend on the old and new funded debt, payable on the first of January, 1815, is the sum of	1,873,000
3. And that, consequently, the surplus of the resources, after satisfying that single object, is the sum of	dolls. 1,899,287 13

It will be observed, that these estimates do not include, as an item of the debt, the dividend of the funded debt, amounting to 2,000,000 dollars, which was not actually paid to the individual creditors at Boston on the 1st of October last. But it is omitted, because an adequate fund in the state bank was seasonably provided for the occasion, and the usual treasury draft was issued in favor of the commissioners of loans, so as to deduct a corresponding amount from the bank credits of the government. The state bank declined, for several reasons (which it is unnecessary to repeat) paying in coin, or in bank notes, and most of the public creditors refused to accept the treasury notes, which the banks offered to them, as an alternative payment. It is not considered, that, under these circumstances, connected with the general state of the circulating medium (which places the power of the government to meet its engagements, on the same footing with the power of the most opulent of its citizens) there can exist any just reproach upon the public credit, or resources. But, nevertheless, efforts have been anxiously made by this department, and are still in operation, to satisfy the public creditors, independent of the fund which was originally set apart, and which still remains on deposit at the state bank, by all the remaining means at the disposal of the treasury.

Nor, on the other hand, have I included in the statement of our resources to pay the public debt, the unexecuted authority to borrow upon public loans, and to issue treasury notes. I have only included the items of revenue, which, in ordinary times, would be deemed certain and effective; reserving any surplus of those items, with the loan and the treasury notes, to meet the general appropriations for the public service.

Third point.—It is respectfully stated, that the non-payment of the treasury notes, and the hazard of not being able to pay the di-

vidend on the public debt, according to the respective contracts, was chiefly (I believe entirely) owing to the suspension of specie payments at the banks, and the consequent impracticability of transferring the public funds, from the place in which they were deposited to the place in which they were wanted. I have endeavored, therefore, to induce the banks, as the performance of an act of justice, not inconsistent with their interest, or their policy, to assist in alleviating the fiscal embarrassments of the government, which they have thus contributed to produce. The answers to my last proposition (of which a copy is annexed, in schedule E) have not been received.

But the danger of depending upon gratuitous aids (of depending indeed, upon any thing but the wisdom and the vigilance of congress) strikes, with every day's experience, a deeper impression upon the mind. In speaking, therefore, of additional measures for meeting the public engagements, during the present quarter of the year, I derive great satisfaction, in reflecting upon the inevitable and immediate effect of the legislative sanction (even so far as it has already been given) to a settled and productive system of taxes, for defraying the expenses of government, and maintaining the public credit. This policy, embracing, in its course, the introduction of a national circulating medium, and the proper facilities for anticipating, collecting and distributing the public revenue, will, at once, enliven the public credit, and even the existing resources of the present quarter, must ripen and expand under an influence so auspicious. But something may be conveniently and usefully added. For instance:

1. A discretionary authority may be given, by law, to issue treasury notes, for the amount of the sums now authorized to be raised by law.
2. An authority may be given, by law, to transfer bank credits, from one place to another place, in order to meet the public engagements allowing a reasonable rate of exchange.
3. Appropriations may be made, by law, to defray the extra expenses of the war and navy departments, during the present year, and a general authority may be given, to borrow, or to issue treasury notes, to supply any deficiency in former appropriations for those departments, and for the payment of the public debt, the treasury notes and the civil list.

The present opportunity enables me to assure you, sir, that I am preparing, with all possible diligence, to report to the committee of ways and means, upon the subjects which they have been pleased to confide to me.

1. The tax-bills are numerous, new in some of their principles, and complicated in most of their details; nor are the best sources of information at hand. They will, however, be drafted, and sent to the committee in succession.
2. The plan for establishing a competent sinking fund is under consideration, and will, probably, be ready to be reported, before the tax-bills are passed.
3. The estimates for the expenses of 1815; the annual appropriation bill; and the bills to authorize a loan, and an issue of treasury notes for that year, are, also, objects of attention.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant.  
A. J. DALLAS.

*John W. Eppes, esq. chairman of the committee of ways and means.*  
Mr. Eppes then examined the object of this bill, which was to carry into effect the secretary's recommendations, except that part which relates to the transfer of funds from one quarter to another, which they had determined to postpone until the question relating to a national bank should have been finally acted on, &c.

The blanks in the bill were then filled, on motion of Mr. Eppes, with seven and a half millions to supply the possible deficiency in the two loans, and with three millions for the deficiency in the provision for the military, and one million for the deficiency in the provision for the naval service for the remainder of the present year.

No debate took place on the principle of the bill. Some discussion and amendment took place on the section for purchasing counterweights of the bills, in which Messrs. Gaston, Ward and Hopkins of Ken. took part.

The committee at length rose and reported the bill; which, the amendments having been concurred in, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to-morrow.

The house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on motion of Mr. Eppes, on the bill making further appropriations for the support of the government during the remainder of the year, Mr. Lewis in the chair.

Mr. Eppes read a letter he had received from the secretary of war in relation to the deficiency of appropriations in that department; from which it appeared that though it was impossible to ascertain with precision at this time the number of militia in service during the past summer, there was little doubt but their expenses would greatly exceed the appropriations made for those objects.

On motion of Mr. Eppes, the blanks in this bill were then filled with three millions for the military department, one million for the naval department and other sums for the expenses of congress, &c. &c.

And the committee rose and reported the bill, which was amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. Rogers laid upon the table, without debate, the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, That the committee on military affairs be instructed to report to this house a bill or bills for classifying the free white population of the United States from the age of twenty-one years to the age of forty-five years, for the purpose of drafting therefrom a sufficient number annually to fill up the ranks of the regular army.
2. Resolved, That the committee on naval affairs be instructed to report to this house a bill or bills for the immediate, constant and gradual augmentation of the navy of the United States by adding

annually (with the least possible delay in the amendment and progress of the system) to the ships of the line, frigates, sloops of war and other vessels now built or building.

The consideration of them not being required at this time, they lie on the table of course.

The remainder of this day's sitting was occupied in committee of the whole, on the consideration of the bill authorising the president to call into service 80,430 militia for the defence of the United States.

Thursday, December 8. The engrossed bill "supplemental to the acts authorizing a loan for the several sums of 25 millions of dollars and three millions of dollars," was read the third time and passed.

The engrossed bill making additional appropriations for the service of the year 1814, was read a third time and passed.

Friday, December 9. Mr. Eppes reported two bills for supporting the public credit—the first to lay a duty on various goods, wares and merchandise manufactured within the United States, and the other to tax horses kept exclusively for the saddle or carriage, and on gold and silver wares.

The bill respecting militia drafts was discussed in committee of the whole. A motion to strike out the first section was discussed at length; negatived, only 44 rising in favor of it.

Saturday, Dec. 10. The bill from the senate "to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America," was twice read and referred to the committee of ways and means.

The house resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of the whole of the senate's bill to authorize the president to call into service 80,430 militia for the defence of the United States.

Mr. Stockton moved that the said bill be indefinitely postponed. After a heavy debate, negatived—55 for, 93 against it. Several ineffectual motions were now made to adjourn, &c.

The house then proceeded to consider and separately to agree to all the amendments reported by the committee of the whole. That amendment made in the committee of the whole, on motion of Mr. Eppes to reduce the term of service of the militia to be drafted, from two years to one year, was agreed to by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Barbour, Bard, Bayles, of Mass. Bradbury, Bradley, Breckenridge, Brigham, Burwell, Butler, Caperton, Cannon, Clopton, Culpepper, Cuthbert, Desha, Ely, Eppes, Fisk, of Va. Franklin, Gaston, Gholson, Goodwyn, Grosvenor, Hale, Harris, Hawes, Henderson, Humphreys, Johnson, of Va. Kennedy, Kent, of Md. Kerr, King, of Mass. Lewis, Lovett, Macon, McCoy, McLean, Moore, Mosley, Piper, Pitkin, Pleasant, Johnston, Rich, Roane, Ruggles, Seybert, Sheffield, Skirmir, Smith, of Va. Stanford, Vose, Ward, of Mass. Ward, of N. J. White, Wilcox, Wilson, of Mass. Wright—60.

NAYS—Messrs. Anderson, Archer, Avery, Barnett, Bines, Bowen, Brown, Caldwell, Calhoun, Chappell, Clark, Constock, Condict, Conrad, Crawford, Creighton, Couch, Deweyde, Fisk, of N. Y. Forbes, Fort, Gourdin, Griffin, Hasbrouck, Hopkins, of Ky. Hubbard, Ingersoll, Ingham, Irving, Irwin, Johnson, of Ken. Kershaw, Kilsbaura, King, of N. C. Lefferts, Lyle, McKim, Newton, Ormsby, Parker, Pickens, Pickens, Rhea, of Penn. Rhea, of Ten. Robertson, Sage, Sharp, Smith of Pa. Tannehill, Taylor, Taylor, Udree, Webster, Williams, Wilson, of Penn. Yancey—57.

A motion was then made by Mr. Macon to amend the bill, as recommended by the select committee of this house, so as to place the apportionment on the basis of free white population, instead of the basis of representation in congress on which the senate had placed it.

At the yeas and nays having been required on this motion—

The house at length adjourned, a little before 8 o'clock, after a sitting of nearly ten hours.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill from the senate authorising a draft of 60,430 militia, for the defence of the frontiers.

The motion of Mr. Macon, to place the apportionment of the draft on the basis of military strength (or free white population) instead of the basis of representation on which it now stands, being under consideration,

Mr. Kennedy supported the motion at considerable length; and other gentlemen spoke for and against the motion; which was at length decided in the negative by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Archer, Barbour, Bard, Barnett, Bayly, of Virg. Bines, Breckenridge, Burwell, Caperton, Caldwell, Chappell, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Crawford, Culpepper, Desha, Eppes, Evans, Fidelity, Forbes, Franklin, Gaston, Gholson, Glasgow, Goodwyn, Hall, Hawes, Humphreys, Ingham, Johnson, of Va. Johnson, of Ky. Kennedy, Kent, of Md. Kerr, Deslaw, King, of N. C. Lewis, Macon, McCoy, McKim, Montgomery, Moore, Nelson, Newton, Ormsby, Pearson, Pickens, Pleasant, Roane, Robertson, Sevier, Sharp, Seyler, Smith, of Va. Stanford, Smart, Tannehill, Telfair, White, Wilson, of Penn. Wright, Yancey—66.

NAYS—Messrs. Avery, Bayles, of Mass. Bigelow, Bowen, Boyd, Bradbury, Bradley, Brigham, Brown, Butler, Calhoun, Cannon, Chappell, Ciley, Constock, Condict, Cooper, Cox, Creighton, Couch, Cuthbert, Daag, Davis, of Mass. Davis, of Penn. Deweyde, Ely, Farrow, Fisk, of N. Y. Forsythe, Gaddis, Griffin, Grosvenor, Hale, Harris, Hasbrouck, Henderson, Hopkins, of Ky. Hubbard, Ingersoll, Irving, Irwin, Jackson, of R. I. Kent, of N. Y. Kilbourn, King, of Mass. Law, Lefferts, Lovett, Lowndes, Lyle, McKee, Miller, Mosley, Morrice, Markell, Oakley, Parker, Pickens, Piper, Pitkin, Potter, John Reid, Wm. Reid, Ren of Penn. Rhea, of Ten. Rich, Ruggles, Sage, Schreiner, Seybert, Shipperd, Slaymaker, Smith, of N. Y. Smith, of Pa. Stockton, Sturges, Tarrant, Taylor, Thompson, Troup, Udree, Vose, Ward, of Mass. Ward, N. J. Webster, Wheaton, Wilcox, Williams, Wilson, of Mass. Winthrop—61.

The bill having been further amended—  
A motion was made by Mr. Webster of N. H. to amend the bill by striking out these words, as applied to the term of service of the drafted militia—"for the term of one year from the time of

meeting at the place of rendezvous unless sooner discharged" and to insert these words "to serve for the term prescribed by existing laws," that is to serve for six months instead of one year.

On this motion a question of order arose, when the speaker decided it to be in order, and his decision being appealed from, was confirmed by yeas and nays, 129 to 29.

After some debate on this point, the question on Mr. Webster's motion was decided as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Avery, Baylies, of Mass. Bayly of Va. Bigelow, Boyd, Bradbury, Bradley, Breckenridge, Brigham, Burwell, Butler, Caperton, Chapman, Cilly, Comstock, Cooper, Cox, Culppeper, Davenport, Davis of Mass. Davis of Penn. Denoyelles, Ely, Farrow, Gaston, Geddes, Gholson, Grosvenor, Hale, Harris, Henderson, Howell, Irwin, Jackson of R. I. Kennedy, Kent of N. Y. Kerr, King of Mass. Law, Lewis, Lovett, Macco, Miller, Moseley, Markell, Nelson, Oakley, Ormsby, Pearson, Pickering, Pitkin, Potter, J. Reed, W. Reed, Rich, Ruggles, Schureman, Sheffield, Shipard, Skinner, Slaymaker, Smith of Va. Stanford, Stockton, Sturges, Taggart, Thompson, Vose, Ward of Mass. Webster, Wheaton, White, Wilcox, Williams, Wilson of Mass. Winter, Wright—78.

NAYS—Messrs. Alston, Anderson, Archer, Barbour, Bard, Barnett, Bines, Bowen, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cannon, Chappell, Clark, Clopton, Condit, Conrad, Crawford, Creighton, Crouch, Culbert, Dana, Desha, Durall, Earle, Eppes, Findley, Fisk of Va. Fisk of N. Y. Forney, Forsyth, Franklin, Goodwyn, Gourdine, Griffin, Hall, Hasbrouck, Hawes, Hopkins of Ky. Hubbard, Humphreys, Ingersoll, Ingham, Irving, Johnson of Va. Johnson of Ky. Kent of Md. Kershaw, Kibbourn, King of N. C. Lowndes, Lyle, McCoy, McKee, McKim, McLean, Montgomery, Moore, Newton, Parker, Pickens, Piper, Pleasants, Rea of Penn. Rhea of Tenn. Roane, Robertson, Sage, Sevier, Seybert, Sharp, Smith of Penn. Tammell, Taylor, Telfair, Troup, Udree, Ward of N. J. Wilson of Penn. Yancey—79.

So the motion was negatived by a majority of one vote.

Tuesday, December 3.—The bill respecting militia drafts being again before the house—and Mr. Wright's motion to reduce the term of service to seven months (made yesterday) being under consideration. After debate, the proposition was rejected—71 for 84 against it.

Mr. Baylies of Mass. moved to amend the bill by adding thereto the following as a new section:

"And be it further enacted, That the militia called forth by virtue of this act shall not be liable to perform any service, except such as may be necessary to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or execute the laws of the union.

This motion was negatived by yeas and nays—104 to 58.

Mr. Kilbourn moved to extend the term of service to one year and eight months—yeas 68 for, 95 against it. Mr. Fisk of Va. moved that the bill should be recommitted. After a short speech from Mr. Johnson on the necessity of pushing on business, the previous question was called for by Mr. Ingersoll, which being proposed in the usual form, was agreed to, 101 to 57.

The main question, viz. on the engrossing of the amendments and ordering the bill to be read a third time, was decided in the affirmative by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Anderson, Archer, Avery, Barbour, Bard, Barnett, Bines, Bowen, Brown, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cannon, Chappell, Clark, Clopton, Comstock, Condit, Conrad, Crawford, Creighton, Culbert, Davis of Penn. Denoyelles, Desha, Durall, Earle, Eppes, Evans, Farrow, Findley, Fisk of N. Y. Forney, Forsyth, Franklin, Glasgow, Goodwyn, Gourdine, Griffin, Hall, Hasbrouck, Hawes, Hopkins of Ken. Humphreys, Ingersoll, Ingham, Irving, Irwin, Johnson of Va. Johnson of Ken. Kent of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, Kilbourn, King of N. C. Ledfers, Lowndes, Lyle, McCoy, McKee, McKim, McLean, Moore, Murtree, Nelson, Newton, Ormsby, Parker, Pickens, Piper, Pleasants, Rea of Penn. Rhea of Tenn. Roane, Robertson, Sage, Sevier, Seybert, Sharp, Smith of Penn. Smith of Va. Tammell, Taylor, Telfair, Troup, Udree, Ward of N. J. Williams, Wilson of Penn. Yancey—91.

NAYS—Messrs. Baylies of Mass. Bayly of Virg. Bigelow, Boyd, Bradbury, Bradley, Breckenridge, Brigham, Burwell, Butler, Caperton, Chapman, Cilly, Cooper, Cox, Culppeper, Dana, Davenport, Davis of Mass. Ely, Fisk of N. Y. Gaston, Geddes, Gholson, Grosvenor, Hale, Harris, Henderson, Howell, Hubbard, Jackson of R. I. Kennedy, Kent of N. Y. King of Mass. Law, Lewis, Lovett, Macco, Miller, Moseley, Markell, Oakley, Pearson, Pickering, Pitkin, Potter, John Reed, W. Reed, Ruggles, Schureman, Sheffield, Shipard, Skinner, Slaymaker, Smith of N. Y. Stanford, Stockton, Sturt, Sturges, Taggart, Thompson, Vose, Ward of Mass. Webster, Wheaton, White, Wilcox, Wilson of Mass. Winter, Wright—71.

And the said bill was ordered to be read a third time to-morrow. On motion of Mr. Eppes, the house in committee of the whole, took up the tax-bills last reported, and made some progress therein.

Wednesday, December 14.—Mr. Fisk of N. Y. from the committee of ways and means, reported a number of amendments to the bill from the senate "to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America;" which were read, and, with the bill referred to a committee of the whole.

Mr. Eppes offered for consideration the following resolution: Resolved, That the committee on post-roads be instructed to enquire whether any and if any what change ought to be made in the compensation allowed to post-masters; and whether any, and if any, what change ought to be made in the right of franking. Agreed to.

The bill from the senate to call upon the several states and territories for their respective quotas of 80,430 militia for the defence of the frontiers against invasions, was read a third time as amended. Mr. Ward of Mass. and Mr. Gaston of N. C. spoke at considerable length in opposition to the bill, and Mr. Farrow in favor of it.

The previous question having then been required by Mr. Rhea, the motion was then taken and decided as follows:

For the previous question	87
Against it	63

The main question on the passage of the bill was then taken, and decided in the affirmative by the following vote:

For the bill	84
Against it	72

After several ineffectual attempts to amend the title of the bill, it was adopted without any further amendment than the insertion of 80,000 instead of 80,430, to make it correspond with the contents of the bill.

Thursday, Dec. 15. The House, on motion of Mr. Eppes, of Va. resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill "to provide additional revenues for defraying the expenses of government, and maintaining the public credit, by laying duties on various goods, wares and merchandise manufactured within the United States."

[The bill proposes to lay on the following manufactures the duties specified in the following extract from the bill: on

- Pig iron, per ton, one dollar.
- Castings of iron, per ton, one dollar fifty cents.
- Bar iron, per ton, one dollar.
- Rolls or slit iron, per ton, one dollar.
- Cut nails, brads and sprigs, made wholly, or in part, by machinery, per pound, one cent.
- Candles of spermaceti or white wax, per pound, ten cents.
- Mould candles of tallow, or of wax other than white, or in part of each, per pound, three cents.
- Dipt candles of tallow, or of wax other than white, or in part of each, per pound, one cent.
- Hats, caps, of leather or fur, and bonnets, except made entirely from wool, silk, cotton or linen, or in part from each, or which, if made from other materials, shall not exceed in value one dollar and fifty cents, eight per centum ad valorem.
- Paper, five per centum ad valorem.
- Playing cards, fifty per centum ad valorem.
- Saddles and bradles, six per centum ad valorem.
- Boots and booties, exceeding five dollars per pair, in value, five per centum ad valorem.
- Beer, ale and porter, six per centum ad valorem.
- Tobacco, segars, and snuff, twenty per centum ad valorem.
- Leather, including the rein all hides and skins, whether tanned, tawed, dressed, or otherwise made, on the original manufacture thereof, ten per centum ad valorem.

Mr. Eppes assigned at some length the reasons why the committee had, on these manufactures, departed occasionally from the instructions of the house, and generally preferred an ad valorem to a specific duty; the principal of which was the great variety in quality and denomination of these articles, which, whilst it would make specific duties exactious, would render them liable to continual evasions. All the articles proposed to be dutied, he further said, pay a much higher duty when imported, and, whilst the last section of the bill limited the operation of the tax to the continuance of the double duties now imposed by law, no article had been selected for taxation which it was believed the United States could not manufacture in abundance for their consumption. In the present situation of the country, conceiving it unnecessary to say any thing on the necessity of imposing additional taxes, he waved any remarks on that head.

Mr. Baylies, of Mass. moved to strike out the following words in the above enumeration: "cut nails, brads and sprigs, made wholly or in part by machinery, one cent per pound." And supported his motion in a speech of some length. Mr. Eppes replied, and the motion was negatived, yeas 39.

Mr. King, of Mass. then proposed a reduction of the tax on nails, Negatived—yeas only 34. Mr. Forney moved to reduce the tax on pig iron—negatived. Then the tax on hollow ware—negatived.

Mr. Wheaton proposed to modify the tax on hats, so as to except those made of straw, which was agreed to. A motion to strike out the tax on leather was negatived, yeas only 42. Mr. Mason moved to amend the clause taxing hats, by striking out one dollar and fifty cents and inserting two dollars—agreed to.

Mr. Wilson, of Mass. moved to amend the above extract, by striking out all the proposed taxes, except those on pig iron, castings, bars and rolls and slit iron, playing cards, beer, ale and porter, and tobacco, segars and snuff, and to insert in lieu thereof the following:

- And on flour, 50 cents per bushel.
- corn, 5 cents per bushel.
- rye, 5 cents per bushel.
- cotton, 2 cents per pound.
- hemp, 2 cents per pound.
- sugar, 2 cents per pound.
- rice, 1 cent per pound.
- tobacco, 1 cent per pound.

On copper and leaden ore, and coal of mines, ten per cent, ad valorem. On steam engines, if employed in factories, 50 dollars: if employed in propelling boats, 100 dollars; and when an exclusive privilege chargeable therewith, 200 dollars.

On officers, created by authority of the United States, whose emolument, by salary or perquisites, shall annually exceed 1,500 dollars, and not exceed 5,000 dollars, one per centum, and on those which exceed 5,000 dollars, five per centum, on such excess, except those officers whose emoluments are prohibited from diminution by the constitution: Provided, that so much of each of the foregoing products, as shall be consumed by the owner, shall be exempted from taxation.

Mr. Wheaton supported his proposition by a train of reasoning, at length—but the yeas for it were only 13.

Mr. Fisk, of N. Y. moved to amend the bill so as to exempt from the operation of the tax, all such customs as the government may have contracted for to be delivered at stipulated prices. This motion was opposed by Mr. Eppes, and negatived, by a decided majority.

Mr. Oakly moved to strike out the articles of dipt candles; which motion was supported by Mr. Eppes, and decided in the affirmative by a large majority.

Mr. Oakley moved to exempt from taxation altogether all mould candles of tallow. Negatived by a large majority.

Mr. Reed moved to strike out spermaceti candles—decided in the affirmative—yeas 54, nays 50.

Mr. Udree of Pa. moved to amend the clause for taxing iron castings, by adding thereto the following proviso:

"Provided, That all castings made use of in furnaces and forges shall be exempted from paying the duty thereon." Negatived by a large majority.

Mr. Pitkin then moved to reduce the proposed tax on leather from ten to five per cent. Negatived. He then moved to strike out the proposed tax on pig iron—negatived yeas 32.

Mr. Baylies moved to strike out five per centum, the proposed tax on paper, and insert three in lieu thereof. This motion was supported by Mr. Epps, and decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Bridbury, of Mass. then moved to exempt from the clause for taxing paper, such paper as is used for printing newspapers. He said it had been the policy of free governments to encourage the diffusion of information, which this tax would have a tendency to check, &c.

Mr. Epps opposed this motion, not from any disposition to suppress newspapers, because he did not believe it would have this effect; but because he believed the proprietor of a newspaper who by his business made his fair or five thousand dollars a year, was as fit a subject for taxation as the manufacturer, many of whom derived less profit from their business, &c.

The motion was negatived by a large majority. The house proceeded to the discussion and amendment of the Bill. And, about 4 o'clock the committee rose and reported their proceedings to the house—and

The house adjourned.

Friday, December 16. The amendments of the senate to the bill for laying additional duties on sales at auction, postage, and retailer's licenses, were taken up and referred to the committee of ways and means.

The house resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of the whole on the bill to impose duties on certain goods, wares and merchandize.

The proposed exemption of spermaceti candles was concurred in—53 to 50; also of dipt candles, 83 in the affirmative. *Visiting cards* were subjected to the same tax as playing cards—63 to 29. Mr. Baylies renewed his motion, to exempt nails—lost 39 for, 106 against it. Mr. Bigelow moved to strike out the clause for taxing nails "made wholly or in part by machinery"—negatived. Mr. Bigelow renewed his motion about leather—lost 57 for 97 against it. Mr. Kerr moved to reduce the tax on manufactured tobacco to 10 per cent—negatived, yeas 34.

Mr. Oakley moved to amend the first section of the bill so as to reduce the proposed tax on *cutlery* from ten to five per cent, and to remove which motion, after considerable debate, was agreed to by the following vote:—For the motion 10—Against it 53.

Mr. Kilbourn, then moved an amendment, the object of which was to tax candles of spermaceti, at the rate of three cents per pound; which motion prevailed, by the following vote:

For the motion	71
Against it	51

Mr. Wheaton moved to amend the bill by adding, after the clause for taxing cut nails, &c. the following words—"when sold"—This motion was negatived.

Mr. Shipley moved to amend the bill so as to confine the proposed tax on paper to *writing and letter paper*; under the idea that those qualities of paper could best afford to pay a tax, and from a desire to exempt from taxation all printing paper, and such papers as is used in schools, and in common printers' and mechanics' shops, &c. &c.

Mr. Tagham remarked, that the gentleman had unfortunately selected for taxation the two qualities of paper which could best bear it. He was himself opposed to any discrimination in the tax.

Mr. Shipley's motion was negatived by a large majority.

Mr. Pitkin renewed his call upon the attention of the house to what he deemed the impolicy of the tax on pig iron. He dwelt upon the impolicy of taxing the raw material of manufactures; and added, that there was not in this article, as in others, any duty on its importation, &c. It was reported, if at all, duty free.

The question on this motion was decided in the negative, by yeas and nays, by the following vote:

For the motion	43
Against it	97

Mr. Forney then moved to strike out the words, "leadings of steel" in one dollar and fifty cents; and to insert in lieu thereof "bolts and wire, one dollar per ton; all other castings, seventy-five cents per ton;" which motion was negatived.

Mr. Knapp's made a motion to reduce the tax on candles of whale wax, from ten cents per pound to three cents per pound; which motion was negatived.

Mr. King of Mass. then moved to reduce the duty on nails, springs and brads, from one cent per pound to half cent per pound; which motion was negatived.

Mr. Woodbury moved to amend the clause taxing paper, by inserting thereafter the words "except such as shall be used in printing of bibles, tracts, and common school books;" which motion was negatived.

And the bill was then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to-morrow—and the house adjourned.

Wednesday, December 17.—The house resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of the whole house on the bill to provide additional revenue for defraying the expenses of government in maintaining the public credit, by laying duties on household furniture, on horse kept exclusively for the saddle or for carriage, and on gold and silver watches; and the amendments made to the same in committee of the whole were read and concurred in by the Yeas.

The following are the taxes included in the bill: On all household furniture, kept for use, the value of which in any one family with the exception of beds, bedding, kitchen furniture, and articles in the family from domestic materials, shall exceed 20 dollars in value, a tax to be laid according to the following scale:

If not exceeding 400 dollars,	Dols. 1 00
Above 400 and not more than 600	1 50
Above 600 and not more than 1000	3
Above 1000 and not more than 1500	6
Above 1500	2000
2000	2000
3000	4 00
4000	6 00
6000	9 00
If above 9 00	100

One dollar and fifty cents for every horse kept exclusively for the saddle; one dollar and fifty cents for every horse kept for use in a carriage liable to be taxed; and one dollar and fifty cents for every horse kept for the use of both saddle and carriage.

Two dollars on every gold watch, and one dollar on every silver watch, kept for use.

Several unsuccessful attempts were made to amend the bill; amongst which was one by Mr. Gaston, to strike out so much of the bill as includes the tax on household furniture; which was decided by yeas and nays, as follows:—For the motion 52—Against it 97.

The bill was, after considerable discussion on the various amendments proposed to it (in the course of which Mr. Law of Conn. made a speech of great length against the bill on general grounds of opposition to the present administration, which was pretty warmly replied to by Messrs. Epps and Wright)—ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The engrossed bill "to provide additional revenues for defraying the expenses of government and maintaining the public credit by laying duties on various goods, wares and merchandize manufactured within the United States," was read a third time and passed by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Anderson, Archer, Avery, Barbour, Barnett, Bayly, of Va. Bines, Bowen, Bradley, Brown, Burwell, Butler, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cannon, Chappell, Clark, Clapp, Davis, of Va. Deane, Conrad, Crawford, Crighton, Cuthbert, Darnall, Davis, of Va. Denoy-Hess, D-shia, Duvall, Eppes, Evans, Farow, Fendley, Fish, of Va. Fisk, of N. Y. Forney, Forsyth, Franklin, Gholson, Glasgow, Goodwin, Gourdin, Griffin, Hall, Harris, Hasbrouck, Hawes, Hopkins, of Ky. Howell, Hubbard, Humphreys, Ingersoll, Ingham, Irving, Irwin, Johnson, of Va. Johnson, of Ky. Kennedy, Kerr, Kilbourn, King, of N. C. Le Rays, Lyle, McCoy, McKee, McKim, McLean, Montgomery, Moore, Mottree, Nelson, Newton, Oakley, Ormsby, Parker, Parkens, Piper, Pleasants, Rea, of Pen. Rhea, of Ten. Rich, Riggsdell, Roane, Sage, S-vice, Sharp, Skinner, Smith of N. Y. Smith, of Pa. Smith, of Va. Strong, Tannehill, Taylor, Telfair, Udray, Ward, of N. J. Williams, Wilson, of Pa. Wright, Yancey—102.

NAYS—Messrs. Baylies of Mass. Bigelow, Bradbury, Breck-ridge, Brigham, Caperton, Champion, Cilley, Cooper, Culp-pper, Davenport, Ely, Gaston, Goddes, Grosvenor, Hal-Henderson, Jackson, of R. I. King, of Mass. Law, Lewis, Lovett, Macon, Miller, Mosely, Markell, Pearson, Pickering, Pitkin, Putney, J. Reed, Wm. Reed, Ruggles, Schreeman, Shreve, Sherwood, Shipley, Shynaker, Stanford, Stockton, Stuart, Sturges, Taggart, Thompson, Vose, Ward, of Mass. Webster, Wheaton, White, Wilcox, Wilson, of Mass. Winter—55.

By a report, from Mr. Epps, and a message from the senate, it appeared that the bill for laying a duty of twenty cents per gallon on distilled spirits had passed both houses. After which he recommended a concurrence with all the amendments of the senate to the bill laying duties on postage, auction sales and retailer's licenses except one—which was agreed to.

Monday, December 19.—Mr. Burwell of Virg. laid upon the table the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on military affairs be instructed to report a bill directing the secretary of war to reserve from the regular troops furnished by the militia of any state in lieu of their own services, a sufficient number to perform garrison duty within each state.

The bill for laying duties on household furniture, or horses kept exclusively for the saddle or carriage, and on gold and silver watches, was passed—132 to 46.

The house in committee of the whole then took up the bill for laying a direct tax. The bill proposes to double the present tax, and raise six millions.

Tuesday, December 20.—Mr. Stockton offered for consideration the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee of ways and means be instructed to inquire into the constitutionality and expediency of imposing a direct tax on the district of Columbia, and the several territories of the United States, and that the committee be further instructed to enquire into the propriety and expediency of authorising the several corporations within the district to impose a direct tax on the public property therein.

Mr. Epps moved to lay the resolution on the table.—Negatived. Mr. Stockton's motion was then agreed to.

The bill for laying a direct tax was then taken up—several amendments proposed, and considerable discussion had, which occupied the house until sunset. The amendments proposed were all negatived.

Wednesday, December 21.—Of the bill for laying a direct tax of six millions, Mr. Yancey moved to strike out the section that pledges the continuance of this tax to support the public credit, to extinguish the debt, &c. on which a considerable debate ensued. It was finally rejected; yeas 18, nays 108, as were many other proposed amendments. The house adjourned at five o'clock.

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS

FROM GHENT. *From the Philadelphia Gazette*—We have made it a point to inquire of an intelligent and correct gentleman who passed many weeks at Ghent previous to the 28th October, and who had daily opportunities, and those of the best, to ascertain the public opinion at that place, what was the relative degree of estimation in which the American and British ministers were held there. He informs us that the marks of attention to the American legation, by the public authorities, as well as individuals of Ghent, unequivocally manifested their high sense of the political skill and personal worth of the members composing the mission.

On the 27th of October, the anniversary of the academy of Sciences and fine arts at Ghent, the American ministers were unanimously elected members of the institution, and invited to partake in the exercises of the occasion—they accordingly attended. An oration on the objects of the institution was delivered; and in the evening a sumptuous banquet was served up to a numerous company. The British commissioners were not present; nor do we know that they were invited.—The first toast was the Prince of Orange—second, the Intendant of Ghent—third, the Mayor—and the fourth given by the Intendant was, “Our distinguished guests and fellow members, the American ministers; may they succeed in making an honorable peace, to secure the liberty and independence of their country.”\* The effect which this toast produced was like instantaneous thunder; and some minutes elapsed in tumultuous applause before Mr. Adams had an opportunity to address the company. On behalf of the American legation, he returned thanks for the very flattering manner in which they had been treated by the municipality of Ghent; and particularly for the unexpected and undeserved honor conferred on them by the academy. He then made some remarks on the importance and great usefulness of the fine arts, and concluded by giving as a toast,

*“The Intendant of the city of Ghent.”*

Our informant adds, that the entertainment was attended, not only by the members of the city, but some distinguished strangers. It was a splendid, and to the Americans present, a most interesting and gratifying scene.”

On reading the above who will not suppose that the good people of Ghent, who treated our ministers so politely and wished them to effect an honorable peace, are under “*French influence*!” But to be serious, the fact is, and we are proud of it, that the name of an American is respected every where but among the partisans of ideot-royalty.

SOUTHERN COAST. *Savannah, Dec. 5.*—It was reported that Mr. Dubignon, and Mr. Hall, had raised a breast work on Jekyl island with the bales of cotton they had re-captured from the enemy's barges, that in the reconter with several of the barges, they were repulsed with the loss of 7 killed and 6 or 7 wounded. They afterwards however, effected a landing on Jekyl, and plundered Mr. Dubignon of 6000 dollars in specie, and carried off 35 of his prime negroes.

If the statements in the West India papers are to be believed, the expedition against New Orleans will be very formidable. All the force in those islands, together with the troops late in the Ches-

\*On this toast being announced an elegant band of music struck up the American air of “*Mail Columbia*,” which was received by the company with enthusiastic applause.

apeake appear to have been collecting early in last month, and it is thought the whole may amount to from 12 to 15,000 men.

A REASON AGAINST PEACE, in England, (says the N. Y. *Columbian*) is given by Mr. Calquhoun, the celebrated statistical writer of London. He calculates that peace will throw out of employment, 25,000 British officers, (naval and military, of different grades,) 2000 clerks, and 250,000 non-commissioned officers and privates. What an immense number of people, of all nations and tongues, not including those employed in the manufacture of arms, munitions of war &c. are kept by the English government engaged in the work of human butchery.

MURDER OF DR. MOLLY.—It is well known to the United States, that last winter the British crossed at Lewistown and took possession of fort Niagara and burned all the houses from Niagara to Buffalo, excepting two houses near the falls, and one at Buffalo in which a widow St. John lived—how these houses escaped I never learned, but I saw the whole which were burned, and the three that remained last July when I crossed into Canada, and went with major-general Brown, and general Scott, and encamped within about one mile and a half of Fort George; but the cowardly murderers prudently kept in their fort and dare not look us in the face until we returned back to Queenstown. When I was on the ground I had not heard of the murder of doctor Molly, and all the sick and wounded soldiers; had I heard of this strange barbarity, I would have looked into the remains of some large stone houses, and I make no doubt I would have seen the poor soldiers' bones among the rubbish. Tears fill my eyes when I attempt to publish the horrid barbarity of the savage British, who have so many partisans among us, who endeavor to excuse or palliate all that our enemies do—this conduct will not always go unpunished.

The British entered the house at Lewistown in which the sick soldiers and wounded lay, and notwithstanding all the entreaties, shrieks and cries of the helpless soldiers, not a life was spared; and it is reported that the houses were burned before they were all dead. Dr. Molly was a practitioner at the Eleven Mile Creek; of a humane and amiable character, and had gone to Lewistown merely as an act of benevolence, to render medical aid to the sick and wounded; seeing such barbarity, he entreated them to save his life, for he had never born arms against them, &c. His answer was profane oaths, and one of them ran his bayonet through his abdomen, and as he drew it out his bowels followed it. The good man placed his hand on his own bowels, and walked six miles to Fort Niagara, and in fifteen minutes bid a final adieu to this wicked world. Let this serve to perpetuate the memory of this good man. If any citizen can read his narrative without shedding a briny tear, I confess his nerves are stronger than mine.

I was not fully determined to publish this narrative, or I should have obtained leave to have published their names, for they lived here then, and are still living at Eleven Mile Creek, and while I was there I quartered in one of their houses. In witness to this I hereunto set my name, and station in the army.

DAVID JONES,  
Chaplain 9th district

Nov. 30, 1814.

HARTFORD CONVENTION met on the 15th, as proposed, in the council chamber of the state-house.—George Cabot was elected president, and Theodore Dwight, of Con. secretary. The business was opened by praying—after which the following delegates were recognized:

From *Massachusetts*—Messrs. George Cabot, William Prescott, Harrison Gray Otis, Timothy Bigelow, Stephen Longfellow, Daniel Waldo, George Bliss, Nathan Dane, Hodijah Baylies, Samuel Sumner Wilde, Joseph Lyman and Joshua Thomas.

From *Rhode Island*—Messrs. Daniel Lyman, Samuel Ward, Benjamin Hazard, and Edward Manton.

From *Connecticut*—Messrs. Chauncey Goodrich, James Hillhouse, John Treadwell, Zephaniah Swift, Nathaniel Smith, Calvin Goddard, and Roger Minton Sherman.

And, that, from the state of *New-Hampshire*, in the counties of Cheshire and Grafton, Messrs. Benjamin West and Mills Olcott, had been elected in county conventions in their respective countries, and were entitled to seats in the convention. And the *Hartford Mercury*, says, that on the day of the meeting "the citizens displayed the American flag thro' the day, with the English flag beneath at half mast. Three of the meeting-house bells tolled a solemn knell, and the United States' band of music played appropriate (funeral) marches through the streets. Upon the whole, we are fully satisfied that the people generally expect nothing good from this convention."

What else they have done, except to appoint two priests for chaplains, is unknown—for they sit with closed doors. A letter to the editor from *Hartford* informs us, that this proceeding was very ungraciously received by the people.

COUNTERFEITING.—The *Quebec Gazette* says "counterfeit army bills, of the denomination of two five and ten dollars, are in circulation, believed to have come from the United States, and possibly countenanced by the American government."

[The American government will "countenance" no such thing. But if they did, they have many precedents afforded by the *British* government; who have been the most notorious forgers and counterfeiters in the world—witness our "continental money," the French assignats—and American mercantile papers, publicly sold at London, a little while since.]

TRASON.—*New London Dec. 7*.—A special circuit court of the United States was held in this city, on Wednesday last, for the trial of John Lester, jr. and Daniel Keeny jr. charged with the crime of treason, in supplying the British squadron off this harbor, in giving information, &c. The trial of Lester took up the whole day. One or two of the witnesses, who were before the examining magistrate, were absent on the trial, and forfeited their recognizance; in consequence of which, the overt act was not proved by two witnesses. The jury found Lester not guilty; and the cases being similar, the attorneys dismissed the prosecution against Keeny. Some very pertinent advice was given to the prisoners at the time of their discharge, which it is to be hoped may prevent the necessity of similar prosecutions against other offenders.

[Though we have more traitors than there are in all the world—yet, we believe, that no one has been capitally punished for that crime. It should be better defined, or the farce of adjudication abolished.]

Spain is travelling rapidly from Boston, &c. to *Castine*; and the want of it is about to be as severely felt by the late purse-proud people of that quarter as any where else. If the enemy is not driven from that post, between smuggling and dealing, he will soon drain the whole eastern country, which has nothing else than the cash to give in exchange for his goods. The trade with *Amelia* has a very different effect—there the rich products of the south keeps the business equalized, and makes it profitable to both parties.

BRITISH OPINIONS. From the *Quebec Mercury*,

November 15—"The humiliation of the *Northern* states is evidently the interest of Great Britain. A maritime rivalry is more to be dreaded by the United Kingdom from the federal states than from the southern states. The more the eastern states are crippled, the less is that rivalry to be apprehended, at least for a time.—The enmity, then, of the democratic party to the federalists ought in good policy to be rather cherished than suppressed. The more the two parties weaken each other, the better they serve the interests of Great Britain. Indeed Great Britain needs not a better auxiliary than the jealousy of the southern against the northern states. A peace would heal those divisions; wherefore peace is an event that may be considered, perhaps, at some distance, however desirable it might be in other points of view."

TRADE. It is well known, (says the *Boston Daily Advertiser*) that for some time past, there has been a constant importation of goods, principally, we believe at *Hampden*, from *Castine*, under neutral flags. A very large amount of goods, which have been regularly entered, the duties being secured according to law, is now on the way between the port of entry and this place. We are informed that orders have been just issued to the marshal for the seizure of all these goods, on the ground that *Castine* not being a British port, but a port of which the enemy have only military possession, a trade by neutrals between it and a port of the United States is not a legitimate neutral trade.

Copy of a letter from the secretary of the treasury to the commissioner of loans at Boston, published by request, for the information of all concerned.

Treasury department, November 9, 1814.

Sir—The depressed state of the public credit at Boston, has constantly engaged my attention since my arrival at Washington, with a view to devise the means of relieving it. The suspension of specie payments at the Banks, deprived the government of the power to pay its creditors in gold and silver, and this additional inconvenience followed from that measure, that the bank credits, belonging to the government, could not be transferred from the states, respectively, in which they existed, to any other state, in order to discharge the public debts, where they became due and payable. Every intelligent and candid citizen will perceive, therefore, that the government was unable to avert, or to control, this course of events. If, however, the measures now under the consideration of congress, should be speedily and successfully put into operation, I feel the greatest confidence, that not only the treasury, but that the nation, will be essentially relieved, from the prevailing pecuniary embarrassments.

In the meantime, I am desirous to offer to the public creditors, both on account of the stock interest due in October last, and the treasury notes since due, every accommodation, which this department can furnish, as treasury notes have been refused: You will be pleased therefore to make the following propositions to them:

1. That they subscribe the amount of their respective claims at par to the loan of 6,000,000, opened by the late secretary of the treasury, on the terms of that loan.
2. Or that they accept in payment of their respective claims, drafts on those banks (principally seated to the south and west of Philadelphia) in which there are deposits of public money.

Mr. MIRCUREL, late agent for prisoners at *Hali-fax*, has arrived at *New-York* in a cartel, being ordered from the *British* territory in a peremptory manner. This measure is said to have been adopted in consequence of the refusal of our government



to receive a certain *Gilbert Robertson* in the same capacity here. The reason that *Robertson* was not accepted, is stated to be entirely personal. He resided in New York at the commencement of the war, and reported himself as an alien, but departed from the district that had been allotted him *without permission*, and got on board the enemy's squadron off New London.

Mr. Mitchell was not allowed to appoint any one in his place. He states that about the 20th Nov. between 4 and 500 Americans had been sent to England, and that there remained at Halifax 900 more. Among the passengers in the cartel were three of the citizens of Baltimore, captured in the attack on this city in Sept. last—the rest, being exchanged, will return in the next vessel.

THE BLOCKADE. In consequence of the "rigorous blockade" of all our coast, the famous privateer *Chasseur*, ship *Essex Junior*, and several other vessels for Europe and southern ports, sailed from New-York on the 21st instant!

## MILITARY.

Extract of a letter from major general Jackson to governor Early, dated

Head-quarters, 7th military district, near Fort Mifflin, November 16, 1814.

"Before this reaches you, information will have been received of my visit to Pensacola.—It was occasioned by the unprecedented conduct of the governor of Pensacola, in harboring, aiding, and countenancing the *British* and their red allies. I entered sword in hand, with about three thousand brave followers, in the face of Spanish batteries, and a British fleet of seven sail, anchored abreast and opposite the town.—The English, by intrigue and base falsehood, induced the Spaniards to abandon the works commanding the harbor, entered them and blew them up; otherwise they would have fallen a sacrifice to their own plans. When this took place, the fleet being at liberty to go out, did so; and I evacuated the town, leaving the Spaniards favorably impressed with our conduct, and disgusted with their British friends. The hostile Indians fled across the bay at our approach; and have, no doubt, lost all confidence in the assurances they have received of British protection.—They have retired, it is believed, towards Apalachicola in great alarm.

"The Seminolies, however, it appears, from information given by col. Hawkins, are preparing to assume an hostile attitude.—When they hear of the shameful manner in which the Red Sticks were deserted by their allies, they will wish to retract.

The following was in *M. S.*

Gen. Jackson was opposed by the Spaniards—and several men were lost on both sides in taking the town. The British retreated to their ships, from which they fired at Jackson, but without effect.—They attempted to decoy Jackson into the fort at the time the match was burning; but he cautiously avoided it until the tremendous explosion took effect, and injured none.

5th Dec. in the morning.

Gentlemen who have arrived at Charleston from Havana report that, "the conduct of the American force under gen. Jackson, in their late entry into Pensacola, was spoken of in the highest terms by the Spaniards. After general Jackson had evacuated the place, he sent in word to the inhabitants that if any of them had suffered loss of property to let him know it, and he would immediately make their loss good."

We have gen. *M. Arthur's* official letter. It is long, and was received at a late hour for insertion, and must be postponed. But we regret this the less because the substance of it has already been published in his "general orders," see page 239.

Maj. gen. Scott, it appears, is to command the 10th, as well as the 4th military district.

There are a variety of reports, and many reasons to believe they are well founded, that the British are preparing for a winter campaign on the frontiers adjacent to lake *Chumplain*. They are said to have engaged 1,000 sleighs and 10,000 buffalo robes, for the excursion; and many of the former, it appears, have been made for them within and by citizens of *Vermont*. The great object probably is first to destroy our fleet; though to provide for an eventual failure in this, it is positively said that they are building four large vessels, (frigates) at the Isle aux Noix, offering the enormous price of three dollars per day to American carpenters to assist them. It is intimated, however, that among that patriotic class of our fellow citizens they have found as yet very few villains. Our naval force on *Ontario* is to be increased.

## NAVAL.

The *Constitution* frigate, captain Stewart, sailed from Boston, some days ago, on a frigate-hunting expedition. The *New Castle*, a sort of a ship of the line, rating 50 guns, and carrying not less than 64, was in the neighborhood of that port. By the following from a Boston paper of the 17th, it appears possible that a battle may take place.

"By several persons who arrived from different parts of Cape Cod last evening we are informed that the *Newcastle*, British frigate, went ashore at 6 o'clock on Monday evening off Wellfleet shoal ground, about 13 miles from Provincetown, where she remained in a dangerous situation 18 hours, heeling off shore in from nine to twelve feet water at low tide. Three boats were manned to go to Provincetown to procure vessels to assist in getting her off, but the wind blowing fresh, they put ashore on different parts of the cape. Twenty-three men of the boats' crews seized this opportunity to desert, who had been seen by our informants. The frigate by starting her water, and throwing over spars and other articles, got off, and arrived at Provincetown about 4 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon. Ever since her arrival there, she has remained with springs on her cables, fearing an attack from the *Constitution*. This is the same ship which was in sight from this town on Monday."

It is stated that the keel of a 74 gun ship has been laid at Kingston, to be ready for the lake by the middle of March—and that a frigate, to carry 55 guns, that came out in frame from England, was to be launched on the 15th of this month.

From the *Wilmington, (N. C.) Gazette*.

We take pleasure in referring our readers to the interesting letter from Mr. Monroe to R. Cochrane, collector of this port, which at once evinces a determination on the part of our government to conduct the war according to the established rules of nations.

Copy of a letter from the secretary of state to Robert Cochrane, Esq. collector, dated

Department of State, November 25, 1814.

SIR—I have received your letter of the 12th inst. enclosing an extract from the journal of the private armed vessel *Midas*, of Baltimore, whereof Alex<sup>r</sup>. Thompson is the commander.

It appears by the extract, than on the 13th of September last, captain Thompson authorized a landing, with an armed force, from the *Midas*, at the plantation of a Mr. Barnett, on Royal Island, within the British dominions; and that the officer to whom it was confided, acting under an order from captain Thompson, "to set fire to the buildings," did actually "set fire to the whole, consisting of four handsome dwelling houses and fourteen negro huts."

The extract from the journal has been laid before the president; and, upon the unequivocal evidence which that affords of the wilful deviation of capt. Thompson from the instructions for the private armed vessels of the United States, issued at the commencement of the war, which enjoin "the strictest regard to the usages of civilized nations," he directs that the commission of the *Midas* be revoked; and you are requested, as that vessel is now within your district, to revoke the same accordingly.

In communicating to you this determination of the president, it is proper to remark, that, by whatsoever acts of flagrant outrage, upon defenceless towns and property of unarmed and unresisting individuals, the British naval and military officers on our maritime and inland frontiers, may have provoked or may hereafter provoke, severe measures of retribution, it is for the government alone to prescribe the manner and the means of retaliation.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES MONROE.

Robert Cochran, esq. Collector of the Customs, Wilmington, N. C.

*Baltimore.*—They had it at Antigua, November 7. that Baltimore had been destroyed by the "shield of afflicted humanity"—that it had been in possession of the British twenty-four hours, and that another of our frigates, the *Java*, was burnt!

A *Jamaica* paper has the following *quer* article, on the same subject. It is among the most comical accounts we have seen. It contains *an truth*, and that is the date of the attack—

"By the arrivals on Saturday, we are put in possession of some particulars of the landing of the British near Baltimore on the 1<sup>th</sup> ult. It appears that about 5000 troops, under the command of major general Ross, effected a landing within a few miles of the city, where they were met by the American force of about 9000 men, an obstinate engagement then took place, which continued nearly 48 hours, when the British finding that considerable reinforcements were coming up to aid the Americans, re-embarked, with a very trifling loss. General Ross was killed shortly after landing, while reconnoitering. Immediately after the embarkation of the troops, admiral Cochrane shifted his flag to the *Surprise* frigate, and with the small vessels and bombs, commenced a heavy bombardment against fort M'Henry; much damage must have been done, as the soldiers were seen flying in all directions. The city of Baltimore was also assailed, and considerable injury done to the buildings from the number of shells thrown; one vessel (the *Meteor*, now in port) having discharged near 300.

The Americans had undermined the lines at Baltimore, and it was their intention to have blown up the city, should the British have become the masters of it.

Captains Rodgers and Porter having been ascertained to be assisting in the defence of fort M'Henry, admiral Cochrane sent a flag with a message to captain Porter, reminding him that he was a prisoner of war on parole, and desired that he would immediately deliver himself up for the purpose of proceeding to Halifax, intimating at the same time, that if he refused to comply, he must expect to suffer death should he ever fall into the hands of the British, for violating the law of nations, he being a prisoner on parole, and engaged in defence of his country previous to being regularly exchanged, although he had solemnly agreed with captain Hilary, at the time captured, to respect rigidly this law—this was not complied with."

*London, September 24.*—A report of the taking of Baltimore has reached Plymouth, and is consistent enough in circumstance with all the previous movements with which we were acquainted in the Chesapeake bay. It is, however, supposed that this intelligence is as yet nothing more than an anticipation of what is likely to happen; and much as we shall hail every blow struck at these braggard and mischievous enemies, there is not a spot in the whole United States where an infliction of Britain's vengeance will be more entitled to our applause than on this sink of jacobinical infamy—Baltimore.

*Kingston, (Jam.) Nov. 9.* We have been favored with the following division order issued by colonel Brooke, after the attack on Baltimore:

*Head Quarters, North Point. 14th Sept. 1814*

The unfortunate and greatly to be lamented death of major general Ross, having placed the command of his majesty's troops, employed in the Chesapeake, in the hands of colonel Brooke, on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September; he begs the different officers in the com-

mand of brigades and corps to accept his thanks for their cool, steady, and determined conduct, against a much superior and strongly posted force of the enemy. They will be pleased also to communicate to the officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and seamen, under their command, the high sense he entertains, and the gratitude which he feels for their distinguished conduct, and irresistible valor, in using their utmost exertions to bring the enemy to the bayonet.

To capt. Carmichael he is much obliged for the manner in which he brought his guns into action.

To the staff of major general Ross, as well as to captain Mitchell, of the royal artillery, and captain Blanchard, of the royal engineers he is sensibly indebted for the handsome manner in which they offered their services. Captain Crofton, commanding the seamen of his majesty's ships, acting on shore, as also captains Sullivan, Money, and Ramsay, are greatly entitled to his best thanks, and he begs they will believe he most gratefully feels and values their very great exertions, witnessed by himself, in maintaining the utmost order and regularity amongst their men, during the hottest of the enemy's fire, and he will ever feel proud in having the brave sailors attached to the land force, which at any time he may have the honor of commanding.

POLITICAL DIVINITY. *From the N. Y. Columbian.*—"War is a national punishment for national sins." Good.

The English nation is more at war than any other is Christendom. True.

Then "the bulwark of our holy religion" is the greatest sinner in Christendom. Undeniable logic.

ANECDOTE. An American officer who carried a flag over to the British lines, after having dispatched the business of his mission, was invited by the British commanding officer to dinner. As usual, the wine was circulated, and a British officer being called upon for a toast, gave—Mr. Madison, "dead or alive," which the yankee drank without appearing to notice. When it came to the American's turn to give a toast, he gave—the Prince Regent, "drunk or sober." "Sir, said the British officer, bristling up and coloring with anger, that is an insult." No, sir, answered the American very coolly, "it is only a reply to one."—*Pet. Courier.*

All the subscribers to the REGISTER have been furnished with *our sine qua non*—and it is hoped that all will see the necessity, as well as justice, of complying with our demands, founded, as they are, on perfect reciprocity. The object of *striking off names*, is to reduce the waste and expence of paper, and it will be impossible that the files of individuals, which shall be broken by this unpleasant procedure, can be made good, without purchases from the beginning—as every one, so completed, would break a set of the work.

With a due sense of gratitude to the many gentlemen acting as *agents*, who are also my *friends*, it is right to say, I am convinced that a large portion of the trouble I have had on this account belongs to others, who have proffered their services but neglected, through other business, to perform the duties they voluntarily engaged. As they only stand in the way of some who would do my business, I invite all those who are unwilling, or unable, properly to see to my little affairs, to settle up as far as they have gone, and hand in their *resignations*.

A considerable portion of the quantity of matter in this sheet, though in a small compass, is allowed to a record of the proceedings of congress, which, for present reading or future reference, especially the latter, are very interesting.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 18 of VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1814.

[WHOLE NO. 174.]

*Hec clam meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann

## Agriculture, Manufactures and Commerce.

The following, communicated by an intelligent friend, has been on file several months. The time is apt for its publication, and we specially recommend consideration of it to the *Hartford convention* and other declaimers on *commerce*. I am not aware that any material errors exist in the calculations, so far as they go; and, certainly, the amount is very moderate. Many items might fairly be added which cost an immense sum annually, that pertain to neither of the general propositions. How loudly do these facts call upon us to *look at home*, and seek and secure, within ourselves, that comfort and happiness which the American people seem most happily situated to possess and enjoy. We are not the enemies of foreign trade, commonly called *commerce*—it acts well as an aid to *agriculture* and *manufactures*, and so far we esteem it; but its importance, compared with these, is like “a drop in the bucket.”

The various *manufactures* of the United States have probably exceeded the value of *three hundred millions of dollars* in the year that closes this day.—This is a reasonable estimate. Put the amount by the side of the most prosperous year of *commerce* and see how contemptible that thing is about which we make so much noise. *Commerce* produces nothing; and its profits, which, certainly, never have exceeded 20 millions in a year, (and I doubt if they have averaged the half of that sum) is all we can pass to its credit—whereas the amount made up by *agriculture* and *manufactures* contributes exactly so much to the wants, the conveniences, the luxuries, or the wealth of a country.

The writer of this article, altho' more connected with the external trade than the manufactures of his country, (in consequence of his business depending entirely on external commerce)—has long entertained an opinion that, compared with the internal trade of the United States, our commerce with foreign nations has been estimated at a value far beyond its real worth. From that foreign commerce we may date the bloody and expensive war in which we are now engaged, and which, it is probable, will swallow up all the profits that have really resulted directly from commerce since the revolution. But, as almost every evil has its attendant good, so this state of things may produce a revolution in opinion and action, the beneficial effects of which will be felt for ages to come, if we have the prudence to avoid war and foster the arts of peace. To render those opinions more clear to the reader, I shall venture upon some calculations. It will not be pretended, however, they are absolutely accurate, but will be found sufficiently so to verify the position I mean to assume, “that the value of our foreign commerce is trivial when compared with the sum requisite to supply the people of the United States with the necessaries, the conveniences, and the luxuries of life,” which they enjoy; and it is with much satisfaction that I avail myself of some of the sentiments of the editor of the *Emporium*, vol. V. page 278, on this subject.

After some curious examinations and calculations relative to the quantity of food necessary for the

maintenance of a person for one year, he gives his readers the following result:

“The grain required for one man per annum then will be 8 1 2 bush. a 125 cts.	\$10 62½
“Meat 365lb.” 1 lb. per day, at 6 cts.	21 90
“Whiskey”* or other drink equivalent to	15 00
“Fuel, vegetables, pepper, salt, &c.” may be fairly considered at least	7 47½
	\$55 00

He adds, “I am not at this time aware of any material fallacy in the above calculations;”—and further, “it follows then, that the yearly produce of our agriculture is worth 640 millions of dollars.” he afterwards says, “how the boasted mercies ‘on foreign trade dwindle into comparative insignificance when set in competition with this.” But tho' the above sum may appear, and really is an enormous one, we have to add to it the produce of our agriculture for the food of 1,400,000 horses, (see Blodget's tables) one and a half tons of hay per annum, for each horse, will make 2,250,000 tons at 10 dolls.

4 quarts of grain per day, 365 days, is	\$22,500,000
63,875,000 bushels, which at 40 cts. per annum is	25,550,000
For which add the above sum of	640,000,000

And we have the enormous amount of \$688,050,000

Taking the produce of our agriculture, as consumed in the United States, at	\$688,050,000
And the provisions exported in common times at 25 millions	25,000,000

We have as the whole product of our agriculture \$713,050,000

\*In the year 1810 the quantity of spirits distilled in the United States, were 24 millions of gallons nearly, at 50 cents per gallon; this will be 12 millions of dollars—cyder, beer, ale, wine, brandy, rum, &c. may possibly amount to 15 dollars for each inhabitant, which would be at the rate of 4 cents per day or something more, and is a large allowance, considering that probably more than one half of the population seldom drink any thing but water—one half the people of the United States are children under 17 years of age, and of the remainder near one half are females.

†The export of domestic produce and manufactures from the United States were in 1802, as follows:

Produce of the sea	1,481,000
the forest	4,978,000
agriculture	33,502,000
manufactures	2,174,000
uncertain	231,675
	42,366,675
Of foreign produce	24,391,295
	\$66,757,970
10 per ct. profit is	6,675,797

And assuming 8 millions as our present population, it is at the rate of 89 dollars to each individual for food and drink, and for the food of his horses, without taking into view the pasturage of 1,400,000 horses, for six months of the year, and which at 25 cts. per week, would amount to \$18,200,000.

Let us suppose the product of our agriculture to be per annum \$700,000,000

And apply again to the Emporium, page 279, "the dress of a labouring man cannot be estimated at less than 25 dollars per annum."

And as before assuming the population of the United States at 8 millions, we have as the cost of clothing our citizens for one year 200,000,000

Blodget, some years since, calculated the houses in the United States at 1,375,000, worth on an average 200 dollars (a low calculation) five per cent. may surely and safely be added for repairs of houses, and the erection of new ones per annum—this will be 13,750,000

Carriages, waggons, carts, stages and other carriages, chairs, sulks, &c. one to each 100 families, at 100 dollars each, is 8000 carriages—8000 carriages at 100 dollars each, is 800,000 dollars—suppose each of those carriages to sink its whole value, including cost of repairs, in seven years, the annual expence then will be 114,265

Calculations carefully made shew that the clothing of children (averaged at 7 years old) will cost 25 dollars per annum.

In the neighbourhood where the writer resides there is a carding machine which cards for the inhabitants within the vicinity, 7000lbs. of wool per annum. In the U. States there are, probably 30-0 carding machines; and supposing them to card 5000 lbs. each, on an average, we have an amount of 15 millions. This wool is made use of in the domestic way, mixed with cotton, flax and tow; and, independent of what is employed for stockings, may produce 15 millions of yards of different kinds of stuffs.

We have no data for calculating the number of woolen manufactories in the United States; but there are five within 9 miles of where this is written. Of cotton spindles at work, we may safely, it is presumed, reckon 500 thousand; from these, at the rate of one half pound of yarn per week, we may calculate as the annual product thirteen millions pounds of yarn—converted into a great variety of stuffs, and made use of generally in the domestic way—producing perhaps 26 millions of yards, of stuff per annum.

A manufacture of cotton sail cloth has commenced here. The article looks well, but has not been sufficiently tested; should it succeed, and the United States employ one million and a quarter of tons of shipping as they have done, and clothe them with cotton sails at 10 yards to the ton, it will require half a million of spindles to provide yarn for so much sail cloth. This will be the work of years to come; but a million of spindles will consume 26 millions of cotton per annum, which amount would probably be equal to more than one half of our export of cotton wool in peace and prosperity, if we had no cotton works. The consumption of cotton wool for our different manufactures is, at the present moment, supposed to be equal to one third of the export of the United States in that article, in times of peace. What a change in 10 years!

Repairs to, and additional mills and manufactories, per annum	1,500,000
Shoeing 1,400,000 horses, per annum	1,000,000
New tools and repairs of old do. for agriculture and handicraft employments (a.)	1,000,000
Watches or clocks for 1,300,000 families—one to each family at 20 dollars each is 26 millions—for interest per annum, and repairs, take 8 per cent. and we have	2,080,000
Rings, jewels, fowling pieces, &c. &c. House furniture for 1,300,000 families at 200 dollars each, 260 millions—for interest repairs and decay, say 10 per cent. per annum	26,000,000
Coasting vessels, and vessels in the river trade, say 500,000 tons, at \$30 per ton, is 15,000,000 for interest repairs and decay, say 20 per cent. per annum	3,000,000
	<hr/> \$948,564,265

Making nine hundred and forty eight millions, five hundred and sixty four thousand two hundred and sixty five dollars, as the sum representing all the annual internal labor of the U. States—(independent of all profit arising from the internal sale and exchange of commodities) which is at the rate of about 118 dollars, for each individual.

This sum of 948,564,265 dollars, divided among the families of the United States, averaging each family at six persons (1,334,000 families) would be at the rate of 711 dollars to each family, representing thereby the food, clothing, fuel, house rent, repairs of house-hold goods, food for their cattle of all kinds, travelling expences, &c. &c. for such a family—beside whatever profit might result from any profession, trade or occupation, such family carried on over and above their annual expences.

But as, in the opinion of the writer, 711 dollars is too large an average including all the families in the United States, let us adopt another mode of calculation as follows:

8 millions of persons, their food reckoned at 75 cents per week for one year, is	\$312,000,000
Food for 1,400,000 horses as before	49,875,000
Clothing for 8 millions of persons at 25 dollars per annum, is	200,000,000
Interest and repairs on 1,375,000 houses, at 11 per cent. reckoning nothing for new houses	30,250,000
8000 carriages at 100 dolls. to be sunk in 8 years	100,000
Repairs to, and new mills and manufactories, per annum	1,000,000
Clocks and watches as before	2,080,000
Personal ornaments, &c.	100,000
House furniture 260 millions, at 8 per cent.	20,000,000
Vessels engaged in coasting, river, and sound trade—say 500,000 tons as before, at 15 per cent.	2,250,000
Making this sum,	<hr/> 617,655,000

(a) This appears to me as estimated a great deal too low. The next is, probably, too high; but that which follows is far less than the amount expended annually, for those things; many other items, the product of labor, should be added, which pertain to neither of the general heads mentioned; such, for instance, as the business of the paper maker, printer and bookbinder, cum multis aliis. Epsilon.

which is less than professor Cooper thinks the agricultural productions alone of the United States are worth; it will, notwithstanding, be sufficient for our present purpose. But as we intend to credit our external trade for the whole amount of its worth, it is right to notice the 25 millions or our productions which go to make up that trade and to include it with the above, will produce \$642,655,000, making the yearly charge of each family of six persons, 481 dollars, or 80 dollars to each individual.

Now, it is believed, that the whole exports of the United States for any three years since the establishment of the government has not amounted to 100 millions—but taking the whole at that sum, the domestic productions at 40 millions and the foreign productions and manufactures at 60 millions, and allowing for freight, insurance and profit, 20 per cent. or 20 millions; yet, with this liberal allowance, what a trivial proportion does it bear to the 642,650,000 stated above! Of that sum 80 dollars is necessary to every individual in the country, on an average; but the profit on commerce, -limiting it to amount to 20 millions, is but at the rate of \$2.50 to each citizen on an average, or a 32d part of the value to him of the labor of our own country. Yet it will not be denied that foreign trade is of great importance, as it gives a spring to all other business by promoting a demand for the surplus of our food and our manufactures; but, if by any arrangement, that surplus could be employed in the country, we should have no occasion for foreign trade, as respects that surplus. True, we should want many of the manufactures of Europe for a few years; but in the United States, where the human mind, and body too, are left at such perfect liberty, a few years only would supply us with those manufactures that habit has rendered necessary, if it became the interest of the citizens to do so, and they were secured from the interference of foreign nations, as far only as a good and a prospective policy would dictate. Witness the progress which has been made in the manufactures of cotton and wool in a few years. Let any man disposed to examine how long it will require to place this country in a state of independence on foreign manufactures, turn his view back to the days of our revolutionary war, and consider how trivial were our manufactures then to what they are at present. It is not in wool and cotton only that the country has progressed so rapidly, but in almost all the articles necessary to the comfort of the people. For two years past an insignificant proportion of the clothing of the inhabitants has been imported, and has any real want been experienced? on the contrary, do not our manufactures already either supply us with the stuffs ready made in large quantities, or place in the hands of the people the means of supplying themselves, from the carded wool and spun cotton, which now is so common?

As to sugar, we must be supplied from Orleans and Savannah—for tea and coffee and the produce of foreign climates, we must still be dependent. Spirits are already manufactured in injurious quantity. Wine is a native of our soil, and only wants cultivation and care. Iron, lead, copper and coal we have. Let us only enjoy peace, and the means of the entire independence of the country is within it, if we employ them aright—but

"There are whom Heaven has blessed with store of wit,  
"But want as much again to govern it."

The project of offering some "speculations on the value of the property represented by the members of congress from the several states," though supposed difficult to perform, is much more laborious than I apprehended it to be. Much dexterity in reading,

writing and calculation has been bestowed on the subject; but it is questionable whether, with the means in possession, we shall arrive at that probability which should always belong to things of the kind. The "midnight oil shall again be trimmed," and the statement, if made out to my own satisfaction, be inserted—if not so, our readers will hear no more about it. In the progress of the examination, however, many curious statistical facts have unfolded themselves, which we shall have the pleasure to present and preserve on some other occasion.

## The Goths at Washington.

"THE COSSACKS SPARED PARIS, (says the *London Statesman*,) BUT WE SPARED NOT THE CAPITOL OF AMERICA."

FOREIGN OPINIONS.

Paris, Oct. 6. We receive every day details respecting the horrible catastrophe which has annihilated one of the finest cities in the world. [The writer should have said *building*.] How could a nation eminently civilized, conduct itself at Washington with as much barbarity as the old baronets of *St. Aube*, and *Genesic*? Is not this act of atrocious vengeance a crime against all humanity? Robespierre, who, seconded by his execrable accomplices, the committee of public safety, burnt the town of La Vendee, ordered the massacres of Toulon and Brest, and demolished the city of Lyons, is devoted to the execration of ages. The revolutionary Vandals, who devastated France in 1793, and took a ferocious pleasure in destroying or mutilating the monuments of the arts, were men taken from the lowest ranks of society, wretched Sans Culottes, agitated by all the fury of the revolution. But from the bosom of the most enlightened nations of the world, there should go forth a military chief, who, without fanaticism, without any extraordinary motive of vengeance, without any of those violent passions which disturb the understanding, should have imitated the fury of the most savage hordes, should have carried fire and sword into the heart of a city, whose riches and beauty formed one of the most valuable monuments of the progress of arts and human industry; that he should have made war, not upon his enemies, but upon columns of temples, public edifices and palaces; that he should have devastated for the pleasure of devastating; who can contemplate all this without grief and indignation? During twenty years Europe has groaned under the horrors to which the frightful genius of revolution has given birth. England was justly indignant at these excesses, and now, when sentiments of humanity have reanimated all hearts, it is she that renews in America the scenes of carnage and desolation. If she believes that such conduct will frighten her enemies and conquer them by terror, she deceives herself. Injustice and barbarity revolt still more than they afflict. They communicate to the soul an unknown energy, they raise the spirit of even the most pacific, and produce bold and desperate determinations which secure the safety and independence of nations.

Another Paris paper says,—"It is most assuredly not without the most painful feeling that our readers will have perused the details we have given them respecting the capture and destruction of the capital of the United States of America. Thus, then, the war is prosecuted in the new world with the same character of fury as for so long a period spread desolation over the old. It there exhibits the same spectacle of devastation and horror, at the moment when we flattered ourselves with the prospect of beholding the revival, even in the midst of battles, of those principles of humanity and the law of na-

tions, which polished and civilized people ought never to violate. Was it intended to furnish him with an excuse, who was justly charged with trampling under foot all those principles, by imitating his barbarous example? What! the English who reproached him with such force and justice, with spreading pillage and conflagration wherever he went, with ruining and destroying the towns that submitted to his armies, now make themselves masters of Washington, plunder and lay it waste, blow up all its public establishments and public edifices, and carry off in their ships all that they do not choose to destroy by fire and sword—it is not an absolute foreign city, and to which tie, none of those ancient relations which doubly claim the rights of humanity, might have to ensure a less severe fate, that they have thus treated it: it is a city, which may be called English, which speaks the same language, which has the same manners, and is composed of inhabitants whose fathers were English.

In the last war, which has divided England from the United States, our wishes and our feeling have been constantly in favor of the English arms. The English combated the general enemy of Europe—the enemy of France in particular. The American government seemed to have espoused the odious cause of our tyrant—it thwarted the active war made upon him, by declaring itself against England, whom we considered as the soul of the coalesced powers, and whom we heartily wished to see performing a part at once so brilliant and so honorable. We, moreover, beheld in Madison and his party, adherents to those democratic principles, which brought upon us such calamities; we wished, therefore, that his party might fall. But how much was it to be wished, that hostilities had ceased in America, as in Europe, on the fall of him who had given the signal for them in all parts of the world? Why, at least, has not war itself experienced the good effect of that?—Why is it conducted in the manner of pirates who land upon a coast to ravage it, and then precipitately embark again, not feeling themselves sufficiently strong to occupy it and maintain their position? Was it not, in this manner that the English landed, to the number of five thousand, as it is said, at Washington, and then fled, after having ruined, and as it were, swept from the face of the earth one of the finest capitals in the world, which most forcibly struck by its magnificence and its establishments one of the most celebrated travellers of the present day, M. de Humboldt? Is it thus that the hero whom they hold forth with just pride to the admiration of Europe, made war in Portugal, in Spain, in France!

The English have often preached up excellent principles of morals and humanity; they have often justly reproached their enemies with violating those principles; but let them beware—their edifying sermons and their severe reproaches will lose much of their force, if they themselves commit those excesses of which they accuse others. Their enemies assert, that it is rather their own interest than that of humanity, which in general governs their morality and their conduct; that at this moment, for instance, when they are so zealously pleading the cause of the negroes, it is less out of love for the Africans than from jealousy of the French colonies: we, indeed, believe no such thing; but we must confess that frequent examples, such as that which they have just exhibited at Washington, would grievously embarrass their friends.

From the *Liverpool Mercury*.—"There are few of our readers but who will form their own comments on the capture and destruction of the seat of government of the United States of America; and to

their own comments we shall therefore, on this particular occasion, leave them. We love the true glory, the true honor of our country; and therefore, while we applaud the spirit and intrepidity of our seamen and soldiers, who were the brave instruments of this successful enterprize, we shall add nothing at present to the sentiments which we have frequently and recently expressed, on the justice and policy of such warfare. We will content ourselves with asking the most earnest friends of the *conflagratory system*, what purpose will be served by the flames of the senate house at Washington? *If the people of the United States retain any portion of that spirit with which they successfully contended for their independence, the effects of those flames will not easily be extinguished.*"

The *London Statesman* says "It is not by flying squadrons, burning wooden houses, tobacco sheds, and attacking defenceless towns, we can terminate the war or conquer America; we tried Virginia expeditions under general ANTOLO and others, the last American war, when they were poor, and not one third their present population; but all would not do, nor is it reasonable to suppose it can have a better effect now. The present war, if continued, will be ruinous to our commerce, our seamen will emigrate, and our navy be left without men; and our declaring their coast, 2000 miles in extent, in a state of blockade, is as ridiculous as Napoleon's paper declaration was when he issued it against Great Britain and dependencies. In a climate so boisterous, ask any seaman who is acquainted with the coast of America, if he can keep his station for one day on it from September to May, a period of at least seven months out of twelve, how then can such a coast be blockaded?"

The capture of Washington was received in London with great exultation and joy, the park and tower guns were fired for three days successively, at 12 o'clock at noon.

*A gentle rebuke.*—We learn by a late London paper, (says a writer in the *New York Mercantile Advertiser*) that the representative of the fast anchored Isle, the great Lord Wellington, elated at the irruption of the Goths and Vandals into the District of Columbia, laying waste the monument of the arts erected by a grateful people to commemorate the name of the great and good Washington, and in which was deposited the national library, invited the choice spirits of the city of Paris (among whom were all the foreign ministers) to banquet on this ignoble deed: but, alas! not one of the latter honored him with their presence. This admonition speaks more than volumes to the modern Vandals.

*Extract of a letter from Washington to a gentleman in Philadelphia.*

"The beautiful hall of the house of representatives is ruined past repair, and what remains no doubt must be pulled down; for it seems that the freestone, of which it is constructed, flies to pieces in the fire. The large pillars that surrounded the hall have dwindled into slender posts. The figures and leaf work, which were carved upon them, have crumbled into dust—and it appears dangerous to walk among their gigantic remains.

"In the north wing the fire has been equally destructive. The beautiful polished marble columns of the senate chamber are burnt to lime—but in both wings enough remains to excite admiration of the talents and genius of the architect, the whole of whose labors for many years have been in one day destroyed."

To the editors of the *National Intelligencer*.—"The city of Rhodes was once saved by a picture; when that city was besieged by Demetrius, king of Ma-

cedon, he being able to attack it only on that side, where Protogenes was painting. His first intention was to burn the city; he chose rather to abandon his design than to destroy so fine a picture—this was long before the birth of our Saviour. Those people were called heatlens, and were unacquainted with the covenant of grace. What think you of a nation who styles itself the bulwark of the Christian religion, and wantonly destroys the mansion-house once occupied by our late venerable Washington?—A. B.

## The Attack on Washington,

*London Gazette Extraordinary.*

Colonial department, Downing-street,  
September 27, 1814.

Captain Smith, assistant adjutant-general to the troops under the command of general Ross, arrived this morning with a despatch from that officer, addressed to earl Bathurst, one of his majesty's principal Secretaries of state, of which the following is a copy:

Tonant, in the Patuxent, August 30, 1814.

MY LORD—I have the honor to communicate to your lordship, that on the night of the 24th instant, after defeating the army of the United States on that day, the troops under my command entered and took possession of the city of Washington.

It was determined between sir A. Cochrane and myself, to disembark the army at the village of Benedict, on the right bank of the Patuxent, with the intention of co-operating with rear-admiral Cockburn, in an attack upon a flotilla of the enemy's gun-boats under the command of commodore Barney. On the 20th instant, the army commenced its march, having landed the previous day without opposition: on the 21st, it reached Nottingham, and on the 22d moved on to Upper Marlborough, a few miles distant from Pig Point on the Patuxent, where admiral Cockburn fell in with and defeated the flotilla, taking and destroying the whole. Having advanced to within sixteen miles of Washington, and ascertaining the force of the enemy to be such as might authorise an attempt at carrying his capital, I determined to make it, and accordingly put the troops in movement on the evening of the 23d. A corps of about 1300 men appeared to oppose us, but retired after firing a few shots. On the 24th, the troops resumed their march, and reached Bladensburg, a village situated on the left bank of the eastern branch of the Potomac, about five miles from Washington.

On the opposite side of that river, the enemy was discovered strongly posted on a very commanding height, formed in two lines, his advance occupying a fortified house, which, with artillery, covered the bridge over the eastern branch, across which the British troops had to pass. A broad and straight road leading from the bridge to Washington, ran through the enemy's position, which was carefully defended by artillery and riflemen.

The disposition for an attack being made, it was commenced with so much impetuosity by the light brigade, consisting of the 85th light infantry and the light infantry companies of the army, under the command of colonel Thornton, that the fortified house was shortly carried, the enemy retiring to the higher grounds.

In support of the light brigade, I ordered up a brigade under the command of colonel Brooke, who, with 44th regiment, attacked the enemy's left, the 4th regiment pressing his right with such effect as to cause him to abandon his guns. His first line giving way, was driven on the second, which, yielding to the irresistible attack of the bayonet, and the well directed discharge of rockets, got into confusion and

fled, leaving the British masters of the field. The rapid flight of the enemy, and his knowledge of the country, precluded the possibility of many prisoners being taken, more particularly as the troops had during the day, undergone considerable fatigue.

The enemy's army, amounting to eight or nine thousand men, with three or four hundred cavalry, was under the command of gen. Winder, being formed of troops drawn from Baltimore and Pennsylvania. His artillery, ten pieces of which fell into our hands, was commanded by com. Barney, who was wounded and taken prisoner. The artillery I directed to be destroyed.

Having halted the army for a short time, I determined to march upon Washington, and reached that city at 8 o'clock that night. Judging it of consequence to complete the destruction of the public buildings with the least possible delay, so that the army might retire without loss of time, the following buildings were set fire to and consumed—the capitol, including the senate house and house of representatives; the arsenal, the dock-yard, treasury, war office, president's palace, rope-walk, and the great bridge across the Potomac: in the dock-yard, a frigate nearly ready to be launched, and sloop of war, were consumed. The two bridges leading to Washington over the Eastern Branch had been destroyed by the enemy, who apprehended an attack from that quarter. The object of the expedition having been accomplished, I determined, before any greater force of the enemy could be assembled, to withdraw the troops, and accordingly commenced retiring on the night of the 25th. On the evening of the 29th we reached Benedict, and re-embarked the following day. In the performance of the operation I have detailed, it is with the utmost satisfaction I observe to your lordship, that cheerfulness in undergoing fatigue and anxiety for the accomplishment of the object were conspicuous in all ranks.

To sir Alexander Cochrane my thanks are due, for his ready compliance with every wish connected with the welfare of the troops, and the success of the expedition.

To rear admiral Cockburn, who suggested the attack upon Washington, and who accompanied the army, I confess the greatest obligation for his cordial co-operation and advice.

Col. Thornton, who led the attack, is entitled to every praise for the noble example he set, which was so well followed by lieutenant colonel Wood and the 85th light infantry, and by maj. Jones, of the 4th foot, with the light companies attached to the light brigade. I have to express my approbation of the spirited conduct of col. Brooke, and of his brigade, the 44th regiment, which he led, distinguished itself under the command of lieutenant col. Mullens; the gallantry of the 4th foot, under the command of major Faunce, being equally conspicuous.

The exertions of captain Mitchell, of the royal artillery, in bringing the guns into action, were unremitting: to him, and to the detachment under his command, including capt. Deacon's rocket brigade, and the marine rocket corps, I feel every obligation. Capt. Lempriere, of the royal artillery, mounted a small detachment of the artillery drivers, which proved of great utility.

The assistance afforded by captain Blanchard, of the royal engineers, in the duties of his department was of great advantage. To the zealous exertions of captains Wainwright, Palmer, and Money, of the royal navy, and to those of the officers and seamen who landed with them, the service is highly indebted; the latter, capt. Money, had charge of the seamen attached to the marine artillery.—To captain

M'Dougal, of the 85th foot, who acted as my aid-de-camp, captain Falls, and to the officers of my staff, I feel much indebted.

I must beg leave to call your lordship's attention to the zeal and indefatigable exertions of lieutenant Evans, acting deputy quarter-master-general. The intelligence displayed by that officer in circumstances of considerable difficulty, induce me to hope he will meet with some distinguished mark of approbation. I have reason to be satisfied with the arrangements of assistant-commis. gen. Lawrence.

An attack upon an enemy so strongly posted, could not be effected without loss. I have to lament that the wounds received by col. Thornton, and the other officers and soldiers left at Bladensburg, were such as prevented their removal. As many of the wounded as could be brought off were removed, the others being left with medical care and attendants. The arrangements made by the staff surgeon Baxter for their accommodation have been as satisfactory as circumstances would admit of. The agent for British prisoners of war, very fortunately residing at Bladensburg, I have recommended the wounded officers and men to his particular attention, and trust to his being able to effect their exchange when sufficiently recovered.

Captain Smith, assistant-adjutant-general to the troops, who will have the honor to deliver this despatch, I beg leave to recommend to your lordship's protection, as an officer of much merit and great promise, and capable of affording any further information that may be requisite.

Sanguine in hoping for the approbation of his royal highness the prince regent, and of his majesty's government, as to the conduct of the troops under my command, I have, &c.

(Signed) **ROB. ROSS, maj. gen.**

I beg leave to enclose herewith a return of the killed, wounded and missing in the action of the 24th inst. together with a statement of the ordnance, ammunition, and ordnance stores taken from the enemy between the 19th and 25th August, and likewise sketches of the scene of action and of the line of march.

*Return of killed, wounded, and missing of the troops under the command of major general Ross, in the action with the enemy, on the 24th August 1814, on the heights above Bladensburg.*

Washington, August 25, 1814.

- General Staff—4 horses killed.
- Royal Artillery—4 horses killed; 6 rank and file, 3 horses, wounded.
- Royal Marine Artillery—1 rank and file killed; 1 serjeant wounded.
- Royal Sappers and Miners—1 serjeant, 1 rank and file, killed.
- 4th Regiment—1 lieutenant, 2 serjeants, 21 rank and file, 1 horse killed; 5 lieutenants, 2 ensigns, 6 serjeants, 5<sup>th</sup> rank and file, wounded.
- 21st Regiment—2 rank and file, killed; 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 11 rank and file, wounded.
- 14th Regiment—1 serjeant, 13 rank and file, killed; 35 rank and file, wounded.
- 2d battalion Royal Marines—5 rank and file, killed.
- 85th Light Infantry—1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 serjeant, 12 rank and file, 1 horse, killed; 2 lieutenant-colonels, 1 major, 8 lieutenants, 2 serjeants, 51 rank and file, wounded.
- Colonial Company—1 rank and file, killed; 2 rank and file, wounded.
- 6th West India Regiment—1 serjeant, wounded.
- Total—1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 5 serjeants, 56 rank and file, 10 horses, killed; 2 lieutenant-colonels, 1 major, 1 captain, 14 lieutenants, 2 ensigns, 30 serjeants, 155 rank and file, 8 horses, wounded.

*Names of officers killed and wounded.*

KILLED.

- 95th Light Infantry—captain D. S. Hamilton, lieutenant G. P. R. Codd.
- 4th or Kings own—lieutenant Thomas Woodward.

WOUNDED.

- 85th Light Infantry—colonel William Thornton, severely (left at Bladensburg); lieutenant-colonel Wm. Wood, severely (left at Bladensburg); major George Brown, severely (left at Bladensburg).
- 21st Fusiliers—captain R. Rensie, severely (not dangerously).
- 4th Regiment—lieutenant E. P. Hopkins, severely; lieutenant J. K. Mackenzie, slightly; lieutenant J. Stavely, severely (left at Bladensburg); lieutenant P. Bouly, and lieutenant F. Field slightly.
- 21st Fusiliers—lieutenant J. Grace, slightly.
- 85th Regiment—lieutenant William Williams, and lieutenant J. Burrel, severely; lieutenant F. Maunsell, slightly, lieutenant G. F. G. O'Connor, and lieutenant P. Gascoyne, severely; lieutenant G. R. Gleig, slightly; lieut. — Crouchly, severely.
- 4th Regiment—ensign J. Buchanan, severely (left at Bladensburg); ensign Wm. Reddock, severely. (Signed) H. G. SMITH, D. A. A. G.

Return of ordnance, ammunition and ordnance stores taken from the enemy by the army under the command of major-general Robert Ross, between the 19th and 25th of August, 1814.

AUGUST 19.

1 twenty-four-pounder carronade.

AUGUST 22.

1 six-pounder field gun, with carriage complete. 156 stand of arms with cartouches, &c.

AUGUST 24, AT BLADENSBURG.

2 eighteen-pounders, 5 twelve-pounders, 3 six-pounders, with field carriages.

A quantity of ammunition for the above.

220 stand of arms.

AUGUST 25, AT WASHINGTON.

BRASS.—6 eighteen-pounders, mounted on traversing platforms; 5 twelve-pounders, 4 twelve-pounders, 1 five and half-inch howitzer, 1 five and half-inch mortar.

IRON.—26 thirty-two-pounders, 36 twenty-four-pounders, 36 eighteen-pounders, 27 twelve-pounders; 2 eighteen-pounders, mounted on platforms; 19 twelve-pounders, on ship carriages; 3 thirteen-inch mortars, 2 eight-inch howitzers, 1 forty-two pounder gun, 5 thirty-two pounder carronades, 5 5 eighteen-pounder carronades, 13 twelve-pounder guns, 2 nine pounder guns, 2 six-pounder guns.

Total amount of cannon taken—206.

500 barrels of powder.

100,000 rounds of musket-ball cartridge.

40 barrels of fine grained powder.

A large quantity of ammunition of different natures made up.

The Navy-Yard and Arsenal having been set on fire by the enemy before they retired, an immense quantity of stores of every description was destroyed, of which no account could be taken; seven or eight very heavy explosions during the night denoted that there had been large magazines of powder.

(Signed) F. G. J. WILLIAMS, lieutenant

Royal Artillery, A. Q. M.

J. MITCHELL, captain commanding artillery.

N. B. The remains of near 20,000 stand of arms were discovered, which had been destroyed by the enemy.

[When the naval letters on this subject are inserted, we shall follow them by com. *Barney's* corrections, and notice a few other errors these despatches contain—just to shew—"British veracity."]



# Events of the War.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Adjt. and Inspector General's Office, Dec. 9, 1814.

**General Order.**—The servant or servants of an officer of the general staff, or of an officer not on duty with his corps, will be mustered by any mustering officer of the army to whom such officer may apply for that purpose; and the certificate of an officer that has actually kept and employed such servant or servants, shall entitle him to have the muster made and certified accordingly. By order of the secretary of war.

Adjt. and Inspector General's Office, Dec. 1, 1814.

**General Order.**—The following will govern the allowance of quarters and of fuel to officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates of the army, when in garrison or cantonment, in lieu of the regulations heretofore adopted for that purpose, viz:

Monthly allowance of wood.

QUARTERS.	From the 1st Nov. to 31st Nov.	From the 1st Nov. to 31st April.
	cords.	cords.
To a major-general, 3 rooms and a kitchen,	1	5
To a brigadier-general, commissary general of ordnance, physician and surgeon-general, each two rooms and a kitchen,	1	1-2
To every other officer having the rank of field officer one room and a kitchen,	1	3
To each brigade-major, deputy pay-master general, district or assistant district paymaster, captain, judge advocate, chaplain, hospital surgeon, regimental surgeon, and to two hospital surgeon's mates or two regimental surgeon's mates one room,	1-2	1-2
To the senior officer at a post and to the principal officer of each branch of the staff one room as an office,		
For all other commissioned officers, one room to two officers	1-2	1-2
To each mess of six or more officers, one room as a kitchen,	1-2	1
At posts where there are no less than six officers, fuel for a kitchen shall be allowed.		
For every six non-commissioned officers, musicians or privates,	1-2	1

By order of the secretary of war,  
D. PARKER, Adjt. and Inspec. Gen.

Return of the whole number of recruits enlisted agreeably to the act of congress, passed 27th January, 1814, for the several corps and regiments in the army of the United States; for each month from February to September inclusive, according to the returns received at this office.

Adjutant and Inspector General's office,  
Washington City, Nov. 24, 1814.

JOHN R. BELL, Inspector General.

Dedham, Mass.	843	Hartford, Con.	459
Carlisle, Penn.	174	Burlington, Vt.	29
Do.	348	New-York city	548
New-Brunswick, N. J.	95	Campan Springs, Ken.	132
Natchez,	46	Albany, N. Y.	528
Nashville, Geo.	51	Burlington, Vt.	564
Concord, N. H.	158	Woodstock, Vt.	323
Harrisburgh, Penn.	215	Do.	42
Reading, Penn.	170	Saco, Me.	342
Hopkinsville, Ken.	133	Portland, Me.	560
Fort Hawkins, Geo.	210	Petersburg, Va.	565
Boston and Pittsfield, Mas.	215	Georgetown, D. C. Rich- mond, Va.	289
Wilkesbarre, N. C.	233	New-London, Con.	579
Bennington & Rutland, Vt.	184	Cranev Island and Baltimore	692
Staunton, Va.	189	Knoxville, Ten.	193
Albany, N. Y.	329	New-York city	223
Baltimore, Md.	180	N. York and N. Castle, Del.	230
Trenton, N. J.	212	Raleigh, N. C.	103
Philadelphia, Pa.	292	New-Orleans	274
Lexington, K. & Chillicothe, O.	316	Bath, Me.	841
Columbia, S. C.	200	N-w-York city	110
Zan-ville, O.	316	Chillicothe, O. Nashville, T.	137
Fredericksburg, Va.	170	Virginia and the Carolinas	570
Portsmouth, N. H.	218	Pennsylvania	219
Pittsburg, Pa.	229		
Utica, N. Y.	237		
Nashville & Knoxville, Ten.	217		13,898

A WINTER CAMPAIGN is apprehended, (says the N. Y. Columbian) from the preparations reported from the enemy in Canada; and the supplies and materials for invasion are supposed to be obtained from the states, principally Vermont, where it is said too much facility is given by the legal measures adopted to discourage and prevent the detection and prevention of smuggling and traitorous intercourse. A new habeas corpus regulation has been enacted by the

legislature; and it is stated that the heroic and patriot commodore Macdonough, on the day he par-took of the public dinner at Burlington, was arrested and compelled to pay several thousand dollars at the suit of the wretch from whom he seized the masts and spars on their way to the enemy's fleet—an act for which, in any other country, the gallant commodore would have been rewarded, and the traitorous villain hanged.

**Militia of New-Jersey, 1814.**—The following statement will show the strength of the different corps of militia of this state, and the amount of the whole, agreeably to the returns of the several brigade inspectors:

	Carul-ty.	Artiller-ty.	Rifles-men.	Infan-try.	Total in-catch-ment.
Burlington,	113	94		3,190	3,400
Gloucester,	45	159		2,960	3,164
Cumberland,	1	152		2,048	2,201
Salem,	60	72		1,752	1,884
Cape May,		47		519	566
Bergen,	142	26		3,034	2,302
Essex,	269	206	375	3,821	4,666
Morris,	252	62	54	2,706	3,074
Middlesex,	233	149	67	2,490	2,944
Monmouth,	146	38	113	2,791	3,078
Somerset,	243	65	118	1,638	2,084
Hunterdon,	234	53	108	3,423	3,821
Sussex,	164		300	3,926	4,390
	1,995	1,117	1,156	33,313	37,474

The commander in chief, suite and staff amount to 16, and the division and brigade general and staff officers to 72, making the total strength of the militia of this state, 37,562.

**NEW ORLEANS.** The fate of the much-talked of British expedition to *New Orleans* is probably decided before this time, from the facts stated below. As general *Jackson* must have been perfectly aware of this expected movement of the enemy, we trust he was fully prepared for it, and we look for the result with confidence and hope. Perhaps, and from the nature of the country and its waters we think it very possible, that *New Orleans* is destined to the same celebrity as *Saratoga* and *York town*.—The commanding general will find a great co-operating power in our gallant naval officers on that station, who are *Porter's* pupils—capable of attempting any thing that any men have ever performed.

Extract of a letter from major general *M'Intosh* to governor *Early*, dated *Camp Hope*, December 12.

"Maj. Dale, arrived at col. *Hawkins'* last evening, brings the following intelligence:—*fifty or sixty British vessels had arrived at the Balize* (mouth of the *Mississippi*). Gen. *Jackson* had marched for *New Orleans*. The infantry from all quarters of his district were marching in the same direction.

"Maj. *Blue* of the 39th, with about 15 or 1600 mounted men, *Choctaws*, *Chicasaws* and *Creeks*, were to march on the first inst. for *Alpachicola*, in pursuit of the *Red Sticks* and their allies. Lieut. *Carey* of the U. S. army, and his associates, 3 men and a woman and child, passing on westwardly are missing. They left fort *Jackson* by water. The woman and child have since been massacred in the streets of *Pensacola*, having only time to state that she was of this party and that the men were killed.

**THE FLORIDAS.** It is said that the British have negotiated an exchange of *Trinidad* for the *Floridas*, with *Spain*. As Canada has been acknowledged to be held as a "rod over the back" of the "rebel colonies," we may suppose that by this transfer our

enemy intends to hold two "rods" over us, that she may occasionally give our frontier people one of the rods *Sam Johnson's* "whippings," such as "roasting them alive," &c. as that "religious" thing, thought we ought to have received for our "rebellion."

**MAINE.** It appears from statements which have reached us in the Boston papers, that government had determined to attempt the expulsion of the enemy from the district of *Maine*. It seems, however, that the design has been abandoned from the refusal of the governor of *Massachusetts* to assist in rescuing a part of *his own state* from the hands of a foreign enemy. The historian who records this must support the fact by many vouchers, or even the people of *Asia*, who meekly pass from one conqueror to another, will not believe him. The enemy's force at *Castine* is estimated at about 13 or 1400 men.

**MANUFACTURES.** We are gratified beyond expression to observe the progress made to independence, through domestic manufactures. They are *instantly* rising to the demand of the country. Every time that the spindle goes round we lop off a little from the immense *British* influence that pervaded our land, to the transformation of our people into slaves and forms that *Ovid* never thought of! May the righteous work prosper, and go on to the fullness of strength!

I think it not only possible, but probable, that in 10 or 15 years, we may raise more fine wool than all *Europe*. It is proved, that the *Merino* increases in value on our soil, and that they are of better quality here than in far-famed *Spain*. The fabled golden fleece is really ours; in the space allowed (10 or 15 years) the United States will be the grand market of the world for wool; and this branch of *agricultural* pursuits will produce more than the boasted *commerce* we had, if the demand for it be sufficiently great. I believe we have the only country, *Spain* excepted, where this breed of sheep does not depreciate.—With the stock on hand, as we have land enough, we may have in that time 10,000,000 *Merinos*—say they produce 3lbs of wool each, and their annual value will be 60,000,000 dollars!—This is speculation; but, gentle reader, not *wilder* than if a man, ten years ago, should have said that we might have our present quantity now—or that we should drive between a half a million and a million of cotton spindles in the year 1815. Nay, it is *moderate*, compared with what has happened.

These few remarks, such as I delight to indulge myself in, occurred on seeing it stated in a *Pittsfield*, (Mass.) paper, on the 15th inst. that within the week past there had been sent from that place towards *Albany*, N. Y. no less than thirty bales of woolsens, the manufacture of that [Berkshire] county—and that other greater quantities had been sent in the same direction, by the *same person*, within a little while before. These cloths, it adds much to our pleasure to learn, were mostly manufactured in *private families*; the plan that, of all others, we wish may be pursued; as it brings the *whole labor* of the people into active and healthful employment, and is without the many objections to which large establishments are liable. It is astonishing to be informed of the extent to which this industry is applied. Many of the most elegant *belles* that trip our streets are covered with superb shawls, and otherwise protected from the cold, by the labor of their own hands—hands that, heretofore, chiefly held a romance or touched a piano. Those *household* manufactures are a sort of *clear gain* to our country, and we particularly exult at the progress they make.

**SEATE TROOPS.** The legislature of Pennsylvania

have a resolution before them to raise five regiments of infantry, one battalion of flying artillery, and one of riflemen, to serve during the war, to assist in the defence of that state, and of the states of New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland.

**CHAMBERS' REPEATING GUN.** In the house of representatives of *Pennsylvania*. The committee appointed to enquire into the nature and advantages of Chambers' repeating guns and the expediency of employing them in the service of this state:

REPORT:

That in order fully to investigate the subject referred to them, they have had much personal intercourse with the inventor, have carefully examined and tried the guns themselves and have obtained the testimony of distinguished officers both of the army and navy, in favor of their efficacy. The committee abstain for obvious reasons, from any public explanation of the construction of these arms—the result, however, of their enquiry is a decided conviction that the invention is of the highest importance, not merely from its destructive powers but as occasioning a great saving both of man and money and that it is particularly entitled to the attention of the legislature as the production of a citizen of *Pennsylvania*—they therefore submit the following resolution:

Resolved by the senate and house of representatives, That the governor of this commonwealth be and he is hereby authorized to contract with Joseph G. Chambers for the supply of fifty of his newly invented repeating swivels of 224 shots each with ten carriages and a complete apparatus of moulds, rods and implements adapted to field service—and also to contract with the said Joseph G. Chambers for the alteration of five hundred muskets belonging to this state, in such manner as to fit them to discharge twelve shots each—*Provided*, that the price of each swivel and its apparatus shall not exceed 156 dollars—of each carriage for five swivels 150 dollars—and the alteration of each musket with the rod and charger \$4.12 1/2 cents to be delivered into the arsenal of this state and paid for on delivery, on a warrant drawn on the treasurer.

[The property of these guns is to fire the number of shots stated in rapid succession, too fast to count, but allowing opportunity to point the piece.]

**MR. CLAY.** A London paper says that Mr. Clay (our minister at Ghent) "was the man that killed *Tecumseh*, and that he cut several razor straps out of his back after he was dead."

This article is fully up to the comprehension of *John Bull*. There are millions of people in England who would believe the Americans had tails, like oxen, if told so. At the time *Tecumseh*, the *British general and murderer*, was killed—Mr. Clay was presiding over the house of representatives of the United States, at Washington city.

**BANKS.** A number of the banks to the eastward have recently stopped payment in specie; and if the trade with "his majesty's" port of *Castine*, with the usual smuggling is continued, we venture to say, without pretending to a spirit of prophecy, that all the rest will soon follow the example.

**WAGGON TRADE.** *Charleston*, December 17. A gentleman who arrived here a few days since from the northward, states that he met about four hundred waggons loaded with tobacco, between New-York this city. There were probably at the same time a much larger number travelling the upper road, with the same articles, and for the same markets.

**HARTFORD CONVENTION.** We have nothing new from this congregation of lawyers,\* assembled to pre-

\* We believe that more than twenty of the 26 delegates at *Hartford*, are lawyers.

serve the *quiet* of the state, and take care of its *commercial* concerns, except that they are said to have refused seats to two very *modest gentlemen* that nobly came forward, of their own free will and accord, to represent the state of *Vermont*! All their proceedings are veiled in the secrecy of the *Illuminati*—there is a *consistency* in this that we admire; and they fulfil the scripture, which says, “the light is shunned by those whose deeds are evil.” If, however, an opinion may be formed from the *Con-necticut Mirror*,” a paper at all times of the most violent cast, and published by their *secretary*, they are either going on “*Jehu-like*” with treason, or prided by a fear of the consequences of it; for the “*Mirror*” has a double portion of life and spirit; which may be intended either to prepare the people for *rebellion*, or spur on the lagging members of the caucus.

CONGRESS AT VIENNA. By arrivals at Amelia we have a *report* that the congress at Vienna had been postponed to the 1st of March next. [Disbelieved.]  
MILITARY.

At our last accounts from *Halifax* an expedition with a force of 2 or 3000 men, appeared to be fitting out that place.

Thomas Croft alias John Rodgers, and James Robinson alias James Elnaire, were hung at fort Mifflin 10 or 12 days since, in pursuance of a sentence by a court martial, for the crimes of fraud, stealth and desertion.

Colonel *Appling*, one of Georgia's gallant sons, who has “earned a name on the Niagara frontier,” arrived at Savannah on the 5th inst.

*Joseph Sterett*, late lieutenant-colonel of the 5th regiment, has been appointed by the governor and council of Maryland, general of the third, or “Baltimore brigade.” Colonel *Macdonald*, of the 6th regiment, one of *Pulaski's* band, was the senior officer of the brigade.

The Democratic Press says—We understand that major-general Izard has been excused from serving as a member on the trial of general Wilkinson, to be held at Utica, and general Porter ordered in his place.

The 29th regiment of foot in the British army, (says the Boston Daily Advertiser) which is now at Castine, is called the *Boston Regiment*; it being the same that perpetrated the memorable *Boston massacre*. It is said that one man who was at that time a private in that regiment, still belongs to it, and is now at Castine.

It is said the British officers at Castine are building a theatre—and that they expect to import the female performers from Boston. If *Boston* was now as it was in 1776, they would have some other amusement.

The Virginia brigade under general *Madison*, called out for the defence of the 10th district, was discharged on the 17th instant, with the thanks of major-general Scott, commanding.

Colonel *Mitchel*, a son of *Maryland*, who, as Henry the 4th of France said of one of his favorite officers, we are “happy to introduce to our friends or our enemies,” has, we learn, been appointed by major general Scott to command at Baltimore, &c. during his absence.

The youthful and gallant *Townson*, a *Baltimorean*, whose battery for its terrible fire, was known by the name of the “light-house” by the enemy, now a lieutenant-colonel of artillery, having received two brevets for his conduct on the Niagara frontier, was presented with a sword by the citizens of *Buffalo*, without distinction of party. His men were also from Baltimore.

Colonel *Carberry* of the 36th regiment United

States' infantry, has published a vindication, and we think fully justified himself, against the imputation made by a committee of congress, to investigate the causes of the capture of Washington, respecting the distribution of arms to colonel *Minor's* regiment. See page 246.

The corporation of New York have advanced \$400,000, as a loan to the United States, to pay the troops lately called out for the defence of that city.

Copy of a letter from major-general *Andrew Jackson*, to the governor of Tennessee.

Head quarters, 7th military district,  
Tennsaw, Nov. 14, 1814.

Sir—On last evening I returned from Pensacola to this place—I reached that post on the evening of the 6th. On my approach, I sent major *Pierre* with a flag to communicate the object of my visit to the governor of Pensacola. He approached fort St. George, with his flag displayed, and was fired on by the cannon from the fort—he returned and made report thereof to me. I immediately went with the adjutant general and the major with a small escort, and viewed the fort and found it defended by British and Spanish troops. I immediately determined to storm the town, retired and encamped my troops for the night, and made the necessary arrangements to carry my determination into effect the next day.

On the morning of the 7th I marched with the effective regulars of the 3d, 39th, and 44th infantry, part of general *Coffee's* brigade, the Mississippi dragoons, and part of the West Tennessee regiment, commanded by lieutenant colonel *Hammonds* (colonel *Lowry* having deserted and gone home) and part of the Choctaws led by major *Blue*, of the 39th and major *Kennedy* of Mississippi territory. Being encamped on the west of the town I calculated they would expect the assault from that quarter, and be prepared to raze me from the fort, and the British armed vessels, seven in number, that lay in the bay. To cherish this idea I sent out part of the mounted men to show themselves on the west whilst I passed in rear of the fort undiscovered to the east of the town. When I appeared within a mile, I was in full view. My pride was never more heightened than viewing the uniform firmness of my troops, and with what undaunted courage they advanced, with a strong fort ready to assail them on the right, 7 British armed vessels on the left, strong blockhouses and batteries of cannon in their front, but they still advanced with unshaken firmness, entered the town, when a battery of two cannon was opened upon the centre column composed of the regulars, with ball and grape, and a shower of musketry from the houses and gardens. The battery was immediately stormed by capt. *Levall* and company, and carried, and the musketry was soon silenced by the steady and well directed fire of the regulars.

The governor met cols. *Williamson* and *Smith*, who led the dismounted volunteers, with a flag, begged for mercy, and surrendered the town and fort unconditionally; mercy was granted and protection given to the citizens and their property—and still Spanish treachery kept us out of possession of the fort until 12 o'clock at night.

Never was more cool, determined bravery displayed by any troops; and the Chactaws advanced to the charge with equal bravery. On the morning of the 8th I prepared to march and storm the *Barancas*, but before I could move tremendous explosions told me that the *Barancas*, with all its appendages, was blown up. I dispatched a detachment of two hundred men to explore it, who returned in the night with the information that it was blown up, all the combustible parts burnt, the cannon spiked and dismounted, except two: this being the case I determin-

ed to withdraw my troops, but before I did I had the pleasure to see the British depart. Colonel Nicholls abandoned the fort on the night of the 6th, and betook himself to his shipping, with his friend capt. Woodbine, and their red friends.

The steady firmness of my troops has drawn a just respect from our enemies—it has convinced the Red Sticks that they have no strong hold or protection, only in the friendship of the United States—the good order and conduct of my troops whilst in Pensacola, has convinced the Spaniards of our friendship, and our prowess, and has drawn from the citizens an expression, that our Choctaws are more civilized than the British.

In great haste, I am respectfully, sir,  
ANDREW JACKSON.

Maj. gen. comdg

*Extract of a letter from brigadier-general M. Arthur, to the secretary of war, dated*

Head-quarters, 8th military district, Detroit, 18th Nov. 1814.

SIR—I have the satisfaction to report to you the safe return of the mounted troops to this place on the 17th inst.

In a former communication I had the honor to inform you, that the mounted volunteers were marched in this direction in consequence of the regular troops having been withdrawn, and the apprehensions that were entertained for the safety of this territory, of which I was advised by his excellency gov. Cass.

The militia detached from Kentucky and Ohio, having arrived, they were assigned for the immediate protection of this place; it was then deemed expedient from the ardor and species of the force, that the mounted volunteers should be actively employed in the territory of the enemy, with a view to destroy their resources and ultimately paralyze any efforts which might be made against this place during the winter.

The valuable mills at the head of lake Ontario, and in the vicinity of Grand River, furnished large supplies to the army in the peninsula; their destruction was desirable. To that effect the mounted troops consisting of 600 volunteers, 50 U. States' rangers and 70 indians were put in motion on the 22d October, to pursue the route along the western shore of lake St. Clair, and pass into the enemy's territory near the mouth of that river.

The real object of the expedition was masked by the general impression, that it was destined against the Indian towns at Sagouina. To favor that idea, boats were prepared for the reception of artillery to be conveyed through lake St. Clair, up that river into lake Huron, and to co-operate with the mounted troops in the attack. The boats were, however, employed in the transportation of the troops and horses across the river St. Clair and Bear creek, which empties into Beldoon river. This movement was absolutely necessary to secure that secrecy to the expedition which could alone render it successful. All military movements in this direction are rapidly communicated to the enemy from Sandwich and this place; it was, therefore deemed improper to pass the troops across this river, but to proceed over the river St. Clair, down to the Scotch settlement on the Beldoon, up Bear creek about 30 miles, and across to the Moravian towns, a few miles above the lower settlement on the Thames, where the detachment arrived on the 30th of Oct.

We were very fortunate at this place in taking a sergeant in the British service, who was proceeding to Burlington, with the information that the detachment had passed into the enemy's territory. The capture of this sergeant at the commencement of the "Long Woods," between the Moravian towns

and Delaware, enabled us to reach the latter place undiscovered. On our approach the rangers were detached to move across the Thames below the settlement, pass in the rear of it, and guard the different roads leading into the interior, whilst the troops were engaged in swimming their hoses and transporting their baggage on rafts.

We were thus enabled to arrive at the town of Oxford, one hundred and fifty miles distant from Detroit, before the inhabitants knew that a force was approaching. They were promised protection to their persons and property, upon condition that they remained peaceably at their respective homes; otherwise, they were assured that their property should be destroyed.

However, notwithstanding this injunction and the sacred obligations of a previous parole, two of the inhabitants escaped to Burford, with the intelligence of our arrival. Their property, consisting of two dwelling houses, two barns and one shop, were instantly consumed.

On the succeeding day, the 15th inst. the detachment proceeded to Burford, where we were informed that the militia had been embodied about ten days previously to our arrival, in consequence of reports received from Sandwich that an expedition was expected to move from Detroit against Burlington.

A few hours before our arrival, the enemy retreated from Burford to Malcolm's mills, ten miles distant, on the road leading from Dover to Burlington, where they were joined by the militia from Long Point.

It was my intention to cross Grand river as soon as possible, without regarding the militia collected at Malcolm's mills, and attack Burlington. To my great mortification upon our arrival at the river, we found it high and rapid from the late excessive rains, and learned that general Brown had recrossed the Niagara, leaving only a strong garrison in fort Erie. No means were presented of even passing the river in rafts, and had it been effected, upon our return, the militia, contemptible as they were, might have been encouraged to attack when a rapid river divided us. Major Muir with about fifty indians and fifty militia, was preparing to contest the passage. A battery was also erecting as was understood for three pieces of artillery, distant 12 miles on the road from Burlington.

These considerations presented serious objections to any attempts to pass the river; it was also due to the past sufferings and the future safety of the gullant detachment under my command, that a direction should be given to its movements, calculated to afford compensation for the former and secure the latter.

It was therefore determined upon to attack and defeat or disperse the militia at Malcolm's mills, move down the Long Point road through the Grand river settlement, destroy the valuable mills in that quarter, and then return to our territory either by a movement across Grand river at the mouth to fort Erie, or along Talbot's street to the Thames.

To that effect, a detachment was directed to remain and engage the attention of the enemy, whilst the principal force should be withdrawn and marched to Malcolm's mills. We found the enemy, consisting of four or five hundred militia, and a few indians, fortified on commanding ground beyond a creek, deep and difficult of passage, except at a bridge immediately in front of their works which had been destroyed. Arrangements were made for a joint attack on the front and rear. The Ohio troops, with the advance guard and indians, were accordingly thrown across the creek under cover of a thick wood, to approach the enemy in rear, whilst

the Kentucky troops were to attack in front as soon as the attention of the enemy was engaged by the attack in the rear. The enemy would have been completely surprised and captured had not an unfortunate yell by our Indians announced the approach of the detachment destined to attack their rear; they were, however, defeated and dispersed with the loss in the skirmishes on that day of one captain and seventeen privates killed, nine privates wounded, and three captains, five subalterns and one hundred and three privates made prisoners; whilst our loss was only one killed and six wounded. Early on the 7th inst. the enemy were pursued on the road to Dover, many made prisoners, and five valuable mills destroyed.

Apprehensive that the troops could not be supplied on the route to fort Erie, and that difficulties would occur in the passage of Grand river, together with the uncertainty which existed as to the position of our army below, I was induced on the 8th inst. to commence my return to this place by the way of Talbot street and the Thames; which was happily effected on the 17th inst.

In this excursion, the resources of the enemy have been essentially impaired, and the destruction of the valuable mills in the vicinity of Grand river, employed in the support of the army in the peninsula, together with the consumption of the forage and provisions necessary for the troops, has added to the barrier heretofore interposed by an extensive and swampy frontier against any attempts which may be made this winter in the direction of Detroit.

With the exception of nine thousand rations and eight hundred bushels of forage, the detachment subsisted entirely on the enemy. Of private property, no more was destroyed than was absolutely necessary for the support of the troops, for which regular payments or receipts were given. It is, however, much to be regretted that there were some partial abuses produced by the unfortunate example presented by the Indians, whose customs in war impel them to plunder after victory; but for this blemish there was some excuse in their correct and gallant conduct before and during the battle. It is also gratifying to know that they were forgetful of the *atrocious deeds committed by the Indians in the service of the enemy*; neither the *innocent or disarmed* have been massacred or molested.

The honorable department of the chiefs, Lewis, Wolfe and Civil John, was truly animating to all the troops.

It was essential to the progress of the expedition that the horses of individuals should be taken to supply the places of those that were disabled and lost on the march—in all cases receipts were given.

The Michigan militia were invited to accompany us on the expedition; not more than twenty accepted it—of those six deserted near Delaware, and the remainder were permitted to return on the next day. Lieutenant Putland, of captain Audrain's company of Rangers from Detroit, was distinguished for zeal and intrepidity.

The patriotic volunteers under my command, have just claims on the gratitude of their country, when it is recollected that they tendered their services with no other assurance than the approbation which always attends disinterested sacrifices; that they have performed much severe duty at an inclement season, through an extensive and swampy district, frequently intersected with deep and rapid rivers; that they have penetrated two hundred miles into the enemy's territory, destroyed two hundred stand of arms, together with five of their most valuable mills; paroled or dispersed the greater portion of the efficient militia of that part of Upper

Canada west of Grand river, and the whole detachment has returned in safety to this place with the exception of one killed.

The ardor which the troops always evinced when they expected to meet the enemy, was not more conspicuous or praiseworthy than the cheerfulness with which they conformed to the rules of military propriety. The officers and privates of the detachment, with a very few exceptions, merited my warmest approbation.

I was much indebted to the zeal and intelligence displayed on all occasions by major Dudley, commanding the Kentucky battalion, and was ably assisted by the zeal and assiduity of Dr. Turner, of the 17th infantry; captain Bradford of the 19th infantry, my brigade-major, already distinguished at fort Meigs and Tehoocaw, is entitled to my sincere thanks for his exertions under every difficulty, and I have the support of the troops in assuring you, sir, that to the military talents, activity and intelligence of major Todd, who acted as my adjutant-general, much of the fortunate progress and issue of this expedition is attributable; and I cheerfully embrace this occasion to acknowledge the important services which he has at all times rendered me whilst in command of the district: his various merits justly entitle him to the notice of government.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McARTHUR,

*Brig. gen. U. S. army comd'g.*

Hon. James Monroe, secretary of war, Washington.

#### ENEMY IN THE RAPPAHANNOCK.

On the morning of the 30th ult. a 74 and five frigates appeared off the mouth of the Rappahannock. They manned a number of barges and other small vessels, and proceeded up the river with all their disposable force. The next day they took possession of the village of *Tappahannock*, without much opposition, the militia coming in too slowly for their rapid movements, capturing on their way several small craft. At this village they burnt the courthouse, jail, collector's office, clerk's office and a large ware-house, and destroyed a great deal of private property. They entered even the *tombs* and disturbed the ashes of the dead for plunder, especially the family vault of the late colonel Ritchie, breaking open the coffers, and leaving their contents mutilated and exposed. They received many negroes into their "holy" alliance, and permitted the black, as well as their own white miscreants, to indulge themselves as they liked, wantonly destroying what they could not conveniently carry away, such as furniture, windows, &c. looking glasses were thrown against looking glasses, chairs, tables, sideboards, bedsteads, &c. broken to pieces, and the town looked as if it had been visited by devils. The feathers were emptied from the beds and scattered to the winds of heaven. Their force was estimated at nearly 2000 men. On the 4th they returned down the river, and had several brushes with the militia in the passage, in one of which, near Franham church, they acknowledged a loss of 15 killed, and 31 wounded—we had only 2 wounded. In another, it is thought that every man in one of their barges, except two were killed—10 or 12 prisoners also were taken, and several of their men deserted. It is reasonable to believe that they lost in this expedition at least 100 men. Capt. *Barrie*, of the Dragon, and col. *Malcom*, of the marines, commanded. The militia behaved admirably, anxious at all times to meet the *pirates*, and withstood them gallantly. Captain Vincent Shackleford, of the house of delegates, with about sixty of his artillerists, encountered four hundred of the enemy with the utmost intrepidity; he gave them several fires with his 2 pie-

ees, and drove them from the plain. Eventually capt. S. was wounded and taken prisoner—the enemy paroled him with compliments on his conduct.

Such are the leading features of an expedition that would disgrace a *New Providence* privateer—man, (the most abandoned villains that ever infested the ocean) but which is, probably, destined to fill a "*London Gazette extraordinary*." They carried away many negroes, doubtless for sale in the West-Indies—But "*religious*" England has abolished the *slave trade!* Cursed be the barbarians, that disturb even the quiet of the grave!

#### NAVAL.

The President frigate, com. Decatur, sailed from New York on the 26th ult. from which port also many merchantmen have recently departed—so "*rigorous and strict*" is the *blockade!*

Com. Perry is at Boston to purchase some vessels for his "*flying squadron*"—he has four fitting out at

A cannonading took place at New-London, we understand, on Friday night last, when a 74 gun ship came in and anchored within a frigate and sloop of war off the mouth of the harbor, and near a battery lately erected near the light-house, three miles below the town. Our troops went down with two eighteen pounders (the Stonington complement) and a travelling furnace, and opened a fire upon the ship on Friday night and Saturday morning, which she received without returning, and as soon as the tide served got under way and went over near Fisher's Island.—*New York Columbian, Dec. 27.*

*Privateers.* During the present week we have received accounts of the sailing of the following privateers. Brigs Mars and Ranger, from Portsmouth, N. H. Prince of Neufchatel from Boston, 18 guns, 130 men. Brig Ino and schooner Mars, from Portland. Brig Antelope from Newburyport. Chasseur, Boyle, from New-York.

*A queer article.* If any man had said, three years ago, that the captain of a British frigate would be complimented for *running away* from a frigate of any other nation, *John Bull* would have said he was a — man that did not tell the truth—but here we have it:

*Kingston, Jamaica, Nov. 14.*—It affords us much pleasure to be informed that captain the honorable Anthony Maitland of H. M. S. Pique, has received letters from the admiralty expressing in very flattering terms their explicit approbation of his prompt adherence to his instructions, *in not coming to an engagement with the American frigate Constitution*, when he fell in with her on the 4th of May last.—Many who were at that time unacquainted with the circumstances of the case, thought captain Maitland had not acquitted himself with strict propriety; but his having *peremptory orders to avoid a contest* places his conduct in the most honorable point of view.

[If such are the "general orders" of the British navy, we are apprehensive that the gallant *Stewart* may make another unfortunate cruise in "*old iron sides*:" for she is rather a dull sailer.]

*Constitution and Pique.* From a *Barbadoes* paper of May 7.—"Arrived H. M. ship Pique, honorable captain Maitland, from a cruise. About 8 days ago the Pique fell in with the *American frigate Constitution* to the northward of Porto Rico. The Pique immediately hoisted her colors and invited her to come down, BUT SHE REFUSED THE CHALLENGE!"

*The Wasp sunk.* It is now *clearly ascertained* (says a London paper of October 25) that the American ship *Wasp* has gone to the bottom! On the 4th inst. the Pelican spoke the Castilian, and gave information of having been informed by H. M. frigate Hyperion, that a Scilly pilot boat had been

alongside them, the master of which boat declared, that he was on board a Spanish schr. that had the *surviving part of the Wasp's crew in*, and that the Americans said their ship went down two days after their action, and that the Castilian *sunk her!* [This is something like a *British official*.]

Truly, may our vessels be considered "*non-descripts*," as the *Wasp*, so *sunk*, certainly got up again!

*Before the battle.*—Captain Mackonochie, who arrived in town on Sunday (says a *London* paper of Oct. 12) with dispatches, *lef. Quebec* Sept. 11.—[The day on which the British forces were defeated by sea and land at Plattsburgh.] Capt. M. brings a *confirmation of the capture* of Plattsburgh, by the army under sir G. Prevost!—A naval action was expected *forthwith* to take place on Lake Champlain, *where we had a decided superiority!*

*After the battle!* The *London "Press"* of Oct. 21, gives a British account of the two squadrons on lake Champlain, previous to the late engagement, Their vessels (exclusive of 12 gun-boats, whose force is not stated,) are made to mount 72 guns, with 337 men—the American fleet 141 guns, with 1,480 men!

A *London* paper of 8-pt. 23, says—Com. Porter, his officers and crew, are officially declared by our government to be released from their parole, given at Valparaiso.

There arrived at *Quebec*, from sea, during the present year 169 merchant vessels and 201 transports—total 370.

The British who are *stealing slaves* from Maryland, Virginia, &c have two frigates cruising on the African coasts to prevent a trade there! Such is the consistency of the "*shield of afflicted humanity*."

A schooner from New York was lately captured by the barges of the *Majestic* razee, and a midshipman and 3 seamen put on board. Soon after they stood for Fisher's island, where the midshipman went on shore—two Americans that yet remained on board persuaded the Englishmen to go below; when they got under way and safely reached the famous village of *Stonnington*.

*A great shot.*—We understand that on the 16th inst. a British tender (formerly the *Franklin*, belonging to the Constellation, taken in Lynhaven bay) gave chase to an oyster boat in the neighborhood of Blackstone's island. A boat was manned from the tender with an officer and 4 men, armed with muskets and cutlasses, which got within gun shot of the oyster boat and fired several guns at her, which struck different parts of the vessel. The owner, a yellow man, not liking to lose his all without a struggle, made for a small creek, and advised a young white man who was with him (the only two on board) to take his ducking gun, (having but the one) get into the canoe and go ashore and secrete himself till the boat should come near a point which he was endeavoring to make, and then fire into it. The young man kept himself snug until the boat came within about 50 yards of him, when he fired with such effect as to wound the officer and 3 men—they all immediately fell flat and bellowed out lustily for quarter. The young man loaded his gun again and ordered them to push the boat ashore and surrender, which they did, and after having secured their arms (3 muskets and 2 cutlasses) and being joined by his companion, they marched them to where some militia were stationed, not far off in St. Mary's county, and delivered them up to the commanding officer, who sent them under guard to Washington. The oyster boat arrived here yesterday and proceeded on to Washington with her prize.—*Alex. Herald.*

[The poor boatmen have done a much better business by catching *Englishmen* than *oysters*. We hope they may successfully pursue their new trade.]

The nominal insurance from Halifax to Castine is 20 per cent.

The British do not permit their vessels to cross the Irish channel without convoy. Insurance from London to Halifax is 30 guineas per 100£.

Lloyd's list of the 23rd Sept. contains a list of 40 valuable vessels captured by our privateers.

A late Halifax paper says that certain persons captured by the Surprise of Baltimore, were treated very well because they were freemasons.

**Promotions.** Joseph Bainbridge, William W. Crane, Thomas Macdonough, Johnston Blakely, and Lewis Warrington, master commandants, have been appointed post captains in the navy of the United States.

Lieutenants Robert Henley, Stephen Cassin, Daniel S. Dexter, James Renshaw, David Deacon, and Thomas Brown, have been appointed master commandants—and

About 40 midshipmen have been appointed lieutenants.

**British loss.** The following account of enemy vessels of war lost or captured since the 18th of June, 1812, is copied from the "Rhode Island Republican:"

†Leopard	56	*Reindeer,	18
†Woolwich,	44	†Plumper,	16
†Confiance,	59	†Daring,	16
*Guerriere,	38	†Falcon,	16
*Java,	38	†Magnet,	16
*Macedonian,	38	†Bold,	16
†Barbadoes,	32	†Herald,	16
†Southampton,	32	†Boxer,	16
†Dedelaus,	3	†Duke of Gloucester,	14
†Lauristinus,	24	*Dominica,	14
†Atalanta,	20	†Lady Prevost,	12
*Peacock,	20	*Laura,	12
*Alert,	20	†Rhodian,	12
†Detroit,	20	†Alphets,	12
†Linnet,	20	†Cherub,	12
*Hermes	20	†Finch,	10
*Queen Charlotte,	19	†Hunter,	10
*Epervier,	18	†Racer,	10
†Emulous,	18	†Holly,	10
†Colibri,	18	*Higflyer,	10
†Avenger,	18	†Club,	8
†Tweed,	18	†Subtle,	8
†Goshawk,	18	*Ballahoo,	8
†Hedvon,	18	†Little Belt,	2
†Fantome,	18	†Chippewa,	1
*Avon,	18	†Nancy,	1

\*Captured. †Lost. ‡Captured on the lakes.

**CHRONICLE.**

BENJAMIN W. CROWNSHIELD, of Massachusetts, is appointed by the president, with the concurrence of the senate, to the office of secretary of the navy.

WILLIAM EUSTIS, of Massachusetts, is appointed, with the concurrence of the senate, to be our minister to Holland.

Levin Winder has been re-elected governor of Maryland. For Mr. Winder, 43—Mr. Bowie, (rep.) 23. The council, of course, is federal.

Mr. Hawkins having served out his constitutional term, William Miller, esq. (rep.) has been chosen governor of North Carolina.

D. R. Williams has been elected governor of South Carolina. Joseph Kerr is elected a senator of the United States from Ohio, vice Mr. Worthington elected governor of that state.

The members of congress from Pennsylvania are 18 republicans and 5 federalists. The state senate, 21 republicans and 13 federalists. The house of re-

presentatives, 70 republicans and 25 federalists.—The votes for governor when officially counted stood thus—for Simon Snyder, 51,099; Isaac Wayne, 20,566; scattering, 923; clear majority for Snyder over all the rest voted for, 20,665.

By a law of Pennsylvania it is provided, that the militia in service shall be allowed to vote for governor, members of congress, &c. By the returns of the election in October last, it appears that governor Snyder had 4,806, and Mr. Wayne 1,298 "votes in camp."

JONATHAN ROBERTS is re-elected a senator of the United States by the legislature of Pennsylvania, for the term of six years from the fourth day of March next. For Mr. Roberts, 84—Mr. Sitgreaves, 32 votes.

Francis Lock (rep.) has been elected a senator of the United States, from North Carolina, vice David Stone, resigned.

**Massachusetts election.**—The return of votes for representatives of this state in the next congress gives us the following result—seventeen federalists and one republican elected, and in two districts no choice, for which new elections must be held.

**Mr. Jefferson's Library.**—The bill to purchase Mr. Jefferson's library appropriates 23,950 dollars for the purpose. It is strange that the rancor of party should penetrate even in the temple of science, and that an opposition was made to the purchase of a collection that any monarch in Europe would be proud to own. For such a library the British parliament would have given £ 50,000. We are not informed what this library cost, but venture to say that the amount appropriated will not pay the expense of it, by a large sum, independent of the value of the time and talent employed in the collection.

**FOREIGN ARTICLES.**

**Montevideo,** with all its rich stores, has surrendered to the Buenos Ayrean whigs. The garrison was reduced greatly by famine. It was fortified by 500 pieces of cannon. The capture of this place will present many difficulties to Spain in her attempts to reduce this delightful country to its former base servitude.

We have the satisfaction to believe that Peru has, at last, effected her independence. The war for liberty has been tedious and bloody; but it seems that the whigs of Buenos Ayres and Chili throwing a force into the scale of the Peruvian patriots, utterly defeated the royalists and Tories near Gzuro, in Upper Peru, after which the viceroy fled to Guayaquil, the only remaining place where the standard of Ferdinand, the ungrateful, yet waded.

There is every prospect that the whole South American provinces will be lost to the monopoly of Spain. The establishment of independent governments there, and in Mexico, will have a wonderful effect on the general commerce and happiness of the world.

Murat, king of Naples, is said to have accumulated the enormous sum of four millions [sterling] in cash, which is deposited in the coffers of his palace. He seems to be providing "for the time to come." His army consists of 16,000 men.

The British has as yet refused to give up Martinique, Guadaloupe, &c. to France—they wait the result of the congressional proceedings at Vienna; and, in case of a rupture with France, they may make a *grand exploit* by capturing the French who have been sent out to garrison them.

A number of French merchant vessels have arrived at Guadaloupe, and several vessels of war have also reached the West Indies or may be immediately expected.

A contagious fever prevails at Gibraltar and Cadiz. The troops at the latter, destined for South America, about to embark, had been marched out of the city.

The pope, at the instance of Charles VI. has declined sending the prince of peace to Spain for trial, as Ferdinand had requested. He remains near Rome.

It is said Amsterdam is now so far removed from its former opulence, that a private carriage is scarcely to be met with amongst its inhabitants.

Immense seizures have been made in England of French goods smuggled.

Martial law was declared at Cadiz the latter part of August, on its being discovered that a great part of the inhabitants were devoted to the old king.

It is contemplated to light the streets and the shops in London with inflammable gas, as it has been late successfully used in several manufactories, &c. The mode of the patent is to be by tubes conveying the gas from reservoirs, as water is now conveyed. The annual charge to a shop is £4.

At the session of the Old Baily, London, in September last, the grand jury sat upon near 500 indictments, comprehending crimes of almost every kind, and committed by persons of all ages, from infancy to hoary years.

The *slave trade* has been "restored" by the "royal Bourbons," under its old arrangements and regulations. Let *Africa* "rejoice," and *humanity* "repose in the arms of its legitimate sovereign."

The *Milan Courier* of June last states that the pope had lately paid a visit to Charles IV. of Spain, and adds very gravely, that on his departure he permitted the whole royal family to kiss his foot!

A contribution of one million of dollars was *exact-ed* of the people of Cadiz, to accelerate the expedition to the river Plate.

The British admiral Bradley, has been capitally convicted of forgery in England; and sentenced to Botany Bay, for life.

[If this had happened to one of "Mr. Madison's officers" — ]

*British commerce.* The trade at Malta is stated to have received an immense impulse from situations whence it was not expected. Thirty-five ships from Marseilles have delivered their cargoes and received their returns, with which they have taken their departure. A vessel fully laden had entered the port direct from the Havanna.

*London, August 24.*—The number of French prisoners who have been sent from England to France since the conclusion of the peace, exceeds sixty-seven thousand men. It is said that only thirteen continental prisoners of war (who are Poles) now remain in this country.

A London paper says—The oldest Jesuit in the world is at present living at Perugia, in the state of the church. This is father Albert de Montauero. He is 126 years of age, and took the vows of his order on the 21 of February 1724.

*British empire.*—Dr. Colquhoun computes the population of the British empire, after being reduced 1,500,000 by cessations, at 59,653,000 souls. The company's possessions in the East Indies he reckons at 40,058,000; of whom 25,000, or the one sixteen hundredth part are Britons.

*Mermanid.*—The British public have been amused with a well-told story about a mermaid caught on the western coast of Scotland—the tale has also been published in most of our papers. The thing was well enough, and had only the fault, like the "officials" given to *John Bull*, of being totally false.

*The pope.* We learn from Rome, that in a secret consistory of the 27th September, the holy father pronounced a very pathetic oration on the mischief

done to the church by the impious man of these latter times, and on the extraordinary and providential events which have gloriously delivered it. His holiness rejoiced particularly to see France restored to her excellent king, to her very christian king, and entertained the most happy hopes of the increase of religion in that fine kingdom. He bestowed the greatest eulogies on the courage, the piety, and the charity of the French ladies, who, during the persecution, were entirely employed in relieving the ministers of the church who were deprived of all means of existence. His holiness speaking afterwards of the good which he has effected with the assistance of God, since his return to Rome, announced that he had banished all the secret conventicles, which were not less fatal to the state, than to religion; that he had revived from its ashes the company of Jesus, the most useful of religious societies, to extend the kingdom of God, and procure the salvation of souls; that he had opened again the convents of the religious, against which the rage of the persecutor [Bonaparte] was so violently directed; finally, that he had restored the holy virgins, whom impious and sacrilegious hands had dragged from their cloisters.

By the above it appears that the *Jesuits*, famous to a proverb for hypocrisy and crime, are to be restored.

*Further from Rome.* A late London paper observes—"A letter from Rome gives an account of the real motives, which actuated his holiness the pope in issuing his order for the prohibition of freemason's lodges: "I know that much misconception will take place as to the motives of the church for abolishing freemasonry in the papal dominions; but be assured it is not because they have discovered, or because they dread any treasonable practices, against the state in those fraternities. They are well aware that no *political subjects* of any kind, are discussed in the meetings of lodges of the free masons. No—the dread is of another kind. They know that the principle of free-masonry is *freedom of conscience*, and that the very first principle it inculcates is that, not merely of universal toleration, but of universal religions freedom; for they assert that worship is acceptable to the Divine author of our being which is contrite, whatever may be its form. Free-masonry, therefore, embraces the members of all churches and sects; but it is not a proselyting fraternity. They send out no missionaries—they admit none, on the contrary, without strict examination as to their moral character, and only after a long apprenticeship; but the idea of their inculcating a notion, that a protestant as well as a catholic may be saved, is so abhorrent to the views of the mother church, that it is no wonder the Holy Father should wish to extirpate the dangerous brotherhood."

We read in the Italian papers, that one Besilacqua, a merchant, has fled from Rome to Naples, in order to escape the inquisition, and that his property has been confiscated. *He is accused of being a freemason.*

Let the people "rejoice," for the *rack* and *wheel* is prepared by the "legitimate sovereign."

*Spanish liberty.*—"On the night of the 30th September, (says a late *London paper*) ninety persons were arrested at Madrid and thrown into prisons, which are now so full that several convents have been converted into goals, to immerse persons suspected of the least crime."

"Rejoice Spain, the royal line now reigns"—the son of the adulterous wife, of the late king, thus requites your loyalty and perseverance in your contest with France. "Rejoice" that they who beat the "usurper" now groan in dungeons—shout loudly, be-



cause the inquisition is restored, and scoundrel priests and nobles take the place of your high souled patriots, and because a full despotism has destroyed the free constitution you built up in the name of the ingrate that tramples upon you.

*Turkish troops.* It seems that the Turkish government has at length partially succeeded in the introducing of the European system of discipline and tactics among the troops.

## Proceedings of Congress.

### SENATE.

The senate determined to insist on its disagreement to the amendments of the house to the militia draft bill, and appointed Messrs. Bibb, Brown and German, a committee of conference thereon.

*Tuesday, Dec. 27.*—The senate made several amendments to the bill for imposing duties on certain manufactures.

*Wednesday, Dec. 28.*—The message from the house in relation to their disagreement to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two houses on the militia draft bill, was taken up, and the proposition for a further conference thereon being under consideration—

A motion was made by Mr. King of N. Y. to postpone the further consideration of the subject to the second Monday in March next—in other words, to reject the bill: which motion was decided as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Chase, Daggett, Dana, Fremont, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason, Robinson, Thompson, Varano, Will—14.

NAYS—Messrs. Bibb, Bledsoe, Condit, Gailaird, Lacoek, Morrow, Roberts, Smith, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Walker Wharton—13.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The following are the yeas and nays for Mr. Yancey's motion to strike out that part of the bill for laying a direct tax of six millions, which pledges its continuance for the purpose of establishing an adequate revenue to pay the expences of government, and the principal and interest of the public debt, &c. decided on Wednesday, Dec. 21.

YEAS—Messrs. Atston, Bard, Barnett, Baylies of Mass, Bowen, Bard, Bradbury, Barwell, Butler, Calhoun, Clark, Crawford, Culpeper, Denoyelles, Desha, Earle, Forney, Franklin, Gaston, Glasgow, Goodwyn, Hale, Hall, Harris, Henderson, Humphreys, Hubbert, Kennedy, Kent of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, King of Mass. King of N. C. Law, Lefferts, Lowndes, Macon, Pearson, Pickens, Rhea of Tenn. Sharp, Smith of Vir. Stanford, Strong, Telfair, Wheaton, Wilson of Mass. Yancey—8.

NAYS—Messrs. Alexander, Anderson, Archer, Avery, Bigelow, Bates, Bradley, Brigham, Brown, Caldwell, Cannon, Champion, Chappell, Cilley, Clifton, Comstock, Condit, Conard, Cooper, Cox, Creighton, Culbert, Dana, Davenport, Davis of Mass, Davis of Penn. Duvall, Ely, Eppes, Farrow, Findley Fisk of N. Y. Forsythe, Geddes, Gholson, Gourdin, Griffin, Grosvenor, Hasbrouck, Hawes, Hawkins, Hopkins of Ken. Howell, Hubbard, Ingersoll, Inglish, Irving, Irwin, Jackson of R. I. Johnson of Vir. Johnson of Ken. Kent of N. Y. Lovett, Lytle, McCoy, McKee, McKim, McLean, Miller, Montgomery, Moore, Moseley, Markell, Nelson, Newton, Oakley, Ormsby, Parker, Peckering, Piper, Pleasant, Potter, John Reed, Win. Reed, Rea of Penn. Rich, Ringgold, Robertson, Rogers, Sage, Schurman, Seibert, Shaffer, Sherwood, Shipperd, Skinner, Smith of N. Y. Smith of Penn. Slaymaker, Stockton, Stunges, Taggart, Tamm, Hill, Taylor, Thompson, Troup, Usher, Vose, Ward of Mass. Ward of N. J. Webster, Wilcox, Williams, Wilson of Penn. Winter—105.

*Thursday, Dec. 22.* The bill to levy a direct tax of 6 millions was passed—ayes 106, nays 53.

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Anderson, Archer, Avery, Bard, Barnett, Bates, Bowen, Bradley, Brown, Burwell, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cannon, Chappell, Clark, Clifton, Comstock, Condit, Conard, Cox—Crawford, Creighton, Cuthbert, Dana, Davis of Pa. Denoyelles, D. sha, Duvall, Earle, Eppes, Evans, Farrow, Findley, Fisk, of Vt. Fisk, of N. Y. Forney, Forsythe, Franklin, Glasgow, Goodwyn, Gourdin, Griffin, Grosvenor, Harris, Hasbrouck, Hawes, Hawkins, Hopkins, of Ky. Howell, Hubbard, Humphreys, Ingersoll, Inglish, Irving, Irwin, Johnson, of Va. Johnson of Ky. Kent of N. Y. Kent of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, Kilbourn, King, of N. C. Lefferts, Lowndes, Lytle, McCoy, McKee, McKim, McLean, Montgomery, Moore, Murrey, Nelson, Newton, Oakley, Ormsby, Parker, Pickens, Piper, Pleasant, Rea of Penn. Rhea of Tenn. Rich, Robertson, Sage, Sevier, Seybert, Sharp, Skinner, Smith of N. Y. Smith, of Pa. Smith, of Va. Stockton, Tamm, Hill, Taylor, Telfair, Troup, Usher, Ward, of N. J. Williams, Wilson, of Pa. Winter—106.

NAYS—Messrs. Bayly, of Va. Baylies of Mass. Boyd, Bradburg, Breckenridge, Brigham, Butler, Caperton, Champion, Cilley, Cooper, Culpeper, Davis of Mass. Ely, Gaston, Geddes, Hale, Hall, Henderson, Hubbert, Jackson, of R. I. Kennedy, King of Mass. Lewis, Lovett, Macon, Miller, Moseley, Markell, Pearson, Pickering, Pitkin, Potter, J. Reed, Wm. Reed, Ruggles, Schurman, Sheffield, Sherwood, Shipperd, Slaymaker, Stanford, Sturges, Taggart, Thompson, Vose, Ward, of Mass. Webster, Wheaton, White, Wilcox, Wilson, of Mass.—53.

The bill for regulating militia drafts, which had passed as amended, and was sent to the senate, being returned, (with the refusal of the senate to agree to the substitution of one year as the term of service instead of two—and to authorise the president to call on the militia officers to supply the men in case the governors of states should refuse the requisition) was taken up, and the house refused 93 to 6 to recede from the several amendments they had made, and further resolved to insist upon them. It appears possible that this bill may be lost between the two houses.

The amendments of the senate to the bill which passed this house supplementary to the 25 million and three million loan acts was taken up and agreed to.

*Friday, Dec. 23.* The house in committee of the whole took up the bill from the senate to establish a *National Bank*. On a motion made to strike out the first section of the bill, or, in other words, to reject it, the yeas were 50 nays 71. The amendments proposed by the committee of ways and means were agreed to. The committee reported progress, and had leave to sit again.

*Saturday, Dec. 24.*—Mr. Calloun, from the committee to whom was referred on the 23d ult. the report of the secretary of war relating to an uniform system of discipline for the army of the United States, reported the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the secretary of war be directed to appoint a board of officers to modify "the rules and regulations for the field service and manoeuvres of the French infantry," as translated by Macdonald, so as to make them correspond with the organization of the army of the United States, and to make such additions and retrenchments as may be thought proper; and to lay the same, as soon as possible, before the house.

The said resolution was agreed to.

The whole of the day was consumed in the discussion of the details and propositions to amend the bill to establish a national bank, without giving birth to any material amendments.

The amendments made in the committee were reported to the house, and agreed to, before the house adjourned.

As amended, the bill exhibits the following features, viz.

The capital to consist of fifty millions of dollars, divided into shares of five hundred dollars each; subscribable and payable as follows: by the government, in stock to bear an interest of four per cent. per annum: fifteen millions, by individuals, the remaining thirty-five millions, payable as follows, viz. five millions in specie, ten millions in treasury notes, and twenty millions in what is usually called the war-stock. The bank to commence its operations as soon as 11,500,000 are paid in, in the proportions before mentioned, of specie, treasury notes and stock.

Other amendments were proposed to the bill; when the house adjourned, at dusk, without taking a question on the bill's going to a third reading.

*Monday, December 26.* Mr. Ingersoll rose to make a motion. He said their was now an individual in this town, by the name of Matthew Gray, a native of the town of Dumfries, who by an extraordinary act of bravery and heroism, had himself captured a British officer and four British soldiers. He was in an

oyster boat in the neighborhood of Chippewanzie, into which he was pursued by a British vessel; and after he got into the creek, a barge was sent after him with a midshipman and four men. This individual finding he must be overtaken, went ashore in a small skiff, and concealed himself on the margin of the creek with his duck-gun, directing a mulatto man, who was the only person in company with him, to pursue his way up the creek. The mulatto man accordingly steered up the creek, under a sharp fire from the barge which was in pursuit. When the barge passed within a convenient distance, Mr. Guy discharged his gun with such steady aim at it, as to wound four of the five men on board, who immediately cried for quarter; which being readily granted, they pushed ashore whilst Guy was loading his gun a second time. On finding the inferiority of force to which they had surrendered their arms, the prisoners were disposed to attempt a rescue; but their captor presented his piece a second time at them, and they deemed it proper to submit, the officer and three others being already wounded. The brave man who performed this exploit delivered his prisoners up to the militia in St. Mary's county, by whom they had been brought to the city. Though this case did not come within the letter, he said it certainly did within the equity of the law, which allows a bounty of 100 dollars on every prisoner taken by privateers; because this individual had redeemed from captivity one of our naval officers and four of our seamen by obtaining the means of their exchange—which was the principle on which the act in question was passed. He was desirous to extend the provision of that bill to this individual; and therefore moved the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the committee on naval affairs be instructed to enquire into the expediency of allowing a bounty to Matthew Guy for five English prisoners captured by him."

The motion was agreed to without opposition.

The rest of the day was occupied in discussing the bill to establish a national bank.

*Tuesday, Dec. 27.* The Speaker laid before the house a communication, signed by the acting secretary of state, the secretary of the treasury and attorney general, in their capacity as commissioners under the act for the final adjustment and settlement of Yazoo claims, respectfully representing, that, as the day approaches for the execution of the duties assigned by that act, they become more and more sensible, that, with a due attention to the duties of their respective offices, they cannot do justice to the examination of such numerous and conflicting claims as will present themselves for examination under that act; and suggesting the propriety of the establishment of a board of commissioners expressly for that object, who may be able to devote their whole attention to it. The letter was, on motion of Mr. *Oakley*, referred to a select committee.

Mr. Troup from the committee of conference on the disagreeing vote of the two houses, on the bill to call into service 80,000 men, as to the time of service [1 year fixed by the house, 2 years by the senate] proposed to substitute the term of eighteen months—which the house refused to agree to—for the proposition 64, against it 73.

The second proposition of the committee of conference is, that the house shall recede from an amendment—the object of which is to authorise the executive, in case of neglect or refusal of the governors of the states to execute the provisions of the law, to call directly on the militia officers of the states to carry them into effect.

On this a considerable debate took place—but the house refused to agree to it;—for agreeing 69, against it 80.

The house then took up the bill to establish a national bank. After some motions had been made, Mr. Ingersol moved the previous question—carried 72 to 70.

A motion was made to lay the bill and amendments on the table.

The chair decided (Mr. Macon, in the absence of Mr. Cheves, occupying the chair) that the motion was not in order; inasmuch as, the house having decided that the main question shall be now put, no other motion can obtain, unless a motion to adjourn.

An appeal was made from the decision of the chair; but the decision was confirmed, 108 to 36. After a good deal of time spent in another question of order—

The main question, viz. shall the amendments be engrossed, and, together with the bill, be read a third time? Was put, and decided as follows:

YEAS.—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Anderson, Archer, Avery, Bard, Barnett, Bines, Bralley, Brown, Calloun, Cannon, Chappell, Clark, Clendenin, Coonstock, Conard, Creighton, Cuthbert, Dana, Davis, of Penn. Denoyelles, Duvall, Earle, Farrow, Findley, Fisk, of N. Y. Forney, Forsyth, Gourdin, Griffin, Harris, Hasbrouck, Hawes, Hawkins, Hopkins of Ken. Hubbard, Ingersoll, Ingham, Irvine, Jr. Kent, of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, Kilbourn, King, of N. C. Lefferts, Lowides, Lyle, McCoy, McKee, MLean, Montgomery, Moore, Murfree, Nelson, Ormsby, Parker, Pickens, Pleasants, Rea, of Penn. Rhea, Ten. Rich, Ringold, Robertson, Sage, Sharp, Skinner, Smith, of Pen. Smyth of Virg. Strong, Trenchill, Taylor, Telfair, Udree, Ward, of N. J. Williams, Wilson, of Penn. Yancey—21.

NAYS.—Messrs. Baylies, of Mass. Bigelow, Bowen, Boyd, Bradbury, Brigham, Butler, Caperton, Champion, Gilley, Clopton, Cooper, Cox, Crawford, Davenport, Davis, of Mass. Desha, Ely, Evans, Franklin, Gaston, Gholson, Hale, Hall, Henderson, Humphreys, Jackson, of R. I. Johnson, of Virg. Kennedy, King, of Mass. Law, Lovett, Macon, Miller, Moseley, Markell, Newton, Oakley, Pearson, Pickering, Pitkin, Potter, John Reed, Wm. Reed, Ruggles, Schureman, Seybert, Shelden, Sherwood, Shipperd, Slaymaker, Stanford, Steckton, Thompson, Vose, Ward, of Mass. Webster, Wheaton, White, Wilcox, Wilson of Mass. Winter—62.

So the bill was ordered to be read a third time tomorrow; and the house adjourned [about sun down

*Wednesday, Dec. 28.*—The bill to establish a national bank being announced for its third reading—was, on a motion to re-commit it to a select committee for certain amendments—*re-committed*. For re-commitment 79, against it 76.

*Thursday, Dec. 30,* observes the *National Intelligencer*, was the most boisterous day in the House of Representatives that we have seen for two years. The bank bill having again come before the house, was attacked with the most determined zeal by the opposition side of the house, and beset with every obstacle that they could throw in the way of the proceedings of the house. By the aid of the previous question, however, the bill was again ordered to a third reading, and would have been passed last night, but for the evident determination of the minority to tire out the majority by desultory debate.

Particulars hereafter—the bill, probably, passed the next day.

**GEN. SCOTT.** The legislature of Virginia have named a new county after their illustrious citizen, maj. gen. *Scott*, the hero of Chippewa and Bridge-water.

*Retort courtoise.*—The honorable Henry Clay, being on a tour through the chief-towns of the Netherlands, we understand that the able Henry Goulburn, esquire, one of the British commissioners at Ghent, forwarded to him at Brussels, a London paper containing the official account of the destruction of the public edifices at Washington, with an apology suitable to the occasion, presuming he would through that channel receive the latest information from America. It so happened that the honorable Mr. Clay had just received the Paris Journals containing the official accounts of the defeat of the British forces on Lake Champlain, which he enclosed to the honorable Mr. Goulburn, with a similar apology.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 19 OF VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1815.

[WHOLE NO. 175.]

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.—VIRGIL.*

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann

The "New England Convention," No. IV. was nearly prepared for the press in the early part of the week—but, on account of the great length to which it extended, and a desire to give an insertion to *Washington's* plan for raising an army, and get up our "prize lists" so long neglected, induced its postponement.

## Resources of Great Britain.

[The following is from the same hand to which we were indebted for the article in our last number, headed "Agriculture, manufactures and commerce," and will apply reward the reader, curious of fact and seeking the truth.]

Is there not some mistake in supposing that it is in consequence of the value of the *commerce* of Great Britain, that she is enabled to bear the enormous taxes, duties, excises and loans that the present war has made necessary—and which for 1810 are stated as follows :

Nett revenue payable into the exchequer for 1810,	\$ 311,344,695
Loans for the same year,	59,922,777
Poor rates for 1810	28,860,000
Amount of Tythes	22,220,000

Emporium Feby. p. 281. \$ 422,547,472

In the same work, p. 241, the *real* value of the imports and exports of Great Britain are given as follows :

	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
1805	63,582,146 £ sterling,	51,109,131
1806	50,621,707	53,028,881
1807	53,500,990	50,482,661
1808	55,718,698	49,969,746
1809	59,851,352	66,017,712
1810	74,538,061	62,702,409
	6)357,812,954	6)333,310,540
Average	59,635,492	55,551,757

Averaged annual excess of *imports* for six years, £4,083,735—excess of *imports* in 6 years 24,502,410£ which is equal to 108,790,700 dollars.

If these statements be correct in the work they are extracted from, and they are given on good authority, it seems pretty clear that the balance of trade in those years could have given no aid in the payment of the public expences. But we find in the same work, p. 258, that in the above 6 years there was raised for the public service the prodigious sum of 515,372,523£. sterling, equal to 2,223,253,114 dollars. As it appears from what is above stated, that no relief for the public burdens was obtained from a favorable balance of trade, even if we admit a mercantile profit of 10 per cent. on the exports as supposing the whole to have been exported in British ships, which was not the fact—for by the same work, p. 248 it appears that the tons of shipping which cleared from the ports of Great Britain in the years 1806, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, were "British 8,944,694 tons" and "foreign 4,016,352 tons."—Where, then, are we to look for the means of paying those prodigious sums of money, constantly levied on that people? The same work, page 280, states—"the whole annual income of the people of

Great Britain (1805) including "revenues, resources, and earnings of individuals, of every description at 1,078,920,000 dollars," and the "British manufactures, for *home consumption*, at 408,982,816 dollars." "The real and personal property in Great Britain at 13,320,600,000 dollars"—and the whole circulating *paper medium* at 4,570,333,417 dollars. All the difficulty of accounting for how that government can raise such immense sums of *paper*, may seem to be obviated if we can suppose the credit of the *paper medium* to be kept up; 422 millions of dollars *per ann.* being but about a tenth part of the amount of their *paper money*. If then the government of that country lay their taxes judiciously (and there is no doubt but that that great art is brought to perfection there) and so contrive the disbursements of them, that they will be principally expended within the realm; that for any part of the war expences, or those of trade, or of civil government, for which they are obliged to make payments *out* of the kingdom, they can keep up such a surplus of labor, in the shape of exports, as will discharge those payments—it seems probable the nation may continue, while this paper retains its credit, to bear such enormous expenditures—but it is a fickle foundation resting entirely upon that credit.

It also appears by the same work, (Emporium) p. 250, "that the paper currency had depreciated 35 per cent." This circumstance must create a necessity for heavier taxes and greater loans to meet a correspondent rise in the price of every article to be purchased with *paper*; or, what is the same thing, to meet the fall in the value of that paper.

If the history of the depreciation of our continental money could be a rule whereby to calculate the final extinction of the British paper, we might fix upon some data to ascertain the period of its circulation; but all the powers of a strong government are on the side of the British paper, whereas, there was no power to support the continental paper. We, therefore, can draw no conclusions from its fate to predict the fate of that of Great Britain. That, in time, its credit will be finally destroyed, there can be little doubt; as it is impossible to suppose 200 millions a year can be added without sinking its value. Its period, then, may arrive either by domestic convulsions, or when their commerce will no longer pay the balance due on their trade and expeditions to other countries. That day had arrived in the years we have stated, and accordingly their paper was diminished in value—but during that period merchants and manufacturers accumulated great stocks, which now they *may* have an opportunity of disposing of on the continent of Europe, and by this operation reverse the balance of trade and render it favorable.\*

\*It would rather appear that an effect the *reverse* of this has been experienced by the peace in Europe. During the war, it seems, immense sums of money from the continent had been invested in the British funds for security; which are now drawing out of the country, to a considerable depression in the price of the stocks. Thus, at least, it is that the materialists account for the fall of the funds; being unwilling to admit that the war with *America* has any material effect upon them.—ED. REG.

But what we set out with was an idea that it was not the commerce of Great Britain that the nation relied on for the payment of its immense taxes; and it seems clear, in the years we have stated, commerce brought no relief—indeed was a burden on the national energy: but their agriculture and manufactures—their vast mass of real and personal property, and, above all, their four thousand millions of nominal money, were truly, it would seem, resources upon which the government calculated—for by their taxes, duties and excises it was necessary only to cause one fifth part of this nominal money to pass through the treasury and they had 800 millions at command. But supposing a further depreciation of paper money to 50 per cent. they must, in that case, cause 1600 millions to go the same rounds, and so on to the end of the chapter, which, probably, cannot be a long one; for it is a sword that cuts both ways—as, while the depreciation continues, the necessity of higher taxes and more issues of paper money will continually press upon them, until the whole system must fall from mere decrepitude—an incapacity of performing what it used to perform.

If this reasoning is just it would seem that commerce, as a national benefit, may be estimated above its real value—holding but an inferior place to either agriculture or manufactures.

## American Prizes.

CONTINUED FROM [OCTOBER 28, TO DECEMBER 31, 1814]—PAGE 121

The winds and seas are Britain's wide domain,  
And not a sail, but by permission spreads!"

*British Naval Register.*

These lists only include such enemy vessels as safely arrive in our ports, or are sunk or burnt, or otherwise "satisfactorily" accounted for. A record of all the prizes heard of will be kept from the 1st inst. and those re-captured be published occasionally in separate lists.

1293. Brig Concord, captured by a letter of marque of Wilmington, N. C. divested and made a cartel of.

1294. Brig Speculation from Lauzarote for London, captured by the Grampus, of Baltimore, divested and being an old vessel, given up to the prisoners.

The Grampus has arrived at New York, with the loss of her captain, that excellent seaman and worthy man, John Murphy, and one scaman, in a contest with a British sloop of war off the Canaries, disguised as a merchantman, from whom, however, she escaped by desperately daring exertion.

1295. Brig Sir John Sherbrooke, 12 guns, from Halifax for Alicant, laden with fish and oil, captured by the Syren of Baltimore, and plumped on shore, at Rock way, N. J. to avoid a recapture by the blockading squadron off New-York. On abandoning her, the prize crew, set her on fire, and she was burnt. Her armament, &c. was saved.

1296. Ship Adventure, of Liverpool, captured by the U. S. brig Syren, off the African coast.

1297. Ship Farmer, from England for Halifax, captured by the Mammoth of Baltimore, off the British coast and destroyed.

1298. Ann and Eliza, from Newfoundland for Maranhoch, captured by do. and do.

1299. Ship Urania, from do. captured by do. and do.

1300. Ship Anisby, from Quebec for Barbadoes, captured by do. and do.

1301. Eliza, from Newfoundland for Prince Edward's island, captured by do. and given up.

1302. Ship Nelson, from Cork for Quebec, captured by the same and burnt.

1303. Ship St. from England for Quebec, captured by the same, divested and made a cartel of. She has arrived at Liverpool.

The Mammoth, when last heard of (and we have the account of her from Liverpool) had been out 7 weeks, and made 16 prizes. She cruized 17 days off Cape Clear, Ireland. Several valuable vessels had been manned for the United States. We shall have a better account of her here, fier.

1304. Sloop Christianna, of Kirkadee, Scotland, captured by the Chasseur of Baltimore and made a cartel of.

1305. Brig Prudence of Aberdeen, from the island of Lauzarote for London, with barilla and wine, captured by the same and burnt.

1306. Sloop Favorite, from the same for the same, laden with the same, captured by do. and do.

1307. Brig Marquis Cornwallis, from the same for the same, captured by the same and being of little value, made a cartel of.

1308. Brig Alert, of Pool, from Newfoundland with timber, captured by the same and burnt.

1309. Brig Harmony, of Aberdeen, from Newfoundland for London, captured the same and made a cartel of.

1310. Ship Carlbury, of London, from Jamaica, with an immense cargo of cotton, cocoa, hides, indigo, &c. captured by the same, divested of 237 seroons of indigo and ordered into port. [As the Chasseur has arrived, we consider the Carlbury, as a good prize, the indigo being worth about \$50,000.]

The Chasseur, also captured and manned the valuable brig Eclipse, (14 guns arrived, at New-York and already accounted for); brig Commerce, a valuable vessel, laden with fish; the brig Antelope, eight 18lb carronades and a long Tom, (without resistance) from Havana, with 900 boxes of sugar; the schooner Fox, laden with fish; brig Atlantic, of London, 8 guns, and ship James of do. 12 guns, in company, from the River Plate, with great cargoes of hides, tallow, bark, furs, &c. ship Theodore, of Liverpool, 8 guns, from Marsham, with 1600 bales of cotton; brig Amicus, of Liverpool, from Lisbon, with wool, fruit, and 2 bales of woolens—and several other vessels, making eighteen in the whole. Captain Boyle brought in 43 prisoners, and parolled 150, during his cruize of three months. If the Chasseur had been an United States vessel, acting under the orders to "sink, burn and destroy," the certain loss to the enemy would have exceeded a million and a half of dollars. As war is, emphatically, a contest to see "who can do the other the most harm," let those who manage its business think of this. It is true, we are much more willing that the whole should arrive in our ports; but this we cannot hope for. Some of them probably will, and in any event, the Chasseur has made a profitable cruize. She is a formidable vessel, carrying 16 long 12's.

Captain Boyle while sailing round the coasts of Great Britain, had many "hair breadth 'scapes." He was once so near a frigate as to exchange broadsides with her! At another time he was nearly surrounded by two frigates and two men of war brigs—and was often chased, but easily out-manœuvred them all, though by a ball from a frigate he had three men wounded. While off England he issued the following proclamation, and by a cartel sent it to London, with orders to have it stuck up at Lloyd's coffee house!

*By Thomas Boyle, Esq. commander of the private armed brig Chasseur, &c.*

PROCLAMATION—Whereas it has become customary with the admirals of Great Britain, commanding small forces on the coast of the United States, particularly with sir John Borlase Warren, and sir Alexander Cochrane, to declare all the coast

of the said United States in a state of strict and rigorous blockade without possessing the power to justify such a declaration, or stationing an adequate force to maintain said blockade.

I do, therefore, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested (possessing sufficient force) declare all the ports, harbours, bays, creeks, rivers, inlets, outlets, islands and sea coast of the united kingdom of G. Britain and Ireland, in a state of strict and rigorous blockade. And I do further declare, that I consider the force under my command, adequate to maintain strictly, rigorously and effectually the said blockade. And I do hereby require the respective officers, whether captains, commanders or commanding officers under my command, employed or to be employed on the coast of England, Ireland and Scotland, to pay strict attention to the execution of this my proclamation. And I do hereby caution and forbid the ships and vessels of all and every nation in amity and peace with the United States from entering or attempting to enter, or from coming or attempting to come out of any of the said ports, harbours, bays, creeks, rivers, inlets, outlets, islands, or sea coast, under any pretence whatsoever. And that no person may plead ignorance of this my proclamation, I have ordered the same to be made public in England.

Given under my hand on board the Chasseur, day and date as above.

THOMAS BOYLE.

By command of the commanding officer.

J. J. STANSBURY, Sec'y.

1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1317, 1318, 1319, 1320, 1321, fourteen vessels, viz. brig Sea Flower, from St. Johns to Barbadoes; brig Stranger, from Buenos Ayres to Greenock; sloop Fortitude, from Liverpool to London; brig Venus, from Bordeaux to London; brig Diana, from Liverpool to Quebec; sloop Leith Packet, from Teneriffe to Dublin; William and Ann, from Glasgow to Jamaica; Peggy and Jane, do. do; barque William, from St. Andrew's to Greenock; ship Sir Edward Pelieu, from Quebec to Glasgow; brig Bellona, from Cotte to Hamburg; brig Triton, from St. Johns to Lisbon; brig Duck, from Fort-en-Ventura to Teneriffe; ship Mary, from Point Petre, Guadeloupe, for Halifax, captured by the United States sloop of war Peacock, capt. Warrington, during a cruise of nearly five months, on the coasts of England, Ireland, Surriam, &c.—all sunk or burnt, except two of little value that were made cartels of. The property destroyed is estimated to have been worth 494,222 dollars. For particulars see the official letter of capt. Warrington to the secretary of the navy. The Peacock lost but one man [and by sickness] during her cruise. Three of her prizes have already been noticed in our lists, and are, therefore, not counted now. Those vessels were laden with—1, codfish; 2, hides and tallow; 3, salt; 4, barley, oats, brandy, cork; 5, salt; 6, Teneriffe wine; 7, coals; 8, coal, crates and glass; 9, timber; 10, lumber; 11, brandy, wine and verdigreise; 12, fish; 13, cargo not stated; 14, sugar, coffee, rum and molasses. They carried in the whole 30 guns, and 150 men.

1322 Privateer *Thinks-I-to-myself*, 2 guns, 20 men, captured by the Dash of Portland and brought into that port.

1323. Schooner *Britania*, in ballast, commanded by captain Freeman, late of the privateer Liverpool packet, captured by the Harpy of Baltimore and burnt.

1324. Brig Halifax Packet, from Aberdeen for Halifax, with a valuable cargo of dry goods, hardware and sundries, captured by the same, divested of her richest articles and arrived at Portsmouth.

The Harpy sailed from and has returned to Portsmouth N. H. after a cruise of twenty days laden with the choicest spoils of the foe, and sixty prisoners. Besides the above she captured the transport ship *Amazon*, 6 guns, 18 men, an elegant vessel, from London for Halifax with a cargo of beef, pork, bread and flour. Also the transport ship *Budges*, 44 tons, 6 18lb carronades, with a mighty cargo of rum, brandy, beef, pork, flour and bread—both which were manned and ordered into port—Among the prisoners brought in are two majors and several other officers. These three vessels belonged to the fleet that lately sailed from Portsmouth, Eng. of which the great prize *James* (see No. 1290) was one. The prizes of the Harpy may be moderately valued at 4 or 500,000 dollars—and we hope for their arrival.

1325. Brig *Harvest*, laden with fish, furs, &c. sent into an eastern port by the York of Baltimore.

1326. Schooner *Prince Regent* with 380 bbls alewives and a quantity of salmon, sent in by the Dash of Portland.

1327. Privateer *Retaliation*, 5 guns, 20 men, captured near Barnstable (Mass.) by the sloop *Two Friends*, fitted out for the occasion, and manned by volunteers. By good management she was taken by complete surprise, and carried without resistance.

1328. Brig *Commerce*, a very valuable vessel, coppered and copper fastened, laden with fish and oil, sent into Charleston, S. C. by the Chasseur of Baltimore.

1329. Sloop *Farmer* with flour and wheat, captured by the *Mammoth* of Baltimore, and sunk.

1330. Brig *Britannia*, for Liverpool, laden with lumber, captured by the same and burnt.

1331. Schooner *Two Brothers*, laden with fish, captured by the same and made a cartel of.

1332. Brig *Ann Eliza*, for Merimache, in ballast, captured by the same and burnt.

1333. Brig *Uniza*, for the same, in ballast, captured by ditto and ditto.

1334. Brig *Anasley*, from Quebec for Barbadoes, with horses and lumber, captured by the same and scuttled.

1335. Brig *Sarah*, from Cork for Merimache, with 600 bbls. flour, captured by the same and burnt.

1336. Brig *Sir Home Popham*, with fruit, captured by the same, and ditto.

1337. Schooner *Rapid*, from Newfoundland for Lisbon, with fish, captured by the same and burnt.

1338. Ship *Champion*, from London for Quebec, with dry goods, captured by the same, divested of her cargo (worth from 80 to 100,000 dollars) and made a cartel of.

1339, 1340. Two other vessels captured by the same and destroyed.

The *Mammoth* also captured and ordered in, the barque *Mary*, brigs *Alexander* and *Charlotte* and the ship *Mentor*, with valuable cargoes—and gave up the schooner *Thomas*, *Good Intent*, and brigs *Joseph* and *Eliza*. She made twenty-one prizes in all, and paroled about 500 prisoners. The privateer has arrived at Portsmouth, N. H. full of rich spoils.

1341. Schooner ———, from Halifax for *Cubaine*, with a cargo of dry goods, captured by a custom-house barge, and sent into Camden, Maine. It is stated that £30,000 were offered for her ransom and refused by the captors.

1342. "His majesty's" sloop of war *Avon*, rated at 18 guns, sunk by the U. S. sloop of war *Wasop*, of the same rate, after an action of 46 minutes, in which, according to the British account, they lost thirty men killed and wounded; we had only two killed and one slightly wounded. For particulars, see official account.

1343. Brig *Atlanta*, 253 tons, (formerly the elegant schooner *Siro*, of Baltimore) coppered and found in the best manner, and laden with an exceedingly rich cargo of wines, brandy, silks, cambricks, and dry goods—from Bordeaux for Pensacola, captured by the U. S. sloop of war *Wasp*, and sent into Savannah.

☞ The cargo of the ship *James*, prize to the Portsmouth, see No. 1290, as advertised by the marshal, consists of 250 packages of British dry goods, containing a prodigious variety of valuable articles: 52 pipes Holland gin, 40 pipes brandy; 32 do. red wine; 60 puncheons rum; 25 boxes raisins; 40 bags pepper; 12 chests tea; 80 casks gun-powder; 6 bags nuts; 2 cases almonds; 140 cases pickles;—besides packages of fish sauce, mustard, glass, corks, nails, &c. &c. &c. 2 printing presses, 2 fonts of type, &c. &c. The *James*, as to goods, was a sort of *Noah's Ark*. We do not believe her invoice was over-rated when given at £100,000 sterling.—This is touching *John Bull* in a very tender place.

1344. The valuable brig *Europa*, eight 18 pound carronades, 2 long 9's, and 22 men, with 175 tons of sweet oil, &c. sent into a southern port by the *Patasco* of Baltimore. She was from Malta for London, before the "Yankee" changed her destination.

1345. Brig *Canada*, 10 guns, from Bermuda, laden with 500 puncheons of rum, sent into Wilmington, N. C. by the *Lawrence* of Baltimore.

1346. Schooner *Fox*, a tender of the *Ramilies*, brought into Newbern, N. C. by the crew in distress. She had on board only 8 men; the greater part of her original compliment had perished.—

1347. Brig *William*, laden with 194,087 lbs of gum, worth from 50 to 60,000 dollars, sent into Newbern by the ———, of Baltimore.

1348. Brig *Lulice*, 7 men, 99 tons, with a cargo of pork, captured by the U. S. S. *Wasp*, and burnt.

1349. Brig *Bon Accord*, 131 tons, 7 men from *Serville* for London, with a cargo of Merino wool, fruits and wine, captured by the same and sunk.

1350. Transport, brig *Mary*, 10 men, 2 guns, 151 tons, laden with ordnance and military stores, captured by the same, being cut out from a convoy of a 74 and a bomb vessel, and burnt in the face of the enemy.

1351. Ship *Three Brothers*, 7 men, 114 tons, with lime, captured by the same and burnt.

1352. Brig *Bacchus*, 11 men, 2 guns, 169 tons, laden with fish, from Gibraltar, captured by the same and destroyed.

1253. Ship *Ann Dorothy*, with a cargo of hides, tallow, &c. sent into Boston, by the *Saratoga*, of New York—valuable. This vessel had been captured by the *Saratoga*, and recaptured by the *Maidstone* frigate, was re-re-captured by the *David Porter*, and is now satisfactorily accounted for. Her cargo consists of 500 marqueters [packages in raw hides] of tallow, 17,270 ox hides, 28 bales horse hides, 2 do. chichille skins, 164 buck skins, and cannot afford less clear profit than from 100 to 120,000 dollars. A very clever "comfortable" matter.

☞ The privateer *Saratoga* has returned, after a cruise of 110 days, during which she captured, the schr. *Mary*, cargo fish. Brig *Swiftsure*, 12 32lb carronades, and 2 long 9's, and schr. *James*, 6 12lb carronades, and 2 18lb ditto, both laden with fish. Being in company, they made battle, but were soon compelled to strike their colors. Ship *Ann Dorothy*, arrived, see No. 1253. Ship *Enterprize*, from Goree for London, with a cargo of hides, ivory, &c. schr. *Mary*, with fish—all which were manned and ordered for the United States. The privateer has brought in some indigo, ivory and furs.

The privateer *Syren*, of Baltimore, returning from a cruise was chased off New-York, and lost on making the Delaware, Nov. 16, being run ashore by the pilot; where she was attacked by three barges from a razeet at anchor, which were kept at bay for two hours; but finding no chance of escape, the privateer was set on fire, and her crew (only 20 in number with 6 prisoners in charge) reached the New-Jersey shore in safety. One of the enemy's barges is said to have sunk. The *Syren* has captured and manned several valuable vessels.

1354. Brig *Hiram* from Liverpool, last from Cork, with a convoy from which she separated in a gale, bound for St. John's, with a cargo of dry goods, crockery, cordage, &c. captured by the *David Porter* of Boston, divested of goods to the value of 100,000\$ and given up.

The *David Porter* has arrived at Boston with her rich spoils, after a cruise of only fifteen days, during which she captured the *Hiram*, re-captured the ship *Dorothy Ann* (1353) and captured two valuable brigs, which she ordered into port.

1355. Brig *Nancy*, from Leghorn, with an exceeding rich cargo of silks, oil, sulphur, marble, &c. sent into New York, by the famous privateer *Scourge* of that port.

1356. Ship *Lord Hood*, from Quebec for London, captured by the same and burnt.

1357. Brig *Trident*, from ditto for ditto, captured by ditto and ditto.

1358. Brig *Haddock*, from ditto for ditto, captured by ditto and ditto.

1359. Brig *Belfield*, from ditto for ditto, captured by ditto and ditto.

1360. Brig *Susan* and *James*, captured by the *Fox* of Portsmouth and burnt.

1361. Schooner *Retrieve*, captured by ditto and ditto.

1362. Brig *Concord*, captured by ditto and made a cartel of.

1363. Brig *Cossack*, laden with wine, sent into Boston, by the *Surprize* of Baltimore. This vessel had been captured by the *Grand Turk*, of Salem, re-captured by the *Bulwark*, 74, and taken again and sent into port by the *Surprize*.

1364. Schooner *Pink*, captured by the *Grand Turk* of Salem, and sunk.

1365. Brig *Brothers*, from St. John's for Liverpool, with lumber, captured by ditto and ditto.

1366. Brig *Belgrade* from Malta for Falmouth, captured by the same, divested of some guns, &c and permitted to proceed.

1367. Brig *Robert Stewart*, with lumber, captured by the same and burnt.

1368. Schooner *Commerce*, laden with fish, captured by the same and destroyed. The *Grand Turk* has arrived at Salem after a cruise of 103 days, with 44 of her original crew (the rest being on board her prizes) and fifty prisoners. Besides the above, she captured 7 or 8 other vessels, one with an invoice of £30,000 sterling—all which were manned and ordered for the U. S. The *G. T.* has on board goods to the value of 20,000 dollars.

1369. Schooner *Mary*, from Halifax, with a cargo of mackarel, captured by the *Surprize* of Baltimore, and sunk.

1370. A transport sloop "laden with naval stores and various implements of war," sunk by the enemy in Champlain, when running away from commodore *Macdonough*; and since raised. See official letter.

1371. Schooner *Bird*, from Newfoundland for the West Indies, with a cargo of fish, captured by the *Grand Turk* and sent into Salem.

1372. Ship *Ocean*, 380 tons, of and for London, laden with a cargo of masts, &c. viz. 35 masts, 35 bowsprits for men of war—and a great quantity of other timber and lumber, and sent into ——— by the General *Putnam*, of Salem. The privateer herself has since been captured.

1373. Schooner Georgiana, from Martinico for Newfoundland, with 93 lbs. of rum, 4 lbs., and a few barrels of sugar, sent into — by the Grand Turk.

1374. Sloop —, captured by the Scorpion, of Salem, (of 1 gun) and sent into —.

1375. Schooner —, captured by the same and bilged.

1376. 1377. Schooners Eugene and Stinger, captured by the Midas of Baltimore, divested and destroyed.

1378. Schooner Betsey and Jane, from St. Johns for Castine, with 119 packages of dry goods, valued at 150,000 dollars, brought into Thomastown by the Cadet of Salem.

1379. Brig —, laden with fish, sent into — by the letter of marque Jonquille, of New-York.

1380. Sloop — from St. Lucia, captured by the Saucy Jack of Charleston, divested and given up.

1381. Schooner Mary, captured by ditto and ditto.

1382. Schooner Kingston Packet, captured by ditto and made a tender of.

1383. Sloop Cyrus, captured by said tender and burnt.

1384. Sloop Jane, with provisions, captured by the Saucy Jack, divested and given up to the prisoners.

1385. Ship Amelia, four long guns and eight 12-pound carronades, richly laden with dry goods, captured by the same after a close engagement of an hour, divested of the richest of her cargo and burnt. The Saucy Jack had one killed and one wounded—the Amelia four killed and five wounded.

1386. Schooner Vessel, laden with provisions, captured by the same and sent to St. Mary's.

1387. Schooner Jane, from Jamaica for St. John's, laden with rum, sugar, &c. brought into Savannah by the Saucy Jack, where she has arrived with a full cargo of dry goods, taken from the Amelia, and twenty prisoners.

☞ The following accounts of a battle the Saucy Jack had with two enemy vessels, are interesting:—

Extract from the journal of the Saucy Jack:—“October 31, at six P. M. Cape Tiboron bore east by south and Navasa south-east by south, distant twenty miles—at ten P. M. have too in company with the Packet, our tender. At one A. M. saw two ships standing to the westward—give chase, and at two being within gun shot, fired three shots at them from our long guns, on which, one of the ships returned the fire and both immediately shortened sail. At six A. M. being within half gun shot of them found that one mounted sixteen and the other eighteen, but did not appear to be well manned. At seven hoisted the colors and began the engagement with the nearest ship—at ten minutes past seven boarded her on the larboard beam and then found her to be full of soldiers. The Saucy Jack on perceiving this, immediately sheered off, when the two ships continued to chase her until a quarter before eight o'clock, pointing in at the time a constant fire of grape and musquetry—it was 8 o'clock before the Saucy Jack had eight men killed and fifteen wounded—received two balls in her hull, and her spars and rigging were very much cut up.

Kington, Jamaica, November 2.—Yesterday morning, the Volcano boatship, captain Price, and transport ship Golden Fleece, from the Chesapeake, having on board 250 troops, appeared in the offing, but from the baffling winds were not enabled to reach Port Royal at the time this paper was put to press.

On Sunday night, about twelve o'clock, off the Navassa, the Volcano perceived a schooner standing towards her, which fired several shot when they were returned. The Volcano shortened sail, in order that the schooner might approach her. At about eight o'clock the following morning, she was ascertained to be a large black vessel with white streaks, which ran alongside and attempted to board, but finding the Volcano was not a merchantman, she endeavored to sheer off, at which time several volleys of musquetry and great guns were discharged at her, that swept her deck and killed most of those who endeavored to board, when the remainder were hurled to gun below. The Volcano then chased her for three miles, but perceiving no probability of coming up with her, relinquished the pursuit. During the contest, a very surprising officer of marine artillery, lieutenant W. P. Putzen, and two seamen were killed, and two men wounded. The privateer had in company a balloon schooner, which did not attempt to afford her any assistance; she mounted six carriage guns on a pivot and was full of men.

1288. Brig Louisa, laden with salt and a few boxes of tin, captured by the Macedonian of Portsmouth, divested of the tin and burnt.

1389. Brig Britannia, from St. John's for Liverpool with 195 tons of lumber and a quantity of stores, captured by the same and burnt.

1390. Ship Sir Edward Pellew, 307 tons, two guns, 19 men, in ballast, coppered, captured by the same and sunk.

1391. Schooner Marine, laden with fish, captured by the same and made a cartel of.

☞ The Macedonian also manned two vessels—she was at sea only twenty days having carried away her bowsprit in a gale. She has now arrived at Portsmouth with twenty-two prisoners.

1392. Schooner —, with a cargo of codfish, sent into Charleston by the Resolution of Baltimore.

1393. Brig S. B. two guns, twelve men, from Havana for London, laden with sugar and coffee, sent into — by the Kemp of Baltimore.

☞ The Kemp sailed from Wilmington on the 19th of November, and returned to the same port on the 6th of December, with fifty-three prisoners! The following account of the battle with and capture of a small fleet of the enemy is singular and interesting. “December 1, at 8 A. M. descried a fleet from the mast-head of nine sail, out every sail drawing in chase. Meridian came up with them near enough to discover a frigate in company. Lat. 32.32, N. long. 77.0, W. December 1, in frigate gave chase to us and drove us out of the fleet—made short tacks to windward, at sun set, ran her out of sight, during the night dodged her, and made after

the fleet, judging how they steered. At day-light discovered them on the weather beam bearing NNE. wind at N.—At eleven A. M. boarded the Spanish ship Isabella, from Havana bound to Hamburg, overhauled her and permitted her to proceed. Proceeded after the fleet. Dec. 3, lat. 31.06, N. long. 76.09, W. The fleet five miles to windward, laid by in a line prepared for combat, a large ship in the van, three brigs, two schooners and a large ship in the rear. At two P. M. they bore up for us, and as they passed commenced firing in rotation; we reserved our fire and tacked; they wore and we commenced firing with all our ammunition; at half past two, the enemy in confusion, we fell on board one of the brigs, boarded her, she struck, one man wounded on our side—the rest keeping up their fire on us, our schooner not idle in returning the salute—at three till on board the ship, Mr. Sellers, sailing master, and Mr. Myers, first-lieutenant, with eight men boarded her, she struck, no loss on our side, three wounded of hers; in attempting next to board the schooner they cried for quarters; ordered them to lie by. In a short time got alongside the largest of the brigs, after a contest of fifteen minutes she struck. During this time the schooner reboated her colors and commenced firing on the schooner again, when observing the brig strike, she made sail and got off with the other brig who struck half an hour before. Concealed it best to secure all the prizes struck, and the number of our men and officers on board this curtailing our crew on board the schooner so much, we could not pursue them. Manned on the four prizes and despatched them for the United States. Like the gallant Perry, we may say, “we have met the enemy and they are ours.” In this unequal contest every man acted as American should do.

The following is a list of the vessels engaged.

	Guns.	Men.
Ship Roselle, . . . . .	16	35
Ship Princess, . . . . .	2	14
Brig Portsea, . . . . .	3	26
S. B. . . . .	2	12
Only Son, . . . . .	12	28
Schooner Cossack, formerly the O. H. Perry, } one 24lb. on a pivot and four 12 lbs. }	6	20
	46	134

The two last after striking relinshed their colors and made off. Dec. 4th, at midnight got clear of all the prizes dispatched for the United States and the prisoners on board, amounting in all captured to seventy-one, fifty-three on board the schooner. Made the best of our way to the port of destination; at three got the ground; at eight made the land of Cape Ronaine—*30 miles the cruise, lasting six days.* Our loss is one killed (John Train) and four wounded, all on the recovery doing well.

N. B. The prizes are large and valuable, loaded with coffee chiefly.

1394. Ship Rosabella, 16 guns, 35 men, an elegant vessel of 264 tons burthen and coppered, with a full cargo of sugar and coffee, captured by the Kemp, of Baltimore, and sent into Charleston. The Rosabella unfortunately grounded on the bar, where she was bilged and lost. This vessel is a loss to the enemy of from 2 to 300,000 dollars. She was afterwards set fire to by a British brig.

1395. Brig Portsea, 8 guns, 26 men, heavily laden with sugar and coffee, captured and sent into Charleston, by the same.

1396. Ship Princess, 2 guns, 14 men, with a great cargo of sugar and coffee, sent into — by the same.

1397. Schooner —, laden with 500 bushels of salt, sent into Ocracoke, by the Young Wasp.

1398. Schooner Hazard, from Halifax for Annapolis, N. S. with a valuable cargo of dry goods, West India produce, &c. captured by the Surprise of Baltimore, divested and burnt.

1399, 1400. Two small vessels captured by ditto and ditto—one burnt, the other given up to the prisoners.

1401. Schooner Mary, from Halifax for the West Indies, (cargo not mentioned) captured by the same and burnt.

1402. Brig Courtney, 96 tons, 16 men, with 31 tons cordage, 200 packages and bales of dry goods, 42 boxes of smithing copper, and a quantity of iron, sent into Fairhaven by the Yankee, of Bristol, R. I. The invoices of this vessel are said to amount to 300,000 dollars.

1403. Schooner Polly, from Halifax for Martinique, laden with fish, &c. sent to Boston, by the Dash of Portland.

1404. Schooner Swift, laden with fish, lumber, &c. from St. John's for Grenada, captured by the Expedition of Baltimore, and sent into —. The Expedition had taken three other prizes which we hope to notice a little while hence.

1405. Ship L'Amball, from Havana, under Spanish colors, sent into Wilmington, N. C. by the Roger of Norfolk—cargo, sugar.

1406. Schooner —, with a valuable cargo of crates, glass hardware, lead, &c. sent into Beaufort, by the Hero of Newbury.

1407. Ship —, laden with provisions and stores for the allied forces in Florida, entering Mobile in a mistake for Pensacola Bay and there captured by our troops. Lucky!

48. Schooner Mary, from St. John's for Castine, with a rich cargo of dry goods, captured by the Cadet of Salem, divested of 100 cases of dry goods, manned and arrived in port. The privateer was safely arrived with her fish spoils at Thomastown. This prize was under convoy of an armed schooner, with whom the privateer Charles Stewart had a fight, but seeing the Cumberland privateer coming up and supposing she might be a British vessel, the Charles Stewart sheered off—the Cumberland engaged the Englishman, and was beaten off with the loss of one killed and one wounded—but the convoyed schooner (the Mary) was afterwards taken and served as above stated by the Cadet.

☞ An officer of the Endymion has stated, that the number of men they had killed and since died of their wounds, in the attack on the Neutral privateer, was sixty-two.

## Militia drafts—or “Conscription.”

The ghost of “*French influence*” being laid in the sea that washes the shores of the little island of *Elba*—faction, at a loss for some *noisy word*, happily grasped “conscription,” and wielded it with no little effect on the minds of the people. It is astonishing how complete may be a *delusion* when a large body of men unite and act together to mislead the judgment—and I dare say, there are tens of thousands of very honest men who really believe that the plans for raising a military force lately before congress, had their origin with *Napoleon Bonaparte*, and never were embodied on paper but by him, except in the project of the secretary of war, or in the bill recently reported to the senate by Mr. *Giles*.

To undeceive honest men, and give our readers, in general, a document of high interest, we devote a great part of this number to the insertion of *WASHINGTON’s* plan for organizing an army in 1790. That it was *his* plan, is undeniable from the assertion of gen. *Knox*—that “it was modified according to the alterations you [*WASHINGTON*] were pleased to insert.”

We heartily recommend it to the perusal of every one. Let Mr. *Munroe’s* project (page 137) and Mr. *Giles’* bill (page 181) be also carefully read—and let the reader lay his hand on his heart and say which looks the most like a “conscription.”

To assist the collection, however, and present the leading features of the three plans, we have put them in brief contrast, for ready reference, as occasion requires:

### WASHINGTON’S PLAN.

1. *Liable to service.* All persons between the ages of *eighteen* and *sixty*, except those excepted by the several states, &c. and all *actual mariners*—[who are divided into classes, for marine services, &c.]
2. *Classes.* Youths of 18, 19 and 20 years old for the first class—men from 21 to 45, the second class; those from 45 to 60 the third class.
3. *Requisitions for men.* All persons, except as before excepted, between the ages of 18 and 60 years, to be formed into legions, regiments, companies and sections of 12 persons each. When men are wanted to “*FORM AN ARMY*,” they shall be furnished by the classes from 18 to 45 years old; the executive of the United States, or the commander in chief of the militia of each state, shall assess the numbers required; and from each section, if the demand be so great, “*one person shall be detached by indiscriminate draft*,” and the others of the section shall compensate him in money, &c. The men thus drafted to be as *regulars* for *three years*, and not to serve longer than that period at one time; but the draft may be repeated as often as occasion requires. The power to obtain *substitutes* regulated and confined, to certain cases. *The rights of a free citizen denied for years to those who, while minors, had not served in the militia, &c.*
4. *Exemptions.* Persons above the ages of 45 years and to 60, must, in cases of *actual invasion* or rebellion, furnish their quota of men, in like manner as the other classes.

### MONROE’S PLAN.

1. *Liable to service.* All persons between the ages of *eighteen* and *forty five*, except as excepted in *Washington’s* plan.
2. *Class.* All persons from 18 to 45 years old, in a general class for service.
3. *Requisitions for men.* The whole body of the militia from 18 to 45 years are divided into classes or companies, of 100 men, who shall “*furnish men for the war*, and replace them in case of casualty.” If any class, or company fails to provide the men required (which it may do by *substitutes* out of any class) a draft shall be made; but the persons so drafted may also furnish *substitutes*; and the rest of the class shall compensate the person drafted by money equal to the *bounty money* paid by the United States, according to their respective *property*. The men thus drafted to be as *regulars*.
4. *Exemptions.* All persons above the age of 45 years.

### GILES’ PLAN.

1. *Liable to service.* All persons the same as in Mr. *Munroe’s* plan.
2. *Class.* The same as Mr. *Monroe’s*.
3. *Requisitions for men.* The operation of the classification essentially the same as Mr. *Munroe’s*—but the persons drafted “*shall serve in the militia for the term of two years*, unless sooner discharged.” Whatever time a person may have served in the militia theretofore, shall be *deducted* from the period of service required by this plan—so that no one can be compelled to serve a *second time*. *Substitutes* are allowed in all cases. The militia, so drafted, shall not be compelled to serve out of the United States, nor beyond the limits of the state or territory furnishing the same, and the limits of the adjoining state or territory, except that those of Kentucky and Tennessee may be required to serve in the defence of Louisiana. ☉ In the house of representatives, where the bill was chiefly opposed, the term of service was limited to one year.
4. *Exemptions.* The same as Mr. *Monroe’s*.

According to my understanding of the three plans, the above is a fair abstract of their contents, on the four material points. It will be seen that *WASHINGTON’S* is far more rigid and severe than Mr. *Monroe’s*, and that of Mr. *Monroe* essentially harder than Mr. *Giles’*; which, in fact and honest truth, has nothing more in it than an *extension of the service of the militia* from six months to two years; and no man can make any thing more of it.

A very considerable part of *WASHINGTON’S* plan is mere matter of detail, having little application to the immediate object of inserting it now; but we prefer to give it entire lest a *fertile imagination* might



work itself into a belief that in the sections left out were contained some things essential to the merits of the whole, as is *charitably* supposed, when any thing is omitted by government in publishing its communications to or with our ministers abroad, even though the discussions may not yet have been closed.

Whether *Bonaparte* took his ideas of a "conscription" from the project laid before congress by gen. Washington and I extended the plan; or whether he drew it from the practices of the *Roman* republic, and other ancient governments, is a matter of little importance. It is sufficient to shew that Mr. *Madison* (and much less Mr. *Giles*) did not take *Napoleon's*. On the merits or demerits of either of those plans I have nothing to say—I would only shew how foolishly, or wickedly, it has been called a "FRENCH conscription."

## Washington's Plan

OF THE GENERAL ARRANGEMENT OF THE MILITIA OF THE UNITED STATES, PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

War Office, January 18, 1790.

Sir—Having submitted to your consideration a plan for the arrangement of the militia of the United States, which I had presented to the late congress, and you having approved the general principles thereof, with certain exceptions, I now respectfully lay the same before you, *modified according to the alterations you were pleased to suggest*.

It has been my anxious desire to devise a national system of defence, adequate to the probable exigencies of the United States, whether arising from internal or external causes; and, at the same time, to erect a standard of republican magnanimity, independence, and superior to, the powerful influence of wealth.

The convulsive events, generated by the inordinate pursuits of riches or ambition, require that the government should possess a strong corrective arm.

The idea is, therefore, submitted, whether an efficient military branch of government can be invented, with safety to the great principles of liberty, unless the same shall be formed of the people themselves, and supported by their habits and manners.

I have the honor to be, sir, with the most perfect respect, your obedient servant,

H. KNOX,

Secretary for the department of war.

The President of the United States.

### THE INTRODUCTION.

That a well constituted republic is more favorable to the liberties of society, and that its principles go to a higher elevation to the human mind than any other form of government, has generally been acknowledged by the unprejudiced and enlightened part of mankind.

But it is at the same time acknowledged, that unless a republic prepares itself by proper arrangements to meet those exigencies to which all states are in a degree, liable; that its peace and existence are more precarious than the forms of government in which the will of one directs the conduct of the whole for the defence of the nation.

A government whose measures must be the result of multiplied deliberations, is seldom in a situation to produce instantly those exertions which the occasion may demand; therefore it ought to possess such energetic establishments as should enable it, by the vigor of its own citizens, to controul events as they arise, instead of being convulsed or subverted by them.

It is the misfortune of modern ages, that governments have been formed by chance and events, instead of system—that without fixed principles, they are relaxed or relaxed, from time to time, according to the predominant power of the rulers, or the ruled: the rulers possessing separate interests from the people, excepting in some of the high-toned monarchies, in which all opposition to the will of the princes seems annihilated.

Hence we look around Europe in vain for an extensive government, rising on the power inherent in the people, and performing its operations entirely for their benefit. But we find artificial force governing every where, and the people generally made subservient to the elevation and caprice of the few: almost every nation appearing to be busily employed in conducting some external war—grappling with internal commotion—or endeavoring to extricate itself from impending debts, which threaten to overwhelm it with ruin. Princes and ministers seem neither to have leisure nor inclination to bring forward institutions for diffusing general strength, knowledge and happiness. But they seem to understand well the Machiavelian maxim of politics—divide and govern.

May the United States avoid the errors and crimes of other governments, and possess the wisdom to embrace the present invaluable opportunity of establishing such institutions as shall invigorate, exalt and perpetuate the great principles of freedom—an opportunity pregnant with the fate of millions, but rapidly borne on the wings of time, and may never again return.

The public mind, unbiassed by superstition or prejudice, seems happily prepared to receive the impressions of wisdom. The latent springs of human action, ascertained by the standard of experience, may be regulated and made subservient to the noble purpose of forming a dignified national character.

The causes by which nations have ascended and declined, through the various ages of the world, may be calmly and accurately determined; and the United States may be placed in the singularly fortunate condition of commencing their career of empire, with the accumulated knowledge of all the known societies and governments of the globe.

The strength of the government, like the strength of any other vast and complicated machine, will depend on a due adjustment of its several parts. Its agriculture—its commerce—its laws—its finance—its system of defence, and its manners and habits, all require consideration, and the highest exercise of political wisdom.

It is the intention of the present attempt to suggest the most efficient system of defence which may be compatible with the interests of a free people: a system which shall not only produce the expected effect, but which, in its operations shall also produce those habits and manners which will impart strength and durability to the whole government.

The modern practice of Europe, with respect to the employment of standing armies, has created such a mass of opinion in their favor, that even philosophers, and the advocates of liberty, have frequently confessed their use, and necessity, in certain cases.

But whoever seriously and candidly estimates the power of discipline, and the tendency of military habits, will be constrained to confess, that whatever may be the efficacy of a standing army in war, it cannot, in peace, be considered as friendly to the rights of human nature. The recent instance in France, cannot, with propriety, be bro't to overturn the general principle, built upon the uniform expe-

rience of mankind. It may be found, on examining the causes that appear to have influenced the military of France, that while the springs of power were wound up in the nation to the highest pitch, that the discipline of the army was proportionably relaxed. But any argument on this head may be considered as unnecessary to the enlightened citizens of the U. States.

A small corps of well disciplined and well informed artillerymen and engineers, and a legion for the protection of the frontiers, and the magazines and arsenals, are all the military establishment which may be required for the present use of the United States. The privates of the corps to be enlisted for a certain period, and after the expiration of which to return to the mass of the citizens.

An energetic national militia is to be regarded as the capital security of a free republic; and not a standing army, forming a distinct class in the community.

It is the introduction and diffusion of vice and corruption of manners into the mass of the people, that renders a standing army necessary. It is when public spirit is despised, and avarice, indolence and effeminacy of manners predominate, and prevent the establishment of institutions which would elevate the minds of the youth in the paths of virtue and honor, that a standing army is formed and riveted forever.

While the human character remained unchanged and societies and governments of considerable extent are formed; a principle ever ready to execute the laws and defend the state, must constantly exist. Without this vital principle, the government would be invaded or overturned, and trampled upon by the bold and ambitious. No community can be long held together, unless its arrangements are adequate to its probable exigencies.

If it should be decided to reject a standing army for the military branch of the government of the United States, as possessing too fierce an aspect, and being hostile to the principles of liberty, it will follow that a well-constituted militia ought to be established.

A consideration of the subject will show the impracticability of disciplining at once the mass of the people. All discussions on the subject of a powerful militia, will result in one or other of the following principles.

First. Either efficient institutions must be established for the military education of the youth; and that the knowledge acquired therein shall be diffused throughout the community, by the mean of rotation. Or,

Secondly. That the militia must be formed of substitutes, after the manner of the militia of Great Britain.

If the United States possess the vigor of mind to establish the first institution, it may reasonably be expected to produce the most unequivocal advantages. A glorious national spirit will be introduced, with its extensive train of political consequences. The youth will imbibe a love of their country, reverence and obedience to its laws; courage and elevation of mind; openness and liberality of character; accompanied by a just spirit of honor; in addition to which, their bodies will acquire a robustness, greatly conducive to their personal happiness, as well as the defence of their country; while habit, with its silent but efficacious operations, will durably cement the system.

Habit, that powerful and universal law, incessantly acting on the human race, well deserves the attention of legislators—formed at first in individuals, by separate and almost imperceptible impulses, until at

length it acquires a force which controls with irresistible sway. The effects of salutary or pernicious habits, operating on a whole nation, are immense, and decide its rank and character in the world.

Hence the science of legislation teaches to scrutinize every national institution, as it may introduce proper or improper habits to adopt with religious zeal the former, and reject with horror the latter.

A republic constructed on the principles herein stated, would be uninjured by events, sufficient to overturn a government supported solely by the uncertain power of a standing army.

The well informed members of the community, actuated by the highest motives of self-love, would form the real defence of the country. Rebellions would be prevented or suppressed with ease. Invasions of such a government would be undertaken only by madmen; and the virtues and knowledge of the people would effectually oppose the introduction of tyranny.

But the second principle—a militia of substitutes, is pregnant, in a degree, with the mischiefs of a standing army; as it is highly probable the substitutes from time to time, will be nearly the same men, and the most idle and worthless part of the community. Wealthy families, proud of distinctions which riches may confer, will prevent their sons from serving in the militia of substitutes, the plan will degenerate into habitual contempt; a standing army will be introduced, and the liberties of the people subjected to all the contingencies of events.

The expense attending an energetic establishment of militia, may be strongly urged as an objection to the institution. But it is to be remembered, that this objection is levelled at both systems, whether by rotation or by substitutes. For if the numbers are equal, the expense will also be equal. The estimate of the expense will show its unimportance, when compared with the magnitude and beneficial effects of the institution.

But the people of the United States will cheerfully consent to the expenses of a measure calculated to serve as a perpetual barrier to their liberties; especially as they well know that the disbursements will be made among the members of the same community, and therefore cannot be injurious.

Every intelligent mind would rejoice in the establishment of an institution, under whose auspices the youth and vigor of the constitution would be renewed with each successive generation, and which would appear to secure the great principles of freedom and happiness against the injuries of time and events.

The following plan is formed on these general principles:

First. That it is the indispensable duty of every nation to establish all necessary institutions for its own perfection and defence.

Secondly. That it is a capital security to a free state for the great body of the people to possess a competent knowledge of the military art.

Thirdly. That this knowledge cannot be attained in the present state of society but by establishing adequate institutions for the military education of youth; and that the knowledge acquired therein should be diffused throughout the community by the principles of rotation.

Fourthly. That every man of the proper age and ability of body, is firmly bound by the social compact, to perform, personally, his proportion of military duty for the defence of the state.

Fifthly. That all men of the legal military age, should be armed, enrolled, and held responsible for different degrees of military service.

And sixthly. That agreeably to the constitution, the United States are to provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia; and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States; reserving to the states respectively the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by congress.

**THE PLAN.**—The period of life in which military service shall be required of the citizens of the United States, to commence at eighteen, and terminate at the age of sixty years.

The men comprehended by this description, exclusive of such exceptions as the legislatures of the respective states may think proper to make, and *all actual mariners*, shall be enrolled for different degrees of military duty, and divided into three distinct classes.

The first class shall comprehend the youth of 18, 19 and 20 years of age, to be denominated the *advance corps*.

The second class shall include the men from 21 to 45 years of age—to be denominated the *main corps*.

The third class shall comprehend, inclusively, the men from 46 to 60 years of age—to be denominated the *reserve corps*.

All the militia of the United States shall assume the form of the legion which shall be the permanent establishment thereof.

A legion shall consist of one hundred and fifty-three commissioned officers, and two thousand eight hundred and eighty non-commissioned officers and privates, formed in the following manner.

*First.—Legionary staff.*

One legionary, or major-general.

Two aids-de-camp, of the rank of major; one of whom to be the legionary quarter-master.

One inspector and deputy adjutant general, of the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

One chaplain.

*Second.—The brigade staff.*

One brigadier-general.

One brigade-inspector, to serve as an aid-de-camp.

*Third.—The regimental staff.*

One lieut. col. commandant.

Two majors.

One adjutant.

One paymaster, or agent.

One quartermaster.

*Fourth.—Two brigades of infantry.*

Each brigade of 2 regiments; each regiment of 8 companies, forming 2 battalions; each company of a captain, lieutenant, ensign, 6 sergeants, 1 drum, 1 fife, and 64 rank and file.

*Fifth.—Two companies of riflemen.*

Each company to have a captain, lieutenant, ensign, 6 sergeants, a buglehorn, 1 drum, and 64 rank and file.

*Sixth.—A battalion of artillery.*

Consisting of four companies, each to have a captain, captain-lieutenant, 1 lieutenant, 6 sergeants, 12 artificers, and 53 rank and file.

*Seventh.—A squadron of cavalry.*

Consisting of two troops; each troop to have a captain, 2 lieutenants, a cornet, 6 sergeants, 1 farrier, 1 sadler, 1 trumpeter, and 64 dragoons.

In case the whole number of the advanced corps in any state should be insufficient to form a legion of this extent yet the competent parts must be preserved, and the reduction proportioned, as nearly as may be, to each part.

The companies of all the corps shall be divided into sections of twelve each. It is proposed by this division to establish one uniform vital principle,

which, in peace and war, shall pervade the militia of the United States.

All requisitions for men to form an army, either for state or federal purposes, shall be furnished by the advanced and main corps, *by means of the sections*.

The executive government, or commander in chief of the militia of each state, will assess the numbers required on the respective legions of these corps.

The legionary general will direct the proportions to be furnished by each part of his command. Should the demand be so great as to require one man from each section, then the operations hereby directed shall be performed by single sections. But if a less number should be required, they will be furnished by an association of sections, or companies, according to the demand. In any case, it is probable that mutual convenience may dictate an agreement with an individual, to perform the service required. If, however, no agreement can be made, one must be detached by an indiscriminate draught; and the others shall pay him a sum of money, equal to the averaged sum which shall be paid in the same legion for the voluntary performance of the service required.

In case any sections, or companies of a legion, after having furnished its own quota, should have more men willing to engage for the service required, other companies of the same legion shall have permission to engage them. The same rule to extend to the different legions in the state.

The legionary general must be responsible to the commander in chief of the militia of the state that the men furnished are according to the description, and that they are equipped in the manner and marched to the rendezvous, conformably to the orders for that purpose.

The men who may be drafted, shall not serve more than three years at one time.

The reserved corps being destined for the domestic defence of the state shall not be obliged to furnish men, excepting in cases of actual invasion, or rebellion—and then the men required shall be furnished by means of the sections.

The actual commissioned officers of the respective corps, shall not be included in the sections nor in any of the operations thereof.

The respective states shall be divided into portions or districts; each of which to contain, as nearly as may be, some complete part of a legion.

Every citizen of the United States, who shall serve his country in the field, for the space of one year, either as an officer or soldier, shall, if under the age of twenty one years, be exempted from the service required in the advanced corps. If he shall be above the age of twenty-one years, then every year he shall so serve in the field, shall be estimated as equal to six years service in the main or reserved corps, and shall accordingly exempt him from every service therein for the said term of six years, except in cases of actual invasion of, or rebellion within, the state in which he resides. And it shall also be a permanent establishment, that six years actual service in the field shall entirely free every citizen from any further demands of service, either in the militia or in the field, unless in cases of invasion or rebellion.

*All actual mariners*, or seamen, in the respective states, shall be registered in districts, and divided into two classes. The first class to consist of all the seamen, from the age of sixteen to thirty years, inclusively. The second class to consist of all those of the age of thirty-one to forty-five inclusively.

The first class shall be responsible to serve three years on board of some public armed vessel, or ship of war, as a commissioned officer, warrant officer, or private mariner, for which service they shall receive the customary wages and emoluments.

But should the state not demand the said three years service during the above period, from the age of sixteen to thirty years then the party to be exempted entirely therefrom.

The person so serving shall receive a certificate of his service, on parchment, according to the form which shall be directed, which shall exempt him from any other than voluntary service, unless in such exigencies as may require the services of all the members of the community.

The second class shall be responsible for a proportion of service, in those cases to which the first class shall be unequal. The numbers required shall be furnished by sections in the same manner as is prescribed for the sections of the militia.

#### OF THE ADVANCED CORPS.

The advanced corps are designed not only as a school in which the youth of the United States are to be instructed in the art of war, but they are, in all cases of exigence, to serve as an actual defence to the community.

The whole of the armed corps shall be clothed according to the manner hereafter directed, armed and subsisted at the expense of the United States; and all the youth of the said corps, in each state, shall be encamped together, if practicable, or by legions, which encampments shall be denominated *the annual camps of discipline*.

The youth at 18 and 19 years shall be disciplined for thirty days successively in each year; and those of 20 years shall be disciplined only for ten days in each year, which shall be the last ten days of the annual encampments.

The non-commissioned officers and privates are not to receive any pay during the said time. But the commissioned officers will receive the pay of their relative ranks, agreeably to the federal establishment for the time being.

In order that the plan shall effectually answer the end proposed, the first day of January shall be the fixed period for all who attain the age of eighteen years, in any part, or during the course of each year, to be enrolled in the advanced corps, and to take the necessary oaths to perform personally such legal military service as may be directed for the full and complete term of three years, to be estimated from the time of entrance into the said corps; and also to take an oath of allegiance to the state and to the United States.

The commanding officer, or general of the advanced legions of the district, shall regulate the manner of the service of the youth respectively, whether it shall be in the infantry, artillery, or cavalry; but after having entered into either of them, no change should be allowed.

Each individual at his first joining the annual camps of discipline, will receive complete arms and accoutrements, all which, previously to his being discharged from the said camps, he must return to the regimental quarter-master, on the penalty of dollars, or months imprisonment.

The said arms and accoutrements shall be marked in some conspicuous place with the letters M. U. S. And all sales or purchases of any of said arms or accoutrements, shall be severely punished according to law.

And each individual will also, on his first entrance into the advanced corps, receive the following articles of uniform clothing; one hat, one uniform short coat, one waist coat, and one pair of overalls; which he shall retain in his own possession, and for which he shall be held accountable, and be compelled to replace all deficiencies during his service in the annual camps of discipline.

Those who shall serve in the cavalry, shall be a

the expense of their own horses, and uniform helmets, and horse furniture; but they shall receive forage for their horses, swords, pistols, and clothing equal in value to the infantry.

At the age of twenty-one years, every individual having served in the manner and for the time prescribed, shall receive an honorary certificate thereof, on parchment, and signed by the legionary general and inspector.

The names of all persons to whom such certificates shall be given, shall be fairly registered in books to be provided for that purpose.

And the said certificate, or an attested copy of the register aforesaid, shall be required as an indispensable qualification for exercising any of the rights of a free citizen, until after the age of years.

The advanced legions, in all cases of invasion or rebellion, shall on requisition of lawful authority, be obliged to march to any place within the United States, to remain embodied for such time as shall be directed, not to exceed one year, to be computed from the time of marching from the regimental parades; during the period of their being on such service, to be placed on the continental establishment of pay, subsistence, clothing, forage, tents, camp equipage, and all such other allowances as are made to the federal troops at the same time and under the same circumstances.

If the military service so required should be for such a short period as to render an actual issue of clothing unnecessary, then an allowance should be made, in proportion to the annual cost of clothing for the federal soldier, according to estimates to be furnished for that purpose from the war office of the United States.

In case the legions of the advanced corps should march to any place, in consequence of a requisition of the general government all legal and proper expences of such march shall be paid by the United States. But should they be embodied, and march, in consequence of an order derived from the authority of the state to which they belong, and for state purposes, then the expences will be borne by the state.

The advanced corps shall be constituted on such principles that, when completed, it will receive one third part, and discharge one third part of its numbers annually. By this arrangement, two thirds of the corps will at all times, be considerably disciplined; but, as it will only receive those of 18 years of age, it will not be completed, until the third year after its institution. Those who have already attained the ages of 19 and 20 years, will, in the first instance, be enrolled in the main corps.

But one half of the legionary officers to be appointed the first, and the other the second year of the establishment.

The officers of each grade in the states respectively, shall be divided into three classes, which shall, by lot, be numbered one, two, and three, and one of the said classes, according to their numbers, shall be deranged every third year. In the first period of nine years, one third part will have to serve three, one third part six, and one third part nine years. But after the said first period the several classes will serve nine years, which shall be the limitation of service by virtue of the same appointment; and in such cases where there may not be three officers of the same grade, the limitation of nine years service shall be observed. All vacancies occasioned by the aforesaid derangements, or any casualties, shall be immediately filled by new appointments.

The captains and subalterns of the advanced corps, shall not be less than twenty-one, nor more than thir-

ty-five; and the field officers shall not exceed forty five years of age.

Each company, battalion and regiment, shall have a fixed parade or place at which to assemble. The companies shall assemble at their own parade and march to the parade of the battalion, and the battalions to the regimental parade; and when thus embodied the regiment will march to the rendezvous of the legion. Every commanding officer of a company battalion and regiment, will be accountable to his superior officer that his command is in the most perfect order.

The officers to receive subsistence money in lieu of provisions, in proportion to their respective grades; and those whose duties require them to be on horseback will receive forage in the same proportion.

Every legion must have a chaplain, of respectable talents and character, who besides his religious functions, should impress on the minds of the youth, at stated periods, in concise discourses, the eminent advantages of free governments to the happiness of society—and that such governments can only be supported by the knowledge, spirit, and virtuous conduct of the youth; to be illustrated by the most conspicuous examples of history.

No amusements should be admitted in camp, but those which correspond with war. The swimming of men and horses, running, wrestling, and such other exercises as should render the body flexible and vigorous.

The classes should if possible, be formed near a river, and remote from large cities. The first is necessary for the practice of the manoeuvres, the second to avoid the vices of populous places.

The time of the annual encampment shall be divided into six parts or periods of five days each.—The first of which shall be occupied in acquiring the air, attitudes, and first principles of a soldier—the second in learning the manual exercise, and to march individually, and in small squads. The third and fourth in exercising and manoeuvring in detail and by battalions and regiments. In the fifth, the youth of twenty, having been disciplined during the two preceding annual encampments, are to be included. This period is to be employed in the exercise and tactics of the legion: or, if more than one, in executing the grand manoeuvres of the whole body—marching, attacking and defending in various forms, different grounds and positions; in fine, in representing all the real images of war, excepting the effusion of blood.

The guards, and every other circumstances of the camp, to be perfectly regulated.

Each state will determine on the season in which its respective annual encampments shall be formed, so as best to suit the health of the men, and the general interests of the society.

The U. S. to make an adequate provision to supply the arms, clothing, rations, artillery, ammunition, forage, straw, tents, camp-equipage, including every requisite for the annual camps of discipline; and also for the pay and subsistence of the legionary officers, and for the following general staff: one inspector-general, one adjutant-general, one quartermaster-general, with a deputy for each state.

These officers will be essential to the uniformity, economy and efficacy of the system, to be appointed in the manner prescribed by the constitution of the United States.

The quarter-master general shall be responsible to the United States for the public property of every species, delivered to him for the annual camps of discipline; and his deputy in each state shall be responsible to him.

At the commencement of the annual camps of discipline, the deputy quartermaster will make regular issues to the legionary or regimental quartermasters, as the case may be, of all the articles, of every species, provided by the United States.

The returns for the said articles to be examined and certified by the highest legionary or regimental officer, as the case may be, who shall be responsible for the accuracy thereof.

At the expiration of the annual camps of discipline, all public property (clothing excepted) shall be returned to the deputy quartermasters of the state who shall hold the legionary quartermaster accountable for all deficiency. All the apparatus and property so returned shall be carefully examined, repaired and deposited in a magazine, to be provided in each state for that purpose, under the charge of the said deputy quartermaster, until the ensuing annual encampment, or any occasion which may render a new issue necessary.

Corporal punishments shall never be inflicted in the annual camps of discipline, but a system of fine and imprisonment shall be formed for the regular government of said camps.

#### OF THE MAIN CORPS.

As the main and reserved corps are to be replenished by the principle of rotation from the advanced corps, and ultimately to consist of men, who have received their military education therein, it is proper that one uniform arrangement should pervade the several classes.

It is for this reason, the legion is established as the common form of all the corps of the militia.

The main legions, consisting of the great majority of the men of the military age, will form the principal defence of the country.

They are to be responsible for their proportion of men, to form an army whenever necessity shall dictate the measure; and on every sudden occasion to which the advanced corps shall be incompetent, an adequate number of non-commissioned officers and privates shall be added thereto, from the main corps, by means of the sections.

The main corps will be perfectly armed in the first instance, and will practice the exercise and manoeuvres four days in each year, and will assemble in their respective districts, by companies, battalions, regiments, or legions, as shall be directed by the legionary general; but it must be a fixed rule, that in the populous parts of the states, the regiments must assemble once annually, and the legions once in three years.

Although the main corps cannot acquire a great degree of military knowledge, in a few days prescribed for its annual exercise; yet by the constant accession of the youth from the advanced corps, it will soon command respect for its discipline, as well as its numbers.

When the youth are transferred from the advanced corps, they shall invariably join the flank companies, the cavalry, or artillery of the main corps, according to the nature of their former services.

#### OF THE RESERVED CORPS.

The reserved corps will assemble only twice annually for the inspection of arms, by companies, battalions, or regiments, as shall be directed by each state. It will assemble by legions, whenever the defence of the state may render the measure necessary.

Such are the propositions of the plan: to which it may be necessary to add some explanations.

Although the substantial political maxim, which requires personal service of all the members of the community for the defence of the state, is obligatory under all forms of society, and is the main pillar of a free government, yet the degrees thereof may vary at the different periods of life, consistently with the general welfare. The public convenience may also dictate a relaxation of the general obligation, as it respects the principal magistrats, and the ministers of justice and religion, and perhaps some religious sects. But it ought to be remembered, that measures of national

importance, should never be frustrated by the accommodation of individuals.

The military age has generally commenced at sixteen, and terminated at the age of 60 years; but the youth of sixteen do not commonly attain such a degree of robust strength, as to enable them to sustain, without injury, the hardships incident to the field; therefore, the commencement of military service is herein fixed at eighteen—and the termination as usual, at sixty years of age.

As the plan proposes, that the militia shall be divided into these capital classes, and that each class shall be formed into legions; the reasons for which shall be given in succession.

The advanced corps, and annual camps of discipline, are instituted in order to introduce an operative military spirit in the community, to establish a course of honorable military service, which will at the same time, mould the minds of the young men, to a due obedience of the laws; instruct them in the art of war, and by the manly exercise of the field, form a race of hardy citizens, equal to the dignified task of defending their country.

An examination into the employments and obligations of the individuals composing the society, will evince the impossibility of diffusing an adequate knowledge of the art of war, by any other means than a course of discipline, during the period of idleness. The time necessary to acquire this important knowledge, cannot be afforded at any other period of life, with so little injury to the public or private interest.

Without descending to minute distinctions, the body of the people of the United States may be divided into two parts—the yeomanry of the country, and the men of various employments resident in the towns and cities. In both parts, it is usual for the male children, from the age of fourteen to twenty one years, to learn some trade or employment, under the direction of a parent or master. In general, the labor or service of the youth during this period, besides amply repaying the trouble of tuition, leaves a large profit to the tutor. This circumstance is stated, to show, that no great hardships will arise in the first operations of the proposed plan; a little practice will render the measure perfectly equal, and remove every difficulty.

Youth is the time for the state to avail itself of those services which it has a right to demand, and by which it is to be invigorated and preserved; in this season, the passions and affections are strongly influenced by the splendor of military parade. The impressions the mind receives will be retained through life. The young men who repair with pride and pleasure to the field of exercise while the head of a family, anxious for its general welfare and perhaps its immediate subsistence, will reluctantly quit his domestic duties for any length of time.

The habits of industry will be rather strengthened than relaxed by the establishment of the annual camps of discipline, as all the time will be occupied by the various military duties. Idleness and dissipation will be regarded as disgraceful, and punished accordingly. As soon as the youth attain the age of manhood, a natural solicitude to establish themselves in the society, will occur in its full force. The public claims for military service, will be too inconsiderable to injure their industry. It will be sufficiently stimulated to proper exertions, by the prospects of opulence attending on the cultivation of a fertile soil, or the pursuits of a productive commerce.

It is presumed that thirty days annually during the eighteenth and nineteenth, and ten days during the twentieth year, is the least time that ought to be appropriated by the youth to the acquisition of the military art. The same number of days might be added during the twentieth as during the two preceding years, were not the expense an objection.

Every means will be provided by the public, to facilitate the military education of the youth, which it is proposed shall be an indispensable qualification of a free citizen; therefore they will not be entitled to any pay. But the officers being of the main corps are in a different predicament; they are supposed to have passed through the course of discipline required by the laws, and to be competent to instruct others in the military art. As the public will have but small claims for personal services on them, and as they must incur considerable expenses to prepare themselves, to execute properly their respective offices, they ought to be paid while on actual duty.

As soon as the service of the youth expires in the advanced corps, they are to be enrolled in the main corps. On this occasion, the republic receives disciplined and free citizens, who understand their public rights, and are prepared to defend them.

The main corps is instituted, to preserve and circulate throughout the community, the military discipline, acquired in the advanced corps; to arm the people, and fix firmly by practice and habit, those forms and maxims, which are essential to the life and energy of a free government.

The reserved corps is instituted to prevent men being sent to the field, whose strength is unequal to sustain the severities of an active campaign. But by organizing and rendering them eligible for domestic service, a greater proportion of the younger and robust part of the community, may be enabled, in cases of necessity, to encounter the most urgent duties of war.

It would be difficult, previously to the actual formation of the annual camps of discipline, to ascertain the number in each state, of which it would be composed. The frontier counties of several states are thinly inhabited, and require all their internal force for their immediate defence. There are other infant settlements, from which it might be injurious to draw away their youth annually for the purpose of discipline.

No evil will result, if the establishment of the advanced corps should be omitted in such districts for a few years. Besides, the forbearance in this respect would lessen the expense, and render the institution more compatible with the public finances.

The several state legislatures, therefore as best understanding their local interests, might be invested with a discretionary power

to omit the enrolments for the advanced corps, in such of their frontier and thinly inhabited counties as they may judge proper.

If the number of three millions may be assumed as the total number of the inhabitants within United States, half a million may be deducted therefrom, for blacks and al, pursuant to the foregoing ideas, another half million may be deducted, on account of the three settled parts of the country.

The proportion of men of military age, from eighteen to sixty years inclusively, of two millions of people of all ages and sexes, may be estimated at four hundred thousand. There may be deducted from this number, as actual mariners, about fifty thousand, and a further number of twenty-five thousand, to include exempt of religious sects, and of every other sort which the respective states may think proper to make.

Three hundred and twenty-five thousand therefore may be assumed, as the number of operative fencible men, to compose the militia. The proportion of the several classes of which would be nearly as follows—

Firstly—The advanced corps, one tenth composed of the youth of the ages of 18, 19, and 20 years,	32,500
Secondly—The main corps, six tenths and one twentieth,	211,250
Thirdly—The reserved corps, two tenths and one twentieth,	81,250

325,000

The following estimate is formed for the purpose of exhibiting the annual expense of the institution of the advanced corps, stating the same at thirty thousand men.

[Here follows an estimate formed for the purpose of exhibiting the annual expense of the institution of the advanced corps, stating the same at 30,000 men.]

It is to be observed, that the officers for four legions will be adequate to command the youth of 18, who commence their discipline the first year, and that the same number of officers will be required for the second year. The youth of the third year may be incorporated by sections in the existing corps, so that no additional officers will be required on their account.

The expense it appears that the expense of 10,000 men, for one year, amounts, to	225,670
20,000, for the 2d year, to	316,940
30,000, for the 3d year, to	390,140

If the youth of the three ages of 18, 19 and 20 be disciplined at once, the last mentioned sum will be about the fixed annual expense of the camps of discipline, from which, however, is to be deducted 6,000 dollars, being the expense of the standards and colors, the former of which will be of a durable nature, and the latter will not require to be replaced oftener than once in twenty years,

6,000

The annual expense of the advanced corps, 334,400

This for a sum less than four hundred thousand dollars annually, which, apportioned on three millions of people, would be little more than one-eighth of a dollar each, an energetic republican militia may be durably established—the invaluable principles of liberty secured and perpetuated, and a dignified national fabric erected on the solid foundation of public virtue.

The main and reserved corps must be perfectly organized in the first instance; but the advanced corps will not be completed until the third year of its institution.

The combination of troops of various descriptions into one body so as to invest it with the highest and greatest number of powers, in every possible situation, has long been a subject of discussion and difference of opinion. But no other form appears so well to have sustained the criterion of time and severe examination, as the Roman legion. This formidable organization, accumulated to the purposes of modern war, still retains its original energy and superiority. Of the ancients, Polybius and Vegetius have described and given the highest encomiums of the legion. The former, particularly, in his comparative view of the advantages and disadvantages of the Macedonian and Roman arms, and their respective orders of battles, has left to mankind an instructive and important legacy. Of the moderns, the illustrious marshal Saxe has modelled the legion for the use of fire arms, and strenuously urges its adoption, in preference to any other form. And the respectable and intelligent veteran, late inspector general of the armies of the United States, recommends the adoption of the legion.\*

"Upon a review," says he, "of all the military of Europe, there does not appear to be a single form which could be safely adopted by the United States. They are unexceptionably different from each other; and like all other human institutions, seem to have started as much out of accident as design. The local situation of the country, the spirit of the government, the character of the nation, and in many instances the character of the prince, have all had their influence in setting the foundation and discipline of their respective troops, and render it impossible that we should take either as a model. The legion, alone, has not been adopted by any; and yet I am confident in asserting, that whether it be examined as applicable to all countries, or as it may immediately apply to the existing or probable necessity of this, it will be found strikingly superior to any other.

"1st. Being a complete and little army of itself, it is ready to begin its operations on the shortest notice or slightest alarm.—2d. Having all the component parts of the largest army of any possible description, it is prepared to meet every species of war that may present itself. And, 3d. As in every case of detachment, the first constitutional principle will be preserved, and the embarrassments of draughting and detail, which, in armies differently framed, too often distract the commanding officer, will be avoided.

\*Vide. Letter addressed to the inhabitants of the United States on the subject of an established militia.

"It may easily suggest itself, from this sketch, that in forming a legion, the most difficult task is to determine the necessary proportion of each species of soldiers which is to compose it. This must obviously depend upon what will be the theatre, and what the style of the war. On the plains of Poland, whole brigades of cavalry would be necessary against every enemy; but, in the forests, and among the hills of America, a single regiment would be more than sufficient against any. And as there are but two kinds of war to which we are much exposed, viz. an attack from the seaside by a European power, aided by our sworn enemies,\* settled on our extreme left, and an invasion of our back settlements by an Indian enemy, it follows, of course, that musketeers and light infantry should make the greatest part of your army."

The institution of the sections is intended to in-terest the patriotism and pride of every individual in the militia to support the legal measures of a free government—to render every man active in the public cause, by introducing the spirit of emulation, and a degree of personal responsibility.

The common mode of recruiting is attended with too great destruction of morals to be tolerated, and is too uncertain to be the principal resource of a wise nation in time of danger. The public faith is frequently wounded by unworthy individuals, who hold out delusive promises which can never be realized. By such means an unprincipled banditti are often collected for the purpose of defending every thing that should be dear to freemen. The consequences are natural; such men either desert in time of danger, or are ever ready on the slightest disgust to turn their arms against their country.

By the establishment of the sections, an ample and permanent source is opened, whence the state, in every exigence, may be supplied with men, whose all depends upon the prosperity of their country.

In cases of necessity, an army may be formed of citizens, whose previous knowledge of discipline will enable it to proceed to an immediate accomplishment of the designs of the state, instead of exhausting the public resources, by wasting whole years in preparing to face the enemy.

The previous arrangements necessary to form and maintain the annual encampments, as well as the discipline acquired therein, will be an excellent preparation for war. The artillery and its numerous appendages, arms, and accoutrements of every kind, and all species of ammunition, ought to be manufactured within the United States. It is of high importance that the present period should be embraced to establish adequate institutions to produce the necessary apparatus of war.

It is unworthy the dignity of a rising and free empire to depend on foreign and precarious supplies of the essential means of defence.

The clothing for the troops could, with ease, be manufactured within the United States, and the establishment in that respect would tend to the encouragement of important manufactories.

The disbursements made in each state for the rations, forage, and other necessary articles for the annual camps of discipline, would most beneficially circulate the money arising from the public revenue.

The local circumstances of the United States, their numerous seaports, and the protection of their commerce, require a naval arrangement. Hence the necessity of the proposed plan, embracing the idea of the states obtaining men on republican principles for the marine as well as the land service. But one may be accomplished with much greater facility than the other, as the preparation of a soldier for the field requires a degree of discipline, which cannot be learned without much time and labor; whereas the common course of sea service, on board of merchant vessels, differs but little from the service required on board of armed ships. Therefore, the education for war, in this respect, will be obtained without any expense to the state. All that seems to be requisite on the head of marine service, is, that an efficient regulation should be established in the respective states, to register all actual seamen, and to render those of a certain age amenable to the public for personal service, if demanded within a given period.

The constitutions of the respective states, and of the United States, having directed the modes in which the officers of the militia shall be appointed, no alteration can be made therein. Although it may be supposed that some modes of appointment are better calculated than others, to inspire the highest propriety of conduct, yet there are none so defective to serve as a sufficient reason for rejecting an efficient system for the militia. It is certain, that the choice of officers, is the point on which the reputation and importance of a corps must depend. Therefore every person who may be concerned in the appointment should consider himself as responsible to his country for a proper choice.

The wisdom of the states will be manifested by inducing those citizens, of whom the late American army was composed to accept of appointments in the militia. The high degree of military knowledge which they possess, was acquired at too great a price, and is too precious to be buried in oblivion; it ought to be cherished, and rendered permanently beneficial to the community.

The vigor and importance of the proposed plan, will entirely depend on the laws relative thereto. Unless the laws shall be equal to the object, and rigidly enforced, no energetic national militia can be established.

If wealth be admitted as a principle of exemption, the plan cannot be executed. It is the wisdom of political establishments, to make the wealth of individuals subservient to the general good, and not to suffer it to corrupt, or attain undue indulgence.

\*"Sworn enemies settled on our extreme left"—the British in Canada—the "rod held over the back of the rebel colonies." What—and did Washington adopt this idea of the "bulwark of the religion and liberties of the world?" It may be considered a "mechanical truth," but be certainly dull. *Ed. Reg.*

It is conceded, that people, solicitous to be exonerated from their proportion of public duty, may exclaim against the proposed arrangement as an intolerable hardship; but it ought to be strongly impressed, that while society has its charms, it also has its indispensable obligations. That to attempt such a degree of refinement, as to exonerate the members of the community from all personal service, is to render them incapable of the exercise, and unworthy of the characters of freemen.†

Every state possesses, not only the right of personal service from its members, but the right to regulate the service on principles of equality for the general defence. All being bound, none can complain of injustice on being obliged to perform his equal proportion. Therefore it ought to be a permanent rule, that those who in youth, decline or refuse to subject themselves to the course of military education, established by the laws, would be considered as unworthy of public trust or public honors, and be excluded therefrom accordingly.

If the majesty of the laws should be preserved inviolate in this respect the operations of the proposed plan would foster a glorious public spirit; infuse the principles of energy and stability into the body politic; and give an high degree of political splendor to the national character.

## Proceedings of Congress.

### IN SENATE.

December 29. The bill for taxing household furniture, &c. was passed to a third reading.

December 30. Mr. Kerr, a senator from Ohio, in the place of Mr. Worthington took his seat.

The death of Mr. Brent, a senator from Virginia was announced, and the usual order taken to pay the respect of congress to the memory of the deceased.

Monday, January 2. The bill laying duties on household furniture, having been read a third time as amended, the question on its passage was decided in the affirmative by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Brown, Chase, Condit, Gaillard, Kerr, Lacock, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Walker, Wharton—16.

NAYS—Messrs. Dargett, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason, Smith, Thompson, Wells—9.

So the bill was passed, and the concurrence of the house of representatives desired in the amendments thereto.

The senate resumed the consideration of Mr. Varnum's motion contemplating the reporting a bill for a draft of eighty thousand militia, to serve for nine months: which having been amended so as to require the committee, instead of reporting a bill, to enquire into the expediency of adopting such a measure was agreed to.

Mr. Horsey submitted for consideration the following resolution:

Resolved, That the fiscal committee be instructed to prepare and report a bill allowing drawbacks of the duties imposed on goods, wares and merchandise manufactured within the United States exported to any foreign port or place.

The senate resumed the consideration of the direct tax bill.

Mr. Turner moved to reduce the proposed amount of the tax from six millions to four millions five hundred thousand dollars; which motion was decided as follows:

YEAS—Anderson, Bibb, Condit, Lambert, Smith, Turner, Wharton—7.

NAYS—Bledsoe, Brown, Chase, Dargett, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Horsey, Hunter, Kerr, King, Lacock, Mason, Morrow, Roberts, Tait, Taylor, Thompson, Varnum, Walker—20.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Thursday, Dec. 29.—This day was consumed in considering amendment after amendment and motion after motion respecting the bill to establish a national bank, the most of which appeared to be got up only to waste time. We intended a detail of them, but the room is required for other things.—The house sat until 7 o'clock in the evening, and

†The paragraph and the two that follow we recommend should be read at least twice over. Not because their meaning is any wise obscure, but on account of the strong doctrine they inculcate.

the majority rose with an apparent determination of passing the bill the next day.

*Friday, Dec. 30.*—After some other business, the house again took up the bank bill, but the proceedings were interrupted by a message from the senate announcing the death of one of their body, Mr. Brent, of Virginia, and the usual resolutions to attend the funeral were passed and the house adjourned.

*Saturday, Dec. 31.*—No business done, on account of the funeral of Mr. Brent.

*Monday, Jan. 2.*—A good deal of minor business being disposed of, the house again took up the bill to establish a national bank—after a good many motions had been made, they came to the main question, "shall the bill pass?" and the yeas and nays were as follows:

**YEAS.**—Messrs. Alexander, Alton, Anderson, Archer, Avery, Barnet, Bigelow, Bradley, Brown, Caldwell, Cannon, Chappell, Clark, Clendenn, Constock, Conrad, Crighton, Crouch, Cuthbert, Dana, Davis of Pa. Donogelles, Duvall, Earle, Farrow, Finley, Fisk, of Vt. Fisk, of N. Y. Forney, Forsythe, Gholsen, Gourdin, Griffin, Harris, Has'rouck, Howe, Hawkins, Hopkins, of Ky. Hubbard, Burgess, Ingham, Irving, Irwin, Kent of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, Kilbourn, King, of N. C. Lefferts, L'wandes, Lyle, McCoy, McKee, M'Lean, Montgomery, Moore, Mullicre, Nelson, Ormsby, Parker, Pickens, Pleasant, Rea of Pen. Rhea of Ten. Rich, Ringgold, Robertson, Sage, Sevier, Sharp, Skinner, Smith, of Pa. Strong, Tannehill, Taylor, Telfair, Udree, Ward, of N. J. Williams, Wilson, of Pa. Yancey—81.

**NAYS.**—Messrs. Bard, Baylies of Mass. Bayly of Va. Bines, Bowen, Boyd, Braubury, Breckenridge, Brigham, Burwell, Butler, Caperton, Calhoun, Champion, Cilley, Clupton, Cooper, Coxe, Crawford, Gunpepper, Davenport, Davis of Miss. Debn, Ely, Evans, Franklin, Gaston, Giddes, Glasgow, Grosvenor, Hale, Hall, Hanson, Henderson, Howell, Humphreys, Hulbert, Jackson of R. I. Johnson of Vir. Johnson of Ky. Kennedy, Kent of N. Y. King of Mass. Law, Lewis, Lovett, Maeon, M'Kim, Miller, Mosley, Markell, Newton, Oakley, Pearson, Pickering, Pitkin, Porter, John Reed, Wm. Reed, Ruggles, Schureman, Seybert, Shaffly, Sherwood, Shipherd, Slaymaker, Stanford, Stockton, Stuart, Sturges, Teggart, Thompson, Vose, Ward of Mass. Webster, Wheaton, White, Wilcox, Wilson of Mass. Winter—30.

THE STATE OF THE VOTE HAVING BEEN DECLARED—

THE SPEAKER (Mr. Cheves of S. C.) rose. After adverting to the rule of the house, which makes it the right and duty of the Speaker to vote in two cases, of which this was one, he proceeded to assign briefly the reasons which influenced him to vote against the bill. He noticed the opinions expressed on both sides of the house for and against the measure; and declared his conviction that the bill proposed a dangerous, unexampled, and, he might almost say, a desperate resort. He cursorily examined the three views in which the passage of the bill had been advocated, namely as calculated to resuscitate public credit; to establish a circulating medium; and to afford the ways and means for the support of the government. He delivered, with even more than his usual eloquence and impressiveness, his opinions on these several points, and concluded with expressing his solemn belief, that neither of these purposes would be answered by the bill. He denied that the passage of this bill was demanded by the safety of the nation; but intimated his opinion that a national bank bill might be framed, by which the avowed objects of the present bill might be accomplished, which he had no doubt would unite a majority in its favor. Although the vote was painful to him to give, he was therefore obliged to vote in the negative.

The Speaker's vote having produced an equality of votes, he declared the decision of the house to be, that the bill should not pass.

SO THE BILL IS REJECTED.

After which, Mr. Hall, who had voted in the negative, moved a reconsideration—not because he had changed his opinion, but to afford his friends an opportunity of giving such shape to the bill as might unite all the members favorable to the principle of establishing such a bank—before the question was decided on this motion the house adjourned.

[On the yeas and nays inserted above, it may not be amiss to remark, that several in the negative so voted from constitutional objections to the bill—others on account of its details.]

*Tuesday, January 3.* A bill to establish an uniform system of bankruptcy, and the bill from the senate to appoint certain naval officers (admirals) were read and referred.

The question then came up to reconsider the vote on the bill respecting the national bank. Many remarks were made by different gentlemen showing their reasons why they should vote for or against the motion. After they had spoken, Mr. Hale said he had made his motion with the hope of obtaining a compromise, of conflicting opinions, and a modification of the present bill. But, finding its friends so wedded to it as to attempt to force it through the house, he withdrew his motion for a reconsideration.

Mr. M'Kim renewed the motion to reconsider the vote on the bank bill; not from any intention to change his vote, but from a disposition to accommodate his friends on a question of so much magnitude.

The question was decided by yeas and nays—for a re-consideration 107, against 54. After some time, the bill was re-committed to a select committee—yeas 89, nays 71.

*Wednesday, Jan. 4.* Mr. Fisk from the committee of ways and means, to whom was referred the amendments of the senate, to the furniture tax bill, recommend a disagreement to the same; and the question being taken thereon, they were accordingly disagreed to.

The amendments of the senate to the bill for taxing certain manufactures, were considered in committee of the whole, and afterwards in the house. Those amendments which go to exempt pig iron from taxation, and add umbrellas and parasols, were disagreed to, and the others were agreed to.

The house spent some time in committee of the whole, on the bill to prohibit intercourse with the enemy, and for other purposes; which underwent a considerable discussion, until late in the day, when the committee rose, reported progress and obtained leave to sit again thereon.

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

**HARTFORD CONVENTION.** The doings of this assemblage are still a profound secret, except it appears that a person from Vermont, appointed, no body knows how, has been received, not as a delegate, but as "assistant secretary." Some persons have supposed they would adjourn in the first week in this month; and think they will report to their respective legislatures before their proceedings are made public. But we have no hint of what these proceedings are.

The effect of this meeting, let it end as it may, will be infelicitous. At two or three places the "publicans and sinners" have held meetings, and resolved that they considered it inexpedient to pay the duties for licenses until after the proceedings of the Hartford convention were published, by which they would regulate their conduct. Are these the men of "steady habits"—the "friends of order and law"—the "RELIGIOUS?"

We do not see any reason to apprehend the things so much talked of—we believe there is a "redeeming spirit" in the people of Massachusetts that will hurl the jacobins into the "bottomless pit" of confusion and disgrace, pell mell and headlong, the moment they do the overt act.



**NEW-ORLEANS.**—The intelligence of an enemy's being off the *Balize*, as stated in our last, must have been premature. We have accounts from New Orleans to the 10th of December, at which time the enemy had not been heard of in that quarter, nor did they seem much to care how soon he came, being amply prepared to receive him. Gen. Jackson arrived there about the 2d of that month with a fine body of men. He proceeded down the river a day or two afterwards to inspect the different forts and works, some of which are represented as very powerful; and we are well supplied with block ships, gun boats, rafts, &c. His whole command is estimated at 22,000 men, besides the militia of Louisiana—of these about 10,000 were with him on the 2d December, and the *Kentucky* and *Tennessee* boys were pushing on to join him, as were also the *Georgia* troops. The following despatch received at *Milledgeville*, by the governor of Georgia, on the 10th, gives us some information of the enemy.

*Milledgeville, Dec. 21.*—Yesterday a despatch was received by the governor from general McIntosh, stating that information had been given by the Indians of the arrival at the mouth of the Appalachicola in Florida of a large British fleet, having on board a corvette to the enemy's statement, *fourteen thousand troops*, and a considerable part of them blacks. Seven of the vessels are said to be very large, the remainder of smaller size and loaded with ammunition and presents for the Indians. The British have built a strong fort at Forbes's store, and placed in it a garrison of 300 men. All the Indians have been invited to come to receive presents.—The Red Sticks and many run-away negroes have gone.

If the above news be true, the British evidently intend carrying on an active warfare against this state, and we shall not be surprized if an attempt be made to prevent a junction between our army and that under general Jackson.

The troops at Fort Hawkins amounting to about 2500, struck their tents on Monday, and took up the line of march for Mobile, of which place and neighborhood gen. McIntosh will have the command, gen. Jackson intending to remain in the vicinity of New-Orleans. Of the route of the army we deem it improper to speak.

[Appalachicola bay may be about 250 miles, south in a direct line from Milledgeville, and about 500 east from the mouth of the Mississippi. The Flint river, which empties into this bay, has a navigation for small vessels or boats a considerable distance into the country inhabited by the *Seminoles*, the most savage Indians of the south, and also the most hostile. It is possible that the "bulwark of religion" may have made his appearance here to give life and spirit to his "dear allies," the *savages* and *negroes*; and, perhaps, leave a small force, with a full supply of arms and ammunition, for the purpose of murdering women and children on the inland frontiers of Georgia, while with his chief body he proceeds on his grand expedition.]

**PENSACOLA.** By a sloop that has arrived at Wilmington, N. C. with a cargo of sugar, and with several passengers from *Havana*, we learn "that great dissatisfaction with king Ferdinand existed there, and that though at first the capture of Pensacola by general Jackson had given a shock in that place which occasioned the stopping of American vessels—yet as soon as they received accounts of the manner in which Pensacola was restored, all difficulties ceased, the vessels were liberated and the Americans treated with great respect."

[Jackson's conduct at Pensacola will be approved, we trust, by all men, except the Jacobins of his own country, who would convert the *Gabriel* into a *Belize*

*bab*, if he opposed the white, red and black allied savages.]

The British, before they left *Pensacola* committed every excess—"pillage, ravage, destruction and fire marked their progress;" and to cap the whole, they carried off 100 *negroes* belonging to their "dear friends" the Spaniards! Letters from thence are filled with eulogiums on the conduct of Jackson; they call him the "liberator of Pensacola"—and well might the people of that place declare, that "our *Chactaras* were more civilized than the (*religious*) English!"

**BALTIMORE.** The following tale was told to the committee of vigilance of the city of Baltimore, by two persons who have been with the enemy since August last, and were in the *Menalaus* frigate at the time of the *decoration* on Baltimore. The attempt to pass the Ferry Branch [Port Covington] was made, as one of them states, by eighty boats carrying about 25 men each, eight of which were entirely destroyed, with a loss as was admitted by some inferior officers, after their return, of from 5 to 600 men! Two boats only went from the *Menalaus*, both of which returned, but 17 of the men were missing. They have communicated some other information, highly interesting, but improper to communicate at the present time.

[We put no faith in this report to the extent stated—but it is impossible to believe that the enemy did not suffer severely on the occasion alluded to, though the admiral, (*ca valid soul!*) does not even mention the expedition.]

**SOUTH CAROLINA** has placed at the disposition of the government of the United States, 250,000 dollars, to pay the troops in that quarter, to be passed to the credit of the state in anticipation of its quota of the direct tax. The honorable particulars of this transaction shall be recorded.

**STATE TROOPS.**—The legislature of South Carolina has passed a law to raise a brigade of state troops—the officers are: *Daniel Elliott Huger*, brigadier general; *Andrew Pickens* and *James R. Pringle*, colonels; *Francis J. Delicssline* and *W. G. Middleton*, lieutenant-colonels; *James M. Kibben* and *John Cauty*, 1st majors; *Andrew Hasell* and *John S. Mavor*, 2d majors.

**NEW YORK.** Gov. *Tompkins* having proceeded to Albany, the command of this post has devolved on brig. gen. *Boyl*. In a letter to the mayor, he offers his warmest thanks to the corporation of the city for its liberality and patriotism. The governor appears to have given great satisfaction in his military capacity, and to have secured the attachment and esteem of all parties.

**CASTINE.**—The British at Castine have had a report that the Independence and Constitution, with 27 privateers, and 13,000 men, were in complete readiness at Boston for an attack on that place!

**THE HOSTAGES.**—The original twenty-three hostages held by the British government in Canada, have at length been released. They arrived at *Plattsburgh* on the 2d ult. from *Quebec*.

#### MILITARY.

Maj. gen. *Macomb* has resumed his command at *Plattsburgh*, where the apprehension of a winter campaign seems considerably lessened.

Lt. col. *Towson*, is at present in *Baltimore*, on a visit to his friends. It is the first time that he has left his corps since the war.

Col. Joseph D. Learned, of the 34th regiment U. S. infantry, has been lately tried by a court martial, convened at Portland, of which brig. gen. Chandler was president, and found guilty of "fraud and embezzlement of public monies." It was proved that in the summer of 1843 he procured 700 cartridge

boxes, belts and bayonet-scabbards to be made on account of the United States at \$1 75 for each sett, and paid for them at that rate; but contrived to obtain a receipt for the rate of \$2 per sett; by which means he obtained of the deputy commissary of purchases payment at the latter rate, thereby making a profit to himself of 25 cents on each sett, amounting in the whole to 175 dollars. He was found guilty likewise on other charges, and sentenced to be cashiered, which sentence is approved by the commanding officer of this district, and the said colonel Learned is no longer an officer of the army.

The *Democratic Press*, says—"We understand that an arrangement for the exchange of prisoners has been made; and that 4000 prisoners are expected to arrive in the United States."

Head-quarters, Nashville, Nov. 24, 1814.  
GENERAL ORDERS.

*Soldiers*—It is a matter of congratulation to our country, to behold with what promptitude you have obeyed the summons to the field.

No sooner was the will of your government known, than you threw aside the habiliments of the peaceful citizen, and attired yourselves in the armor of war.

The convulsions which have agitated Europe for such a long series of years, have settled down into that despotism which favors legitimate kings; and the attention of the despots are now turned alone to our happy republic, with the hope of despoiling our free institutions, and sweeping our government from the map of the world.

The peace which has been formed by the consent of the princes of Europe, has given our enemy a great disposable force, which he will be enabled to throw on our borders, and will make him still more haughty than before this recent event. It becomes us then, my countrymen, to be prepared for any sudden invasion—to go forth and meet the enemy at the threshold of our territory—to be patient under all fatigue, and firm in sustaining all difficulties, remembering that the first glory of a soldier is his submission to the will of his country.

It is matter of pride to your general to know that he has the honor of commanding the troops of Tennessee.

Our state has risen to the highest lists of military glory, and he has a presentiment this army will be equally distinguished with those who have already served in the field.

The war has assumed such an aspect, and the pressure of it is so great that if ever exertions were necessary, they are at this moment.

The whole circumference of the United States can be invaded, either by the British or their numerous indian allies. Let us then be watchful of our territory, that its soil be not polluted by the sacrilegious tread of the savage, or of the subjects of that government who basely employs them.

The exigency of the times requires our immediate march to the lower country, there to protect that section of our union which is so important to the people westward of the Alleghany mountain.

The city of New-Orleans is the grand depot of the products of our country, and every one of us ought to feel a strong interest in defending this great mart of trade and source of wealth to the upper country.

It will afford your general infinite satisfaction, if your conduct in camp and while on the march, shall be such as to be pleasing to our fellow citizens. He hopes every soldier will be mindful of the reputation of the army. Let there be no offences given to the peaceful citizen, nor any waste of his private property.

It is in the power of a few men, by their refractory conduct, to bring disgrace on the whole army.

It is, therefore, the duty of every one of the detachment, to report the disorderly conduct of any of the soldiers, so that the commanding general may exact exemplary punishment on the offenders.

The embarkation of the troops will take place this day on board the transports now in the Cumberland river.

The general invokes the benedictions of heaven for this army—for its safety—its glory—and its honorable return—humbly knowing that the strong arm of power is alone derived from the Almighty.

By command,

ANDR. HYNES, adj. gen. of Ten. and  
aid to maj. gen. Carroll.

THE MEN OF TENNESSEE.—By the adjutant general.  
Head-Quarters, on board the transports, near  
Fort Massac, Ohio river, November 28, 1814.

"The greater proportion of the Tennessee army are this far on their way to the lower country; consisting of three thousand men, under the command of major-general Carroll. The balance of our army have marched through the indian country by land, by way of forts Strother, Williams, and Jackson, to Mobile, consisting of two thousand men; making in the whole five thousand, which we have raised and marched without the limits of the state in about one month. Tennessee has now eleven thousand five hundred troops in the service of the United States, which is at least one third of the men who are entitled to bear arms. The returns of the militia of Tennessee, which have been made to my office as adjutant general, do not make the militia of the state more than thirty thousand; yet I presume the number is greater than the returns make them, and that nearly or about one third are now in service.

"The present secretary of war advised our governor Blount, dated in October last, that lord Hill was fitting out a large expedition from Ireland, destined to take possession of all that country from Cape Florida westward to the provinces of Spain, including the city of Orleans. Our government are anxious to anticipate his lordship's arrival, by having an adequate force to give him that reception which is due to so distinguished a personage. Every effort has been made to raise, organize and march our troops, and I hope to heaven they may arrive in time to avert the fall of that country, which is so important to the western world. Our state has made wonderful sacrifices, and is still willing to make many more, to preserve the integrity of the union.

"There are no difficulties which our citizens will not forego to aid the government at the present trying crisis—and I hope our efforts may not be unavailing."

#### NAVAL.

The President frigate did not sail from New York, as reported in our last.

Com. Campbell has taken up his head quarters at Savannah. Fifty vessels, under convoy of the gun-boats, arrived at that port from St. Mary's and Amelia island about 3 weeks ago.

We have a report that the sloop of war *Wasp* has again returned to France, after a brilliant cruise.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

The bill for laying a direct tax of six millions has passed the senate, and only wants the signature of the president to become a law—ayes 23, nays 7:

A strong bill is before the house to prevent smuggling, &c. It was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading—all but 8 or 9 of the opposition being absent when the vote was taken, to prevent a quorum.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 20 OF VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1815.

[WHOLE NO. 176.]

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit*—VIRGIL.

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann.

The convention at Hartford rose, *sine die*, on the 4th instant. As the editor thought he could not present any thing that would so much gratify the curiosity of his readers, as a copy of their proceedings—many articles in type have been laid over to make room for it. There are a variety of statistical tables, published by order of the convention, which we expect to insert in our next—and some of them shall be examined and elucidated by other statistical facts, as we proceed in our essays regarding that assembly; which will be continued, as room is allowed, in several future papers.

## Rates of Postage.

Postmasters will take notice, that by an act of congress passed on the 23d inst. the several rates of postage are augmented fifty per cent. and that after the first day of February next the

*Rates of Postage for single letters will be:*

	Cents.
For any distance not exceeding 40 miles	12
Over 40 miles and not exceeding 90 do	15
Over 90 do.	150 do
Over 150 do.	300 do
Over 300 do.	500 do
Over 500	37 1-2

Double letters, or those composed of two pieces of paper, double those rates.

Triple letters, or those composed of three pieces of paper, triple those rates.

Packets or letters composed of four or more pieces of paper, and weighing one ounce or more, *avoirdupois*, are to be rated equal to one single letter for each quarter ounce.

*Newspapers.* Each paper carried not exceeding 100 miles, or for any distance not being carried out of the state in which it is printed, 1 1-2 cts.

If carried out of the state where printed, and over 100 miles, 2 1-4 do.

*Magazines and pamphlets.* Carried not over 50 miles, for each sheet, 1 1-2 cts.

Over 50 and not exceeding 100 miles 2 1-4

Over 100 miles, 3

But pamphlets are not to be received or conveyed by post on the main line, or any cross road, where the mail is large.

RETURN J. MEIGS, Jr.

*Post Master General.*

General Post-Office, December 28, 1814.

### POSTAGE OF THE REGISTER

For the information of all concerned, we republish a letter from the late Post Master General, on the postage of the REGISTER. As his decision has never been reversed, (and, indeed, I cannot see how that it ever can be) it is binding in all cases whatsoever. The letter was in answer to one I had written to Mr. Granger, complaining that some post masters had charged my subscribers at the *pamphlet* rate of postage.

GENERAL POST-OFFICE,  
January 13th, 1815.

Sir—Yours of the 6th is before me, as well as your former letter on the same subject. The delay of this answer has arisen partly from a multiplicity of business, and partly from a serious doubt of the le-

gal character of your publication. But I am now satisfied and admit your publication to be a newspaper and to be rated at News-paper postage.

With esteem,

G. GRANGER.

H. NILES, *Baltimore.*

## Eighty-one Copies.

By re-printing certain sheets of the first and second volumes of the WEEKLY REGISTER, eighty-one complete files of the work may be perfected; and they are all that can be furnished until the entire first volume, and a considerable part of the second, shall be re-printed. When this will be done, in the present state of the times, I have no idea of; as the expence will be very great. As those few copies are for sale, it is desirable to dispose of them as soon as possible, and they who wish complete files can ensure them only by immediate application. They may safely be sent to any post-office in the United States, at the expence of the purchaser for postage, at the same rate as for newspapers, *per sheet*; and the editor will guarantee their safe arrival, except at the offices in the state of Louisiana and in the several territories of the United States, to which, if sent, they must go at the risk of the owner.

The terms are these, absolute—

Before a file leaves the office, *twenty two* dollars must be paid for it, as follows:

For the three first years, or 6 vols. up to September, 1814,	\$15
the present year in advance to Sept. 1815,	5
the extra supplement to vol. 5,	1
ditto ditto to be added to vol. 7,	1
	—
	22

The 7th (or first volume of the present year) finishes on the last Saturday of next month (Feb.) "Brothers of the type," editors of newspapers, will oblige by giving the above an insertion.

Letters addressed to the editor must be post-paid.

H. NILES,

*Editor, Weekly Register,*

Baltimore, January 15, 1815.

## Hartford Convention.

*The proceedings of a convention of delegates, convened at Hartford, in the state of Connecticut, December 15, 1814.*

### REPORT, &c.

The delegates from the legislatures of the states of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, and from the counties of Grafton and Cheshire, in the state of New-Hampshire, and the county of Windham in the state of Vermont; assembled in convention, beg leave to report the following result of their conference.

The convention is deeply impressed with a sense of the commission which they were appointed to execute, of devising the means of defence against dangers, and of relief from oppressions proceeding from the acts of their own government, without violating constitutional principles, or disappointing the hopes of a suffering and injured people. To

prescribe patience and firmness to those who are already exhausted by distress, is sometimes to drive them to despair, and the progress towards reform by the regular road, is irksome to those whose imaginations discern, and whose feelings prompt to a shorter course. But when abuses reduced to system and accumulated through a course of years, have spread every department of government, and spread corruption through every region of the state, when these are clothed with the forms of law, and enforced by an executive whose will is their source, no summary means of relief can be applied without recourse to direct and open resistance. This experiment, even when justifiable, cannot fail to be painful to the good citizen; and the success of the effort will be no security against the danger of the example. Precedents of resistance to the worst administration are eagerly seized by those who are naturally hostile to the best. Necessity alone can sanction a resort to this measure; and it should never be extended in duration or degree beyond the exigency, until the people, not merely in the fervor of sudden excitement, but after a full deliberation, are determined to change the constitution.

It is a truth, not to be concealed, that a sentiment prevails to no inconsiderable extent, that administration have given such constructions to that instrument, and practised so many abuses under color of its authority, that the time for a change is at hand. Those who so believe, regard the evils which surround them as intrinsic and incurable defects in the constitution. They yield to a persuasion, that no change, at any time, or on any occasion, can aggravate the misery of their country.— This opinion may ultimately prove to be correct.— But as the evidence on which it rests is not yet conclusive, and as measures adopted upon the assumption of its certainty might be irrevocable, some general considerations are submitted, in the hope of reconciling all to a course of moderation and firmness, which may save them from the regret incident to sudden decisions, probably avert the evil, or at least insure consolation and success in the last resort.

The constitution of the United States, under the auspices of a wise and virtuous administration, proved itself competent to all the objects of national prosperity, comprehended in the views of its framers.

No parallel can be found in history, of a transition so rapid as that of the United States from the lowest depression to the highest felicity—from the condition of weak and disjointed republics, to that of a great, united and prosperous nation.

Although this high state of public happiness has undergone a miserable and afflicting reverse, though the prevalence of a weak and profligate policy, yet the evils and afflictions which have thus been induced upon the country, are not peculiar to any form of government. The lust and caprice of power, the corruption of patronage, the oppression of the weaker interests of the community by the strong, heavy taxes, wasteful expenditures, and unjust and ruinous wars, are the natural offspring of bad administrations, in all ages and countries. It was deemed to be better, that the rulers of these states would not make such disastrous haste to involve their infancy in the embarrasments of old and rotten institutions. Yet all this have they done; and their conduct calls loudly for their dismissal and disgrace. But to attempt upon every abuse of power to change the constitution, would be to perpetuate the evils of revolution.

Again, the experiment of the powers of the constitution, to regain its vigor, and of the people to recover from their delusions, has been hitherto made under the greatest possible disadvantages arising

from the state of the world. The fierce passions which have convulsed the nations of Europe, have passed the ocean, and finding their way to the bosoms of our citizens, have afforded to administration the means of perverting public opinion, in respect to our foreign relations, so as to acquire its aid in the indulgence of their adherents. Further, a confirmation of public opinion, resulting from dear bought experience in the southern and Atlantic states, at least, is not to be despised of. They will have felt, that the eastern states cannot be made exclusively the victims of a capricious and impassioned policy. They will have seen that the great and essential interests of the people, are common to the south and to the east. They will realize the fatal errors of a system, which seeks revenge for commercial injuries in the sacrifice of commerce, and aggravates by needless wars, to an immeasurable extent, the injuries it professes to redress. They may discard the influence of visionary theorists, and recognize the benefits of a practical policy. Indications of this desirable revolution of opinion among our brethren in those states, are already manifested, while a hope remains of its ultimate completion, its progress should not be retarded or stopped, by exciting fears which must check these favorable tendencies and frustrate the efforts of the wisest and best men in those states, to accelerate this propitious change.

Finally, if the union be destined to dissolution, by reason of the multiplied abuses of bad administrations, it should, if possible, be the work of peaceable times, and deliberate consent. Some new form of confederacy should be substituted among those states, which shall intend to maintain a federal relation to each other. Events may prove that the causes of our calamities are deep and permanent. They may be found to proceed, not merely from the blindness of prejudice, pride of opinion, violence of party spirit, of the confusion of the times; but they may be traced to implacable combinations of individuals, or of states, to monopolize power and office, and to trample without remorse upon the rights and interests of commercial sections of the union. Whenever it shall appear that these causes are radical and permanent, a separation by equitable arrangement, will be preferable to an alliance by constraint, among nominal friends, but real enemies, inflamed by mutual hatred and jealousies, and inviting by intestine divisions, contempt and aggression from abroad. But a severance of the union by one or more states, against the will of the rest, and especially in time of war, can be justified only by absolute necessity. These are among the principal objections against precipitate measures tending to disunite the states, and when examined in connection with the farewell address of the father of his country, they must, it is believed, be deemed conclusive.

Under these impressions, the convention have proceeded to confer and deliberate upon the alarming state of public affairs, especially, as affecting the interests of the people who have appointed them for this purpose, and they are naturally led to a consideration, in the first place, of the dangers and grievances which menace an immediate or speedy pressure, with a view of suggesting means of present relief; in the next place, of such as are of a more remote and general description, in the hope of attaining future security.

Among the subjects of complaint and apprehension, which might be comprised under the former of these propositions, the attention of the convention has been occupied with the claims and pretensions advanced, and the authority exercised over the militia by the executive and legislative departments

of the national government. Also, upon the destination of the means of defence in which the eastern states are left; while at the same time they are doomed to heavy requisitions of men and money for national objects.

The authority of the national government over the militia is derived from those clauses in the constitution which give power to congress "to provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions." Also "to provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia, and for governing such parts of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the states respectively the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by congress." Again, "the president shall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states, when called into the actual service of the United States." In these specified cases only has the national government any power over the militia; and it follows conclusively that for all general and ordinary purposes, this power belongs to the states respectively, and to them alone. It is not only with regret, but with astonishment, the convention perceive that under color of an authority conferred with such plain and precise limitations, a power is arrogated by the executive government, and in some instances sanctioned by the two houses of congress, of control over the militia, which, if conceded, will render nugatory the rightful authority of the individual states over that class of men, and by placing at the disposal of the national government the lives and services of the great body of the people, enable it at pleasure to destroy their liberties, and erect a military despotism on the ruins.

An elaborate examination of the principles assumed for the basis of these extravagant pretensions, of the consequences to which they lead, and of the insurmountable objections to their admission, would transcend the limits of this report. A few general observations, with an exhibition of the character of these pretensions, and a recommendation of a strenuous opposition to them, must not, however, be omitted.

It will not be contended that by the terms used in the constitutional compact, the power of the national government to call out the militia, is other than a power expressly limited to three cases. One of these must exist as a condition precedent to the exercise of that power—unless the laws shall be opposed, or an insurrection shall exist, or an invasion shall be made, congress, and of consequence the president as their organ, has no more power over the militia than over the armies of a foreign nation.

But if the declaration of the president should be admitted to be an unerring test of the existence of these cases, this important power would depend, not upon the truth of the fact, but upon executive infallibility. And the limitation of the power would consequently be nothing more than merely nominal, as it might always be eluded. It follows, therefore, that the decision of the president in this particular, cannot be conclusive. It is as much the duty of the state authorities to watch over the rights reserved, as of the United States to exercise the powers which are delegated.

The arrangement of the U. States into military districts, with a small portion of the regular force under an officer of high rank of the standing army, with power to call for the militia, as circumstances in his judgment may require; and to assume the command of them, is not warranted by the constitution or any law of the United States. It is not denied that congress may delegate to the president of

the United States the power to call forth the militia in the cases which are within their jurisdiction; but he has no authority to substitute military prefects throughout the union, to use their own discretion in such instances. To station an officer of the army in a military district without troops corresponding to his rank, for the purpose of taking command of the militia that may be called into service, is a manifest evasion of that provision of the constitution which expressly reserves to the states, the appointment of the officers of the militia; and the object of detaching such officer cannot be well conceived to be any other than that of superseding the governor or other officers of the militia in their right to command.

The power of dividing the militia of the states into classes and obliging such classes to furnish by contract or draft, able bodied men, to serve for one or more years for the defence of the frontier, is not delegated to congress. If a claim to draft the militia for one year for such general object be admissible, no limitation can be assigned to it, but the discretion of those who make the law. Thus with a power in congress to authorize such a draft or conscription, and in the executive to decide conclusively upon the existence and continuance of the emergency, the whole militia may be converted into a standing army, disposable at the will of the president of the United States.

The power of compelling the militia and other citizens of the United States by a forcible draft or conscription, to serve in the regular armies, as proposed in a late official letter of the secretary of war, is not delegated to congress by the constitution, and the exercise of it would be not less dangerous to their liberties than hostile to the sovereignty of the states. The effort to deduce this power from the right of raising armies, is a flagrant attempt to pervert the sense of the clause in the constitution which confers that right, and is incompatible with other provisions in that instrument. The armies of the United States have always been raised by contract, never by conscription, and nothing more can be wanting to a government possessing the power thus claimed, to enable it to usurp the entire control of the militia, in derogation of the authority of the state, and to convert it by impressment into a standing army.

It may be here remarked, as a circumstance illustrative of the determination of the executive to establish an absolute control over all description of citizens, that the right of impressing seamen into the naval service is expressly asserted by the secretary of the navy in a late report\*. Thus a practice,

\* Extract from report of the secretary of the navy dated November 15, 1814.

There is another branch of the service which appears to me to merit the serious deliberation of the legislature, with regard to the establishment of some regular system, by which the voluntary enlistments for the navy may derive occasional reinforcement from the services of those seamen, who, pursuing their own private occupations, are exempt by their itinerant habits, from public service of any kind. In my view there would be nothing incompatible with the free spirit of our institutions, or with the rights of individuals, if registers, with a particular descriptive record, were kept in the several districts, of all the seamen belonging to the United States, and provision made by law for classing and calling into the public service, in succession for reasonable stated periods, such portions or classes, as the public service might require, and if any individual, so called, should be absent at the time, 189

which in a foreign government has been regarded with great abhorrence by the people, finds advocates among those who have been the loudest to condemn it.

The law authorising the enlistment of minors and apprentices into the armies of the United States, without the consent of parents and guardians, is also repugnant to the spirit of the constitution. By a construction of the power to raise armies, as applied by our present rulers, not only persons capable of contracting are liable to be impressed into the army, but those who are under legal disabilities to make contracts, are to be invested with this capacity, in order to enable them to annul at pleasure contracts made in their behalf by legal guardians. Such an interference with the municipal laws and rights of the several states, could never have been contemplated by the framers of the constitution. It impairs the salutary control and influence of the parent over his child—the master over his servant—the guardian over his ward—and thus destroys the most important relations in society, so that by the conception of the father, and the seduction of the son, the power of the executive over all the effective male population of the United States is made complete.

Such are some of the odious features of the novel system proposed by the rulers of a free country, under the limited powers derived from the constitution. What portion of them will be embraced in acts finally to be passed, it is yet impossible to determine. It is, however, sufficiently alarming to perceive, that these projects emanated from the highest authority, nor should it be forgotten, that by the plan of the secretary of war, the classification of the militia embraced the principle of direct taxation upon the white population only; and that, in the house of representatives, a motion to apportion the militia among the white population exclusively, which would have been in its operation a direct tax, was strenuously urged and supported.

In this whole series of devices and measures for raising men, this convention discern a total disregard for the constitution, and a disposition to violate its provisions, demanding from the individual states a firm and decided opposition. An iron despotism can impose no harder servitude upon the citizen, than to force him from his home and his occupation, to wage offensive wars, undertaken to gratify the pride or passions of his master. The example of France has recently shown that a cabal of individuals assuming to act in the name of the people, may transform the great body of citizens into soldiers, and deliver them over to the hands of a single tyrant. No war, not held in just abhorrence by a people, can require the aid of such stratagems to recruit an army. Had the troops already raised, and in great numbers sacrificed upon the frontier of Canada, been employed for the defence of the country, and had the millions which have been squandered with shameless profusion, been appropriated to their payment, to the protection of the coast, and to the naval service, there would have been no occasion for unconstitutional expedients. Even at this late hour, let government leave to New-England the remainder of her resources, and she is ready and able to defend her territory, and to resign the glories and advantages of the border war, to those who are determined to persist in its prosecution.

That acts of congress in violation of the constitution are absolutely void, is an undeniable position.

next in succession should perform the tour of duty of the absentee, who should on his return be liable to serve his original tour, and his substitute be exempt from his succeeding regular tour of duty.

It does not, however, consist with the respect and forbearance due from a confederate state towards the general government, to fly to open resistance upon every infraction of the constitution. The mode and the energy of the opposition, should always conform to the nature of the violation, the intention of its authors, and the extent of the injury inflicted, the determination manifested to persist in it, and the danger of delay.† But in cases of deliberate, dangerous and palpable infractions of the constitution, affecting the sovereignty of a state, and liberties of the people; it is not only the right but the duty of such a state, to interpose its authority for their protection, in the manner best calculated to secure that end. When emergencies occur, which are either beyond the reach of the judicial tribunals, or too pressing to admit of the delay incident to their forms, states, which have no common umpire, must be their own judges, and execute their own decisions. I will thus be proper for the several states to await the ultimate disposal of the obnoxious measures recommended by the secretary of war, or pending before congress, and so to use their power according to the character these measures shall finally assume, as effectually to protect their own sovereignty, and the rights and liberties of their citizens.

The next subject which has occupied the attention of the convention, is the means of defence against the common enemy. This naturally leads to the inquiries, whether any expectation can be reasonably entertained, that adequate provision for the defence of the eastern states will be made by the

† It appears from the following extract from a speech of Mr. Madison, in the debates in the Virginia convention, that he had a prophetic view of circumstances which would induce a majority of states to support Virginia against the carrying states. See also the speeches of Mr. Nicholas in that convention, and the essays in the *Federalist*, written by Mr. Madison.

*Extract from debates in the Virginia convention—Richmond Ed. p. 224.*

I will not sit down till I make one more observation on what fell from my honorable friend. He says, that the true difference between the states lies in this circumstance—that some are carrying states, and others productive, and that the operation of the new government will be, that there will be a plurality of the former to combine against the interest of the latter, and that consequently it will be dangerous to put it in their power to do so. I would join with him in sentiments if this were the case. Were this within the bounds of probability, I should be equally alarmed, but I think that those states which are contradistinguished as carrying states, from the non-importing states, will be but few. I suppose the southern states will be considered by all, as under the latter description. Some other states have been mentioned by an honorable member on the same side, which are not considered as carrying states. New-Jersey and Connecticut can by no means be enumerated among the carrying states. They receive their supplies through New-York. Here then is a plurality of non-importing states. I could add another if necessary. Delaware, though situated upon the water, is upon the list of non-carrying states. I might say that a great part of New-Hampshire is so. I believe that a majority of the people of that state receive their supplies from Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. Might I not add all those states which will be hereafter admitted into the union? These will be non-carrying states, and will support Virginia in case the carrying states will attempt to combine against the rest.

national government? Whether the several states can, from their own resources, provide for self-defence and fulfil the requisitions which are to be expected for the national treasury? and, generally, what course of conduct ought to be adopted by those states, in relation to the great object of defence?

Without pausing at present to comment upon the causes of the war, it may be assumed as a truth, officially announced, that to achieve the conquest of Canadian territory, and to hold it as a pledge for peace, is the deliberate purpose of administration. This enterprise, commenced at a period when government possessed the advantage of selecting the time and occasion for making a sudden descent upon an unprepared enemy, now languishes in the third year of the war. It has been prosecuted with various fortune, and occasional brilliancy of exploit, but without any solid acquisition. The British armies have been recruited by veteran regiments. Their navy commands Ontario. The American ranks are thinned by the casualties of war. Recruits are discouraged by the unpopular character of the contest, and by the uncertainty of receiving their pay.

In the prosecution of this favorite warfare, administration have left the exposed and vulnerable parts of the country destitute of all efficient means of defence. The main body of the regular army has been marched to the frontier. The navy has been stripped of a great part of its sailors for the service of the lakes. Meanwhile the enemy scours the seacoast, blockades our ports, ascends our bays and rivers, makes actual descent in various and distant places, holds some by force, and threatens all that are assailable, with fire and sword. The sea-board of four of the New England states, following its curvatures, presents an extent of more than seven hundred miles, generally occupied by a compact population, and accessible by a naval force, exposing a mass of people and property to the devastation of the enemy, which bears a great proportion of the residue of the maritime frontier of the United States. This extensive shore has been exposed to frequent attacks, repeated contributions and constant alarms. The regular forces detached by the national government for its defence, are mere pretexes for placing officers of high rank in command. They are besides confined to a few places, and are too insignificant in number to be included in any computation.

These states have thus been left to adopt measures for their own defence. The militia have been constantly kept on the alert, and harassed by garrison duties, and other hardships, while the expenses, of which the national government decline the reimbursement, threatened to absorb all the resources of the states. The president of the United States has refused to consider the expense of the militia detached by the state authority, for the indispensable defence of the state, as chargeable to the Union, on the ground of a refusal by the executive of the state, to place them under the command of officers of the regular army. Detachments of militia placed at the disposal of the general government, have been dismissed either without pay, or with depreciated paper. The prospect of the ensuing campaign is not enlivened by the promise of any alleviation of these grievances. From authentic documents, extorted by necessity from those whose inclination might lead them to conceal the embarrassments of the government, it is apparent that the treasury is bankrupt, and its credit prostrate. So deplorable is the state of the finances, that those who feel for the honor and safety of the country, would be willing to conceal the melancholy spectacle, if those whose infatuation has

produced this state of fiscal concerns had not found themselves compelled to unveil it to public view.

If the war be continued, there appears no room for reliance upon the national government for the supply of those means of defence, which must become indispensable to secure these states from desolation and ruin. Nor is it possible that the states can discharge this sacred duty from their own resources, and continue to sustain the burden of the national taxes. The administration, after a long perseverance in plans to baffle every effort of commercial enterprise, had fatally succeeded in their attempts at the epoch of the war. Commerce, the vital spring of New England's prosperity, was annihilated. Embargoes, restrictions, and the rapacity of revenue officers, had completed its destruction. The various objects for the employment of productive labor, in the branches of business dependent on commerce, have disappeared. The fisheries have shared its fate. Manufactures, which government has professed an intention to favor and to cherish, as an indemnity for the failure of these branches of business, are doomed to struggle in their infancy with taxes and obstructions, which cannot fail most seriously to affect their growth. The specie is withdrawn from circulation. The landed interest, the last to feel these burdens, must prepare to become their principal support, as all other sources of revenue must be exhausted. Under these circumstances, taxes of a description and amount unprecedented in this country, are in a train of imposition, the burden of which must fall with the heaviest pressure upon the states east of the Potomac. The amount of these taxes for the ensuing year, cannot be estimated at less than five millions of dollars upon the New England states, and the expenses of the last year for defence in Massachusetts alone, approaches to one million of dollars.

From these facts, it is almost superfluous to state the irresistible inference that these states have no capacity of defraying the expense requisite for their own protection, and, at the same time, of discharging the demands of the national treasury.

The last inquiry, what course of conduct ought to be adopted by the aggrieved states, is in a high degree momentous. When a great and brave people shall feel themselves deserted by their government, and reduced to the necessity either of submission to a foreign enemy, or of appropriating to their own use, those means of defence which are indispensable to self preservation, they cannot consent to wait passive spectators of approaching ruin, which it is in their power to avert, and to resign the last remnant of their industrious earnings, to be dissipated in support of measures destructive of the best interests of the nation.

This convention will not trust themselves to express their conviction of the catastrophe to which such a state of things inevitably tends.—Conscious of their high responsibility to God and their country, solicitous for the continuance of the Union, as well as the sovereignty of the states, unwilling to furnish obstacles to peace—resolute never to submit to a foreign enemy, and confiding in the Divine care and protection, they will, until the last hope shall be extinguished, endeavor to avert such consequences.

With this view they suggest an arrangement, which may at once be consistent with the honor and interest of the national government, and the security of these states. This it will not be difficult to conclude, if that government should be so disposed. By the terms of it these states might be allowed to assume their own defence, by the militia or other

troops. A reasonable portion also, of the taxes raised in each state might be paid into its treasury, and credited to the United States, but to be appropriated to the defence of such state, to be accounted for with the United States. No doubt is entertained that by such an arrangement, this portion of the country could be defended with greater effect, and in a mode more consistent with economy, and the public convenience, than any which has been practised.

Should an application for these purposes, made to congress by the state legislatures, be attended with success, and should peace upon just terms appear to be unattainable, the people would stand together for the common defence, until a change of a administration, or of disposition in the enemy, should facilitate the occurrence of that auspicious event. It would be inexpedient for this convention to diminish the hope of a successful issue to such an application, by recommending upon supposition of a contrary event, ulterior proceedings.—Nor is it indeed within their province. In a state of things so solemn and trying as may then arise, the legislatures of the states, or conventions of the whole people, or delegates appointed by them for the express purpose in another convention, must act as such urgent circumstances may then require.

But the duty incumbent on this convention will not have been performed without exhibiting some general view of such measures as they may deem essential to secure the nation against a relapse into difficulties and dangers, should they by the blessings of Providence escape from their present condition without absolute ruin. To this end a concise retrospect of the state of this nation under the advantages of a wise administration, contrasted with the miserable abyss into which it is plunged by the profligacy and folly of political theorists, will lead to some practical conclusions. On this subject, it will be recollected, that the immediate influence of the federal constitution upon its first adoption, and for twelve succeeding years, upon the prosperity and happiness of the nation, seemed to countenance a belief in the transcendency of perfection over all other human institutions. In the catalogue of blessings which have fallen to the lot of most favored nations, none could be enumerated from which our country was excluded—A free constitution, administered by great and incorruptible statesmen, realized the fondest hopes of liberty and independence—The progress of agriculture was stimulated by the certainty of value in the harvest—and commerce, after traversing every sea, returned with the riches of every clime. A revenue, secured by a sense of honor, collected without oppression, and paid without murmurs, melted away the national debt, and the chief concern of the public creditor arose from its too rapid diminution. The wars and commotions of the European nations, and the interruptions of their commercial intercourse afforded to those who had not promoted, but who would have rejoiced to alleviate their calamities, a fair and golden opportunity, by enriching themselves to lay a broad foundation for national wealth.

Although occasional vexations to commerce, arose from the furious collisions of the powers at war, yet the great and good men of that time conformed to the force of circumstances which they could not control, and preserved their country in security from the tempests which overwhelmed the old world, and threw the wreck of their fortunes on these shores. Respect abroad, prosperity at home, wise laws made by honored legislators, and prompt obedience yielded by a contented people, had silenced the enemies of republican institutions. The arts flourished—the

sciences were cultivated—the comforts and convenience of life were universally diffused—and nothing remained for succeeding administrations, but to reap the advantages, and cherish the resources, flowing from the policy of their predecessors.

But no sooner was a new administration established in the hands of the party opposed to the Washington policy, than a fixed determination was perceived and avowed of changing a system which had already produced these substantial fruits. The consequence of this change, for a few years after its commencement, were not sufficient to counteract the prodigious impulse towards prosperity, which had been given to the nation. But a steady perseverance in the new plans of administration, at length developed their weakness and deformity, but not until a majority of the people had been deceived by flattery, and inflamed by passion, into blindness to their defects. Under the withering influence of this new system, the declension of the nation has been uniform and rapid. The richest advantages for securing the great objects of the constitution have been wondrously rejected. While Europe reposes from the convulsions that had shaken down her ancient institutions, she beholds with amazement this remote country, once so happy and so envied, involved in a ruinous war, and excluded from intercourse with the rest of the world.

To investigate and explain the means whereby this fatal reverse has been effected, would require a voluminous discussion. Nothing more can be attempted in this report, than a general allusion to the principal outlines of the policy which has produced this vicissitude. Among these may be enumerated:

*First.* A deliberate and extensive system for effecting a combination among certain states, by exciting local jealousies and ambition, so as to secure to popular leaders in one section of the union, the control of public affairs in perpetual succession.—To which primary object most other characteristics of the system may be reconciled.

*Secondly.* The political intolerance displayed and avowed, in excluding from office men of unexceptionable merit, for want of adherence to the executive creed.

*Thirdly.* The infraction of the judiciary authority and rights, by depriving judges of their offices in violation of the constitution.

*Fourthly.* The abolition of existing taxes, requisite to prepare the country for those changes to which nations are always exposed, with a view to the acquisition of popular favor.

*Fifthly.* The influence of patronage in the distribution of offices, which in these states has been almost invariably made among men the least entitled to such distinction, and who have sold themselves as ready instruments for distracting public opinion, and encouraging administration to hold in contempt the wishes and remonstrances of a people thus apparently divided.

*Sixthly.* The admission of new states into the union, formed at pleasure in the western region, has destroyed the balance of power which existed among the original states, and deeply affected their interest.

*Seventhly.* The easy admission of naturalized foreigners, to places of trust, honor or profit, operating as an inducement to the discontented subjects of the old world to come to these states, in quest of executive patronage, and to repay it by an abject devotion to executive measures.

*Eighthly.* Hostility to Great Britain, and partially to the late government of France, adopted as coincident with popular prejudice, and subservient to the main object, party power. Connected with these



must be ranked erroneous and distorted estimates of the power and resources of those nations, of the probable result of their controversies, and of our political relation to them respectively.

*Lastly and principally.* A visionary and superficial theory, in regard to commerce, accompanied by a real hatred but a feigned regard to its interests, and a ruinous perseverance in efforts to render it an instrument of coercion and war.

But it is not conceivable that the obloquy of any administration could, in so short a period, have so nearly consummated the work of national ruin, unless favored by defects in the constitution.

To enumerate all the improvements of which that instrument is susceptible, and to propose such amendments as might render it in all respects perfect, would be a task, which this convention has not thought proper to assume. They have confined their attention to such as experience has demonstrated to be essential, and even among these, some are considered entitled to more serious attention than others. They are suggested without any intentional disrespect to other states, and are meant to be such as all shall find an interest in promoting. Their object is to strengthen, and if possible to perpetuate, the union of the states, by removing the grounds of exciting jealousies, and providing for a fair and equal representation, and a limitation of powers, which have been misused.

The first amendment proposed, relates to the apportionment of representatives among the slave-holding states. This cannot be claimed as a right. Those states are entitled to the slave-representation by a constitutional compact. It is therefore merely a subject of agreement, which should be conducted upon principles of mutual interest and accommodation, and upon which no sensibility on either side should be permitted to exist. It has proved unjust and unequal in its operation. Had this ill-effect been foreseen, the privilege would probably not have been demanded; certainly not conceded. Its tendency in future will be adverse to that harmony and mutual confidence, which are more conducive to the happiness and prosperity of every confederated state, than a mere preponderance of power, the prolific source of jealousies and controversy, can be to any one of them. The time may therefore arrive when a sense of magnanimity and justice will reconcile those states to acquiesce in a revision of this article, especially as a fair equivalent would result to them in the apportionment of taxes.

The next amendment relates to the admission of new states into the union.

This amendment is deemed to be highly important, and in fact indispensable. In proposing it, it is not intended to recognize the right of congress to admit new states without the original limits of the United States, nor is any idea entertained of disturbing the tranquillity of any state already admitted into the union. The object is merely to restrain the constitutional power of congress in admitting new states. At the adoption of the constitution, a certain balance of power among the original parties was considered to exist, and there was at that time, and yet is among those parties a strong affinity between their great and general interests. By the admission of these states that balance has been materially affected, and unless the practice be modified, must ultimately be destroyed. The southern states will first avail themselves of their new confederates to govern the east, and finally the western states multiplied in number, and augmented in population, will control the interests of the whole. Thus for the sake of present power, the southern states will be common sufferers with the east, in the loss of per-

manent advantages. None of the old states can find an interest in creating prematurely an overwhelming western influence, which may hereafter discern (as it has heretofore) benefits to be derived to them by wars and commercial restrictions.

The next amendment proposed by the convention, relates to the powers of congress, in relation to embargo and the interdiction of commerce.

Whatever theories upon the subject of commerce, have hitherto divided the opinions of statesmen, experience has at last shown that it is a vital interest in the United States, and that its success is essential to the encouragement of agriculture and manufactures, and to the wealth, finances, defence and liberty of the nation. Its welfare can never interfere with the other great interests of the states, but must promote and uphold them. Still those who are immediately concerned in the prosecution of commerce, will of necessity be always a minority of the nation. They are, however, best qualified to manage and direct its course by the advantages of experience, and the sense of interest. But they are entirely unable to protect themselves against the sudden and injudicious decisions of bare majorities, and the mistaken or oppressive projects of those who are not actively concerned in its pursuits. Of consequence, this interest is always exposed to be harassed, interrupted, and entirely destroyed, upon pretence of securing other interest. Had the merchants of this nation been permitted, by their own government, to pursue an innocent and lawful commerce, how different would have been the state of the treasury and of public credit! How short-sighted and miserable is the policy which has annihilated this order of men, and doomed their ships to rot in the docks, their capital to waste unemployed, and their affections to be alienated from the government which was formed to protect them? What security for an ample and unfulfilling revenue can ever be had, comparable to that which once was realized in good faith, punctuality and sense of honor, which attached the mercantile class to the interests of the government! Without commerce, where can be found the aliment for a navy; and without a navy, what is to constitute the defence, and ornament, and glory of this nation! No union can be durably cemented, in which every great interest does not find itself reasonably secured against the encroachment and combinations of other interests. When, therefore, the past system of embargoes and commercial restrictions shall have been reviewed—when the fluctuation and inconsistency of public measures, betraying a want of information as well as feeling in the majority, shall have been considered, the reasonableness of some restrictions upon the power of a bare majority to repeat these oppressions, will appear to be obvious.

The next amendment proposes to restrict the power of making offensive war. In the consideration of this amendment, it is not necessary to inquire into the justice of the present war. But one sentiment now exists in relation to the expediency, and regret for its declaration is nearly universal. No indemnity can ever be attained for this terrible calamity, and its only palliation must be found in obsolescence to its future recurrence. Rarely can the state of this country call for or justify offensive war. The genius of our institutions is unfavorable to its successful prosecution; the felicity of our situation exempts us from its necessity.—In this case, as in the former, those more immediately exposed to its effects are a minority of the nation. The commercial towns, the shores of our seas and rivers, can and the population, whose vital interests are most vulnerable by a foreign enemy. Agricultur-

ture, indeed, must feel at last; but this appeal to its sensibility comes too late. Again, the immense population which has swarmed into the west, remote from immediate danger, and which is constantly augmenting, will not be averse from the occasional disturbances of the Atlantic states. This interest may not frequently combine with passion and intrigue, to plunge the nation into needless wars, and compel it to become a military rather than a happy and flourishing people. These considerations which it would be easy to augment, call loudly for the limitation proposed in the amendment.

Another amendment, subordinate in importance, but still in a high degree expedient relates to the exclusion of foreigners, hereafter arriving in the United States from the capacity of holding offices of trust, honor, or profit.

That the stock of population already in these states, is amply sufficient to render this nation in due time sufficiently great and powerful, is not a controvertible question—Nor will it be seriously pretended, that the national deficiency in wisdom, arts, science, arms, or virtue, needs to be replenished from foreign countries. Still, it is agreed, that a liberal policy should offer the rights of hospitality, and the choice of settlement, to those who are disposed to visit the country.—But why admit to a participation in the government, aliens who were no parties in the compact—who are ignorant of the nature of our institutions, and have no stake in the welfare of the country, but what is recent and transitory? It is surely a privilege sufficient to admit them after due probation to become citizens, for all but political purposes.—To extend it beyond these limits, is to encourage foreigners to come to these states as candidates for preferment. The convention forbear to express their opinion upon the inauspicious effects which have already resulted to the honor and peace of this nation, from this misplaced and indiscriminate liberality.

The last amendment respects the limitation of the office of president, to a single constitutional term, and his eligibility from the same state two terms in succession.

Upon this topic it is superfluous to dilate. The love of power is a principle in the human heart which too often impels to the use of all practicable means to prolong its duration. The office of president has charms and attractions which operate as powerful incentives to this passion. The first and most natural exertion of vast patronage is directed towards the security of a new election. The interest of the country, the welfare of the people, even honest fame and respect for the opinion of posterity are secondary considerations. All the engines of intrigue; all the means of corruption, are likely to be employed for this object. A president whose political career is limited to a single election, may find no other interest than will be promoted by making it glorious to himself and beneficial to his country. But the hope of re-election is prolific of temptations, under which these magnanimous motives are deprived of their principal force. The repeated election of president of the United States from any one state, affords inducements and means for intrigue, which tend to create an undue local influence, and establish the domination of particular states. The justice therefore, of securing to every state a fair and equal chance for the election of this officer from its own citizens is apparent, and this object will be essentially promoted by preventing an election from the same state twice in succession.

Such is the general view which this convention has thought proper to submit, of the situation of these states, of their dangers and their duties. Most of

the subjects which it embraces have separately received an ample and luminous investigation, by the great and able assertors of the rights of their country, in the national legislature; and nothing more could be attempted on this occasion, than a digest of general principles, and of recommendations, suited to the present state of public affairs. The peculiar difficulty and delicacy of performing, even this undertaking, will be appreciated by all who think seriously upon the crisis. Negotiations for peace, are at this hour supposed to be pending, the issue of which must be deeply interesting to all. No measures should be adopted, which might unfavorably affect that issue; none which should embarrass the administration, if their professed desire for peace is sincere; and none, which on supposition of their sincerity, should afford them pretexts for prolonging the war, or relieving themselves from the responsibility of a dishonorable peace. It is also devoutly to be wished, that an occasion may be afforded to all friends of the country, of all parties, and in all places, to pause and consider the awful state to which pernicious counsels, and blind passions, have brought this people. The number of those who perceive, and who are ready to retrace errors, must it is believed be yet sufficient to redeem the nation. It is necessary to rally and unite them by the assurance that no hostility to the constitution is meditated, and to obtain their aid in placing it under guardians, who alone can save it from destruction. Should this fortunate change be effected, the hope of happiness and honor may once more dispel the surrounding gloom. Our nation may yet be great, our union durable. But should this prospect be utterly hopeless, the time will not have been lost, which shall have ripened a general sentiment of the necessity of more mighty efforts to rescue from ruin, at least some portion of our beloved country.

THEREFORE BE IT—

*Resolved*, That it be and is hereby recommended to the legislatures of the several states represented in this convention, to adopt all such measures as may be necessary effectually to protect the citizens of said states from the operation and effects of all acts which have been or may be passed by the congress of the United States, which shall contain provisions subjecting the militia or other citizens to forcible drafts, conscriptions or impressments not authorized by the constitution of the United States.

*Resolved*, That it be and is hereby recommended to the said legislatures, to authorize an immediate and earnest application to be made to the government of the United States, requesting their consent to some arrangement, whereby the said states may, separately or in concert, be empowered to assume upon themselves the defence of their territory against the enemy; and a reasonable portion of the taxes, collected within said states, may be paid into the respective treasuries thereof, and appropriated to the payment of the balance due said states, and to the future defence of the same. The amount so paid into the said treasuries to be credited, and the disbursements made as aforesaid to be charged to the United States.

*Resolved*, That it be and is hereby recommended to the legislatures of the aforesaid states, to pass laws (where it has not already been done) authorising the governors or commanders in chief of their militia to make detachments from the same, or to form voluntary corps, as shall be most convenient and conformable to their constitutions, and to cause the same to be well armed, equipped, disciplined, and held in readiness for service; and upon the request of the governor of either of the other states, to employ the whole of such detachment or corps as

well as the regular forces of the state, or such part thereof as may be required and can be spared consistently with the safety of the state, in assisting the state making such request to repel any invasion thereof, which shall be made or attempted by the public enemy.

*Resolved*, That the following amendments of the constitution of the United States, be recommended to the states represented as aforesaid, to be proposed by them for adoption by the state legislatures, and in such cases as may be deemed expedient, by a convention chosen by the people of each state.

And it is further recommended, that the said states shall persevere in their efforts to obtain such amendments, until the same shall be effected.

*First*. Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which may be included within this union, according to their respective numbers of free persons, including those bound to serve for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed and all other persons.

*Second*. No new state shall be admitted into the union by congress, in virtue of the power granted by the constitution, without the concurrence of two thirds of both houses.

*Third*. Congress shall not have power to lay an embargo, on the ships or vessels of the citizens of the United States, in the ports or harbors thereof, for more than sixty days.

*Fourth*. Congress shall not have power, without the concurrence of two-thirds of both houses, to interdict the commercial intercourse between the United States and any foreign nation or the dependencies thereof.

*Fifth*. Congress shall not make nor declare war, or authorize acts of hostility against any foreign nation without the concurrence of two thirds of both houses, except such acts of hostility be in defence of the territories of the United States when actually invaded.

*Sixth*. No person who shall hereafter be naturalized, shall be eligible as a member of the senate or house of representatives of the United States, nor capable of holding any civil office under the authority of the United States.

*Seventh*. The same person shall not be elected president of the United States a second time; nor shall the president be elected from the same state two terms in succession.

*Resolved*, That if the application of these states to the government of the United States, recommended in a foregoing resolution, should be unsuccessful, and peace should not be concluded, and the defence of these states should be neglected, as it has been since the commencement of the war, it will, in the opinion of this convention, be expedient for the legislatures of the several states to appoint delegates to another convention, to meet at Boston in the state of Massachusetts, on the third Thursday of June next, with such powers and instructions as the exigency of a crisis so momentous may require.

*Resolved*, That the hon. George Cabot, the hon. Chauncey Goodrich, and the hon. Daniel Lyman, or any two of them, be authorized to call another meeting of this convention, to be holden in Boston, at any time before new delegates shall be chosen, as recommended in the above resolution, if in their judgment the situation of the country shall urgently require it.

HARTFORD, January 4th, 1814.

George Cabot,  
Nathan Dane,  
William Prescott,  
Harrison G. Oeis,  
Timothy Bigelow,

James Hillhouse,  
John Treadwell,  
Zephania Swift,  
Nathaniel Smith,  
Calvin Goddard,

Joshua Thomas,  
Samuel S. Wilde,  
Joseph Lyman,  
Stephen Longfellow, jr.  
Daniel Walker,  
Hodijah Baylies,  
George Bliss,  
Chauncey Goodrich,

Roger M. Sherman,  
Daniel Lyman,  
Samuel Ward,  
Edward Manton,  
Benjamin Hazard,  
Benjamin Baylies,  
Mills Olcott,  
William Hall, jr.

## Proceedings of Congress.

### IN SENATE.

*Thursday, January 5.* The direct tax bill was passed without amendment, by the following vote:

YEAS.—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Bledsoe, Brown, Chase, Condit, Daggett, Fremontin, Gaillard, German, Giles, Hunter, Kerr, King, Lacey, Morrow, Roberts, Smith, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Walker, Wharton.—23.

NAYS.—Messrs. Dana, Gore, Horsey, Lambert, Mason, Varnum, Wells.—7.

The senate agreed to a conference with the house on the disagreeing votes of the two houses on the furniture tax bill; and asked a conference of the house on the disagreeing votes on the manufacture tax bill; of which Messrs. Taylor, Bledsoe and Daggett were appointed managers.

The bill supplementary to the act for settling the Yazoo claims, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, [and passed the next day.]

Mr. Bledsoe submitted for consideration a motion "that the committee on naval affairs be instructed to enquire into the expediency of establishing a naval school"—[agreed to next day.]

*Friday, Jan. 6.* Mr. Lacey, from the committee on the subject, reported a bill making an appropriation for repairing and rebuilding the public buildings within the city of Washington; which was read and passed to a second reading.

The bill from the house to authorize the president of the United States to accept the services of certain volunteer corps, having been so amended, as to authorize the acceptance into service of state corps, and otherwise essentially changed in its provisions, was ordered to a third reading, *by an unanimous vote*.

The bill from the house to provide for the widows and orphans of militia and volunteers, who shall die or be killed in the service of the United States, was further considered, and, on motion of Mr. Varnum, postponed to the second Monday in March next.

*Saturday, Jan. 7.* The bill to authorize the acceptance of the state troops and volunteers was passed.

Mr. Taylor from the committee of conferences on the disagreeing votes of the two houses, on the bill for taxing household furniture, &c. made a report thereon: which being under consideration—

Mr. Giles moved that the further proceedings on said bill be postponed to the second Monday in March next—(in other words, *rejected*.)

The question on which motion was decided as follows:

YEAS.—Messrs. Daggett, Dana, Giles, Gore, Hunter, Mason, Smith, Wells.—8.

NAYS.—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Bledsoe, Brown, Chase, Condit, Fremontin, Gaillard, German, Lacey, Lambert, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Tait, Taylor, Thompson, Turner, Varnum, Walker, Wharton.—21.

The report was then agreed to, and, having been before agreed to by the house, the bill wants only the signature of the president to become a law.

The bill to authorize the president of the United States, to cause to be built, equipped and employed, one or more floating batteries, for the defence of the waters of the United States, was further considered, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, [and passed next day.]

*Monday, Jan. 9.* The amendments of the house to the senate's bill to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America, were received, read, and referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Smith, Bibb, Anderson, Giles and Varnum.

*Wednesday, Jan. 11.* Mr. Barbour, senator from Virginia (late governor) in the place of Mr. Brent, deceased, appeared and took his seat.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Thursday, Jan. 5.*—A message was received from the senate, renouncing their recession from all their amendments to the bill laying duties on certain manufactures, except so much as proposes to lay a duty of 8 per cent. on all umbrellas and parasols above the value of 2 dolls.

Mr. Pisk of N. Y. stated that the principal difficulty with the committee of ways and means, in assenting to this amendment, had been a doubt of the constitutional power of the senate, to propose new taxes. As this was a question which he believed had never been decided; and as the tax was in itself unimportant, he moved that the house insist on its disagreement to its amendment.

Which motion was agreed to.

The house also determined to insist on disagreement to a part of the amendments of the senate, to the furniture tax bill, and to a conference on that bill.

The house resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of the whole, on the bill for preventing intercourse with the enemy. [This is a bill containing ample and energetic provisions, for preventing the treasonable intercourse, which has recently prevailed to so great an extent on our northern borders, and elsewhere.] The few amendments made in committee of the whole having been agreed to—

Messrs. *Grosvenor, King* (of Mass.) *Stockton* and *Wilson*, moved various amendments, all which were negatived. After which, it appearing, about this time, owing to the retirement of a number of members of the house, that a quorum was not present, a motion was made for the call of the house.

Mr. *Grosvenor* contended that one day's notice was necessary to a call of the house; the chair (Mr. Nelson, in the absence of the speaker from indisposition, occupying the chair) decided such notice was not necessary; Mr. *Grosvenor* appealed from this decision, which the house affirmed.

The call of the house then took place, when it appeared that the following members were present:

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Androm, Archer, Avery, Barbour, Bard, Barnett, Bises, Bowen, Butler, Caldwell, Cannon, Cannon, Chappel, Clark, Cleland, Clinton, Comstock, Conard, Crawford, Crighton, Crouch, Cuthbert, Dana, Davis of Pa. DeSha, Duvall, Earle, Fish, Giddens, G. Y. Fish, of N. Y. Forney, Gholson, Gourdin, Griffin, Grosvenor, Hale, Hall, Harris, Harts, Hawkins, Hopkins, of Ky. Hubbard, Humphreys, Hulbert, Ingiam, Irving, Jackson of Vir. Johnson of Va. Johnson of Ky. Kent of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, Kilkenny, King of Mass. King, of N. C. Lovett, Lovett, Lyle, McCoy, Miller, Miller, Moore, Nelson, Newton, Ormsby Parker, Pickens, Pleasant, John Reed, Rea of Penn. Rhea of Tenn. Rich, Ringgold, Rouse, Robertson, Sage, Seybert, Sharp, Smith, of Pa. Strong, Sturges, Tammehill, Taylor, Udree, Vose, Ward of N. J. Wilson of Mass. Wilson, of Pa. Wood, Yancey—92.

The doors of the House were then closed, according to the rules of the house, and ingress and egress forbidden, but not before two or three other members had come in.

Some difficulty arose as to the course now proper to be pursued as to compelling the attendance of absentees, &c. At length, on motion of Mr. Yancey, it was ordered that all further proceedings on the call be suspended; and

The bill which had been ordered to be engrossed for a third reading without a division—a sufficient number not rising to support the motion of Mr. Miller for the yeas and nays.

And the house then adjourned, it being some time after night-fall.

*Friday, Jan. 6.* Mr. McKee, from the committee to whom the same was referred, reported a bill to establish a national bank.

Mr. McKee explained, briefly, the nature and amount of the amendments now proposed to the bill. The first principle introduced into the bill, he said, was a reduction of the capital stock from fifty to thirty millions; such capital to be composed of five millions in specie, fifteen millions in treasury notes, ten millions in stock of the United States created since the declaration of war. The capital to be subscribable in shares of one hundred instead of five hundred each. The payments of the subscription to be so apportioned that two fifths of the amount of the capital should be paid in at the time of subscribing. This would bring at once into the bank, 1,666,000 dollars in specie, and the residue in treasury notes and stock, amounting to twelve millions in the whole. There was every reason to believe that this payment could be made, at the time of subscription, to the full amount proposed. If so, the bank could forthwith go into operation, and its capital would not remain inactive, as a part of it must do if a less amount were payable at the time of subscription. The principle requiring the bank to make a loan of thirty millions to the government to be stricken out, and the provision respecting the suspension of payments in specie, which appeared to be inseparably connected with the compulsory loan, to be also stricken out. The immediate aid which the plan would afford to the government, in addition to the establishment of a circulating medium of undoubted credit, would be in the issue and free circulation of treasury notes, and the relief to the stock market by the abstraction from it of ten millions to be subscribed into the stock of the bank. The bank thus to be established was predicated on the idea of a specie bank, on which principle alone must forever rest a sound circulating medium.—There was no danger, as had been frequently objected, but, without a requisition to that effect in its charter, the bank would, for its own interest, afford to the government every assistance and accommodation in its power. A right was also reserved to the government to subscribe, on its own behalf and for its benefit, whenever congress shall authorize it by law, five millions to the stock of the bank, payable in certificates of stock bearing an interest of four per centum. This stock it might sell at great advantage; even during the present year, if the bank went successfully into operation.

The amendments to the first section having been stated, and the question being proposed to the house on that amendment which reduces the proposed capital from fifty to thirty millions of dollars.

The question being taken, after nearly two hours debate, on the first amendment reported by the select committee, was decided as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Anderson, Archer, Barbour, Bard, Barnett, Baylies of Mass. Bayly of Va. Birnlow, Bises, Bowen, Boyd, Bradbury, Breckenridge, Brigham, Burwell, Bull, R. Caperton, Calhoun, Cannon, Champion, Chappell, Gilley, Clark, Cleland, CLOPTON, Comstock, Cox, Crawford, Crighton, Crouch, Culpepper, Cuthbert, Dana, Davenport, Davis of Mass. Davis of Penn. DeSha, Duvall, Earle, Ely, Evans, Farow, Fidelity, Forney, Gaston, Geddes, Gholson, Grosvenor, Hanson, Harris, Hasbrouck, Hawes, Henderson, Howell, Humphreys, Hulbert, Ingersoll, Irving, Jackson of Va. L. Jackson of Va. Johnson of Va. Johnson of Ky. Kentucky, Kent of N. Y. Kent of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, King of Mass. King of N. C. Law, Lovett, Lowndes, McCoy, McKim, McLinn, Miller, Moutgomery, Moore, Mosley, Markell, Newton, Oakley, Ormsby, Pearson, Pickering, Pickens, Potkin, Pleasant, Potter, J. Reed, Wm. Reed, Rea of Penn. Rhea of Tenn. Rich, Robertson, Ruggles, Sage, Schreman, Seybert, Sharp, She-Bey, Sherwood, Shipyard, Slaymaker, Smith of N. Y. Smith of Pa. Stouford, Stockton, Stuart, Sturges, Taggart, Tammehill, Taylor, Thompson, Truup, Udree, Vose, Ward of Mass. Ward of N. J. Webster, W. Watson, White, Wilcox, Williams, Wilson of Mass. Winter, Wood and Yancey—129.

NAYS.—Messrs. Alston, Brown, Caldwell, Conard, Denoyelles, Eppes, Fisk of Vt. Fisk of N. Y. Forsyth, Franklin, Gourdin, Griffin, Hall, Hawkins, Hopkins of Ky. Hubbard, Ligham, Irwin, Kilbourn, Leifers, Lyle, Macon, McCoy, Murfree, Nelson, Parker, Ringgold, Ruane, Sevier, Telfair, and Wilson of Pa.—31.

The other amendments were afterwards agreed to, and the bill ordered to a third reading to-morrow without opposition.

*Saturday, January 7.*—Further progress was made in the bill to prevent traitorous intercourse with the enemy—it was laid upon the table to make way for the bank bill, which came up and the question being stated, "shall this bill pass?" several members gave their reasons why they should vote for or against the bill—the yeas and nays were as follows:

YEAS.—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Anderson, Barnett, Bayly of Va. Bigglov, Bines, Breckenridge, Brigham, Brown, Butler, Caperton, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cannon, Champion, Chappell, Cileley, Clark, Clendenin, Constock, Conard, Cooper, Coxe, Craighton, Crouch, Culpepper, Cuthbert, Dana, Davenport, Davis of Mass. Davis of Pa. Duvall, Earle, Ely, Farrow, Findley, Fisk of Vt. Forsythe, Forsyth, Gaston, Geddes, Ghulson, Hale, Hanson, Harris, Harbreeck, Hayes, Hawkins, Henderson, Hopkins of Ken. Howell, Hungerford, Hullert, Ingersoll, Ingham, Irving, Jackson of R. I. Kent of N. Y. Kent of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, Kilbourn, King of N. C. L. Harris, Lovett, Lowmides, McCoy, McKee, McKim, McLean, Montgomery, Moore, Mosely, Markell, Oakley, Ormsby, Pearson, Pickering, Pickens, Pitkin, Pleasant, Potter, John Reed, Wm. Reed, Rex of Penn. Rhea of Ten. Rich, Ringgold, Robertson, Ruggles, Sage, Seureman, Sevier, Sharp, Shoffey, Sherwood, Shipherd, Slaymaker, Smith of N. Y. Smith of Penn. Stockton, Stuart, Surges, Taggart, Tauschill, Taylor, Telfair, Thompson, Udree, Vose, Ward of Mass. Ward of N. J. Webster, Wheaton, White, Williams, Winter, Wood, Yates—120.

NAYS.—Messrs. Baylies of Mass. Boyd, Bradbury, Burwell, Clopton, Crawford, Denoyelles, D. sha, Eppes, Evans, Fisk of N. Y. Franklin, Gourdin, Griffin, Grosvenor, Hubbard, Humphreys, Irwin, Johnson of Virg. Johnson of Ken. Kennedy, King of Mass. Law, Lewis, Lyle, Macon, Murfree, Nelson, Newton, Parker, Roan, Seybert, Stanford, Stroug, Wilcox, Wilson of Mass. Wilson of Penn.—38.

So the bill was passed, and the amendments sent to the senate for their concurrence.

*Monday, January 9.*—Mr. Sage presented the petition of Joshua Penny of Long-Island, stating that he was taken from his bed in the night time by an armed British force and carried on board a British ship of war, where he received the most inhuman treatment, and was confined as a prisoner of war for nine months, though he had not borne arms during the present war, and praying congress to take his case into consideration, and give him some remuneration by employment in the public service—Referred to the committee of claims.

Mr. Wm. Reed, of Mass. from the committee on the subject of naval reform, made a report, accompanied by sundry letters from distinguished naval officers, concurring in recommending the adoption of two bills now reported. These bills, viz. a bill to "alter and amend the several acts for establishing the navy department, by adding thereto a Board of Commissioners," and a bill "directing the manner of contracts and purchases in the navy department, and for promoting economy therein," were twice read, and committed.

The bill to prevent traitorous intercourse with the enemy, being taken up, Mr. Farrow having assigned his reasons why he should vote against the bill, though friendly to its object, the question was taken without further debate, and the bill passed as follows:

YEAS.—Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Anderson, Avery, Barbour, Bard, Barnett, Bayly, of Va. Bines, Bowen, Brown, Burwell, Butler, Calhoun, Cannon, Clark, Clendenin, Crawford, Crighton, Crouch, Cuthbert, Dana, Davis, of Penn. Desha, Duvall, Eppes, Evans, Findley, Fisk, of Vt. Fomey, Forsythe, Franklin, Ghulson, Griffin, Hall, Harris, Hasbrouck, Hayes, Hopkins, of Ky. Hubbard, Humphreys, Hungerford, Ingersoll, Ingham, Irwin, Johnson, of Ky. Kennedy, Kerr, Kershaw, Kilbourn, King, of N. C. Lefferts, Lyle, Macon, McCoy, McKee, McKim, McLean, Montgomery, Nelson, N. Y. Ormsby, Parker, Pickens, Pleasant, Sage, Sevier, Sharp, Smith, of Penn. Tauschill, Troup, Udree, Williams, Wilson, of Penn. Wright, Yates—82.

N. YS.—Messrs. Baylies, of Mass. Boyd, Breckenridge, Brigham, Caperton, Champion, Cileley, Cooper, Coxe, Culpepper, Davenport, Davis, of Mass. Ely, Farrow, Geddes, Grosvenor, Hale, Hanson, Hawkins, Henderson, Howell, Hullert, Kent, of N. Y.

King, of Mass. Law, Lewis, Lovett, Miller, Mosely, Markell, Oakley, Pearson, Pickering, Pitkin, J. Reed, Wm. Reed, Ruggles, Seureman, Sherwood, Shipherd, Slaymaker, Smith, of N. Y. Stanford, Stockton, Stuart, Surges, Taggart, Thompson, Vose, Ward, of Mass. Wheaton, White, Wilcox, Winter, Wood—55.

So the bill was passed, and sent to the senate for concurrence.

*Tuesday, Jan. 10.* A variety of minor business was done, and the house agreed to the amendments proposed by the senate to the bill laying duties on certain manufactures—for it 97; against 53. The chief question before the house was, whether the senate, in the shape of an amendment, had a right to propose new objects of taxation.

*Wednesday, January 11.* The house was chiefly occupied this day with private petitions and business of little general importance—except that it agreed to the amendments of the senate to the volunteer bill; and spent some on the bill for quieting and adjusting claims to land in the Mississippi territory.

*Thursday, January 12.* This being the day recommended by the president for general fasting, humiliation and prayer, neither house met.

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

NEW-ORLEANS.—We anxiously look towards this city, filled with hopes and wounded by fears for its fate. On the events that have happened there, great interests depend, not to the individuals, or to the immense tract of country immediately concerned in the welfare of this mighty depot, but only to all the United States.

On the 12th December, intelligence reached New-Orleans, that the much-talked-of expedition from the West-Indies (or a part of it) consisting of from 35 to 40 vessels, had appeared off *Ship Island*, in the bay of *St. Louis*, approaching towards lake *Ponchartrain*, with an undoubted design of making a "demonstration" on the city on that side. The troops on board were supposed to amount to 6000 men, among were some black soldiers. On the 15th they attacked, in about 40 barges, each armed with a piece of cannon, and having about fifty men, our flotilla belonging to the lake, consisting of five gun boats and a small schooner; all which were finally beaten after a resistance worthy the character of our tars, who desperately maintained the unequal contest for *one hour and fifty minutes*. The schooner was run ashore and blown up by her own crew, who escaped, but the five gun-boats were captured.—The enemy's loss is supposed to have been excessive—no less than *thirteen* of their barges being said to have sunk! This flotilla was the whole of the naval force we had on that side, and its capture gave them free entrance into lake *Ponchartrain*, except the resistance they might meet with from a small fort commanding the passage of the *Rigolettes*, which it was not supposed, would seriously obstruct their progress. At the mouth of the bayou *St. Jean*, which leads towards *New-Orleans* from the lake, there is also a fort, but it does not seem to be much calculated upon. The nature of the country between the lake and the city, presents, however, very formidable obstacles to an invading army, being almost a complete swamp, the very nesting place of alligators. But what has been the result we know not how to believe. The force actually on the spot on the 17th—(the date of a letter received by the editor, and of the latest date that has been received from thence) does not appear to have exceeded 4000 men, about 1000 of whom were regulars; but general *Coffee's* brigade, 2000, was close at hand, and it is said would reach the city the next day—other of

the Tennessee and Kentucky troops were looked for; and if they arrived within 3 or 4 days might probably assist in the defence of the place—the detachment that left fort *Massac* on the 28th Nov. could not have been very far off. General *Jackson*, however, it seems was full of hope and confidence; he had established the most perfect order, and the people seem generally to have looked for a happy result. Amen.

For the object, no doubt, of diverting our forces, a second attack was made upon Fort *Bowyer*, Mobile Point. The firing was continued when the reporter came away. Col. *Lawrence*, glorious for his former defence of this place, had the command—and the issue, at least, will not be dishonorable.

It appears, also, that the British agents have been tampering with the indians on the *Red River* and to the south of it—not contented with the destruction they have already heap'd on the heads of this wretched race. Why does not *Christain* Britain suffer these poor people to enjoy the small comforts their situation affords? why lead them, without cause, to take up the tomahawk, soon to be buried in their own heads, for woman and children murdered? The matter is of a character so savage that we know not of language to express our abhorrence of it—it is the opposite of every thing that is honest, honorable or just—and will give to infamy the name of *Englishmen*.

The fleet near New Orleans, was the same that we had in the Chesapeake, last September. And admiral *Cochrane*, disappointed of dining in *Baltimore*, is reported to have said he would eat his Christmas dinner in *New Orleans*, and stay there some time.—We trust the knight will be *drubbed*. At our last accounts from the enemy he must have been about 40 miles from the city—the lake cannot be navigated by vessels drawing more than from 6 to 8 feet water. The next mail will give us the fate of this important place. No force was attempting to approach by way of the *Mississippi*. The Herald sloop of war was off the bar.

The following extract of a letter from an officer in the regular army, whose integrity is unquestionable, to his friend in Washington city, contains some interesting particulars:

“NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 16.

“On my return here yesterday from fort St. Philip, where I have been for the last three weeks, I found the whole city in a state of confusion, owing to the enemy's having made their appearance in considerable force between the Balize and Mobile Point. We, last evening, received the unfortunate news of all our gun boats, stationed in the lake, having been captured by the enemy, after a most glorious defence having been made by lieutenant Jones, against innumerable boats from the enemy's fleet; but one of our armed vessels, a small schooner, escaped falling into the hands of the enemy. After beating off a number of barges and gigs, she made good her retreat to the bay of St. Louis, where her commander blew her up, with all the naval stores there, and arrived safely in New Orleans; he has furnished us with the above account. The action with the gun-boats took place at Joseph's Islands, about 40 miles from here; so that we expect the enemy to approach New Orleans in three or four days. Notwithstanding our force is very small (as we cannot bring 1000 regulars into the field) we are ready to meet the enemy at any time they may come; and I hope, and have no doubt, that we shall give them a handsome reception. General Jackson is here and in good health; we all have the utmost confidence in him. He has this day proclaimed martial law in the city and its vicinity. The Orleans militia are few in num-

ber. General Coffee is at Baton Rouge with 1800 men from Tennessee; *he will be here in two days.*—The late quota from Tennessee and Kentucky have not arrived, and no intelligence of their being on the way, so that they will not be here in time. An express reached the general to-day from Mobile Point, which states that the vessels off there, large and small, are upwards of 40, and that they are hourly increasing. It is also ascertained, that it is the same force that made the attack on Baltimore, refitted at Jamaica and Bermuda, and not lord Hill, as was at first supposed. *Admiral Cochrane has sent us word that he not only intends eating his Christmas dinner in New Orleans, but to spend the carnival here.*

“Last evening, a flag of truce was sent to the enemy by commodore Patterson, with a surgeon to attend the wounded of our gun-boats.”

#### ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 16, 1814.

Head-Quarters, 7th Military District.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

To the citizens of *New Orleans*—The major general commanding has with astonishment and regret learned that great consternation and alarm pervade your city.

It is true the enemy is on our coast and threatens an invasion of our territory, but it is equally true, with union, energy, and the approbation of heaven, we will beat him at every point his temerity may induce him to set foot upon our soil. The general with still greater astonishment, has heard that British emissaries have been permitted to propagate seditious reports amongst you, that the threatened invasion is with a view of restoring the country to Spain, from a supposition that some of you would be willing to return to your ancient government—believe no such incredible tales—your government is at peace with Spain—it is the vital enemy of your country, the common enemy of mankind, the highway robber of the world, that threatens you, and has sent his hirelings amongst you with this false report to put you off your guard, that you may fall an easy prey to him. Then look to your liberties, your property, the chastity of your wives and daughters. Take a retrospect of the conduct of the British army at Hampton and other places where it has entered our country—and every bosom which glows with patriotism and virtue, will be inspired with indignation and pant for the arrival of the hour when we shall meet and revenge these outrages against the laws of civilization and humanity.

The general calls upon the inhabitants of the city, to trace this unfounded report to its source and bring the propagator to condign punishment. The rules and articles of war annex the punishment of death to any person holding secret correspondence with the enemy, creating false alarm or supplying him with provision, and the general announces his unalterable determination rigidly to execute the martial law in all cases which may come within his province.

The safety of the district intrusted to the protection of the general must and will be maintained with the best blood of the country, and he is confident all good citizens will be found at their posts with their arms in their hands, determined to dispute every inch of ground with the enemy, that unanimity will pervade the country generally. But should the general be disappointed in this expectation he will separate our enemies from our friends. Those who are not for us are against us, and will be dealt with accordingly.

By command,

THOS. L. BUTLER, Aid-de-camp

Adjutant-general's office, New-Orleans, December 16.  
Head-Quarters, 7th military district.  
Extract of general orders.

Major-general Andrew Jackson, commanding the 7th United States military district, declares the city and environs of New Orleans under strict martial law, and orders that in future the following rules be rigidly enforced, viz. Every individual entering the city will report at the adjutant-general's office, and on failure to be arrested and held for examination.

No persons shall be permitted to leave the city without a permission in writing signed by the general or one of his staff.

No vessels, boats or other crafts, will be permitted to leave New Orleans or Bayou St. John, without a passport in writing from the general or one of his staff, or the commander of the naval forces of the United States on this station.

The street lamps shall be extinguished at the hour of nine at night, after which time persons of every description found in the streets, or not at their respective homes, without permission in writing, as aforesaid, and not having the countersign shall be apprehended as spies and held for examination.

By command,

ROBERT BUTLER, Adj. Gen.

Adjutant and inspector general's office, 6th Jan. 1815.

GENERAL ORDER.—All surgeons on furlough, as well those of militia in the service of the United States, as the medical staff of the army, will forthwith repair to their respective hospitals, regiments, corps and stations.

The troops are reported sickly at many posts, and no neglect will be suffered in the medical staff.

Generals commanding districts, and officers exercising separate commands will be particularly attentive to this sacred duty. They will cause all complaints to be promptly investigated.—Defaults will be punished in an exemplary manner.

Good and convenient Hospitals must be provided, furnished and supplied. To ensure this, the requisitions of the superintending surgeons will be respected and enforced on the quarter-masters, commissioners, apothecaries and contractors. Neglect in either of these will be reported to the war department.

Whenever volunteers or militia are discharged from the service of the United States, the sick will be provided for in the army hospitals, and a competent number of their own surgeons will be retained to attend them.

The medical staff must be constantly at their posts.

By order of the secretary of war,

B. PARKER, Adj. and insp. gen.

FOREIGN NEWS.—We have London dates to the 3d of November. Much is said about carrying on the war against America "on the grandest scale." Who is to be commander does not seem fixed upon, but we hear nothing more of the greatly-talked-of lord Hill. The *Stutira* frigate, with sir E. Pakenham and several officers of rank, sailed from Portsmouth for America, Nov. 1. About 3000 men had sailed from Plymouth with the same destination—other detachments are spoken of. A London paper of November 3, says, "Great exertions are making to send out to India, all the troops that can be spared from the increased exigencies of the war in America; and not a single disposable corps in the country will be left unsent to one of these destinations or the other. A rumor prevailed that sir George Prevost, with his principal officers, were to return home.

The British have found out that our powder is a great deal better than theirs. They have made many discoveries since June, 1812, and may yet learn more curious things:

London, October 28.—It is reported, in some well informed political circles, that a select committee will be moved during the ensuing session of the parliament, to investigate the state of the navy, both in its civil and military branches, and in its entire internal economy, also with a principal view to counteract the causes of American seduction of our seamen; let us hope this interesting subject will meet all that close attention and research which its great importance demands, and particularly in the present political state of the world, when in addition to the rising trans-atlantic navy, such marked and direct jealousy of our maritime ascendancy is evidently evincing itself in every cabinet of the continent of Europe, and when, under our very eyes, the various maritime powers of the globe, are at this moment ardently straining every nerve to re-establish their marine, in order to dispute with us the trident of the ocean, and to force on us their own construction of public maritime law.

TRADE TO AMELIA.—London, Nov. 1.—The letters from Liverpool yesterday, announcing the seizure of seven ships laden with cotton, from Amelia island have produced a strong sensation. The value of these cargoes may be estimated at about 14,000£. It was said a few days since that an order in council had directed one ship, before seized, to be given up; this statement is not correct. The council declined on its own authority following up the proceedings in the court of exchequer; but the officer who seized the property was not prevented from pursuing his right in the prize court, and the consignees of the goods were held to bail to answer his claim. The seven ships in question are precisely in the same situation. The officer is to proceed in his own name, and is to defray the expenses of the prosecution; thus the government will be exonerated from such charges, and the trial will be conducted in the admiralty court instead of the exchequer. We are told that the trade with the United States, under the like circumstances, has been progressively increasing, in defiance of the blockade, and that no less than 1,000,000£ sterling has been paid to the Americans in violation or evasion of such blockade. In addition, it is said that sails and other articles necessary for the equipment of shipping, have been sent from Russia, through the channel of Amelia Island, in return for the produce obtained from it.

REXON I. The *Spencer* 74, is said to have entered the *Delaware* some days ago, displaying a white flag at her fore-top, and sent a boat ashore, with a similar flag flying, and that the officer who landed informed that they had received information at sea from a brig 18 days out from England bound to Halifax, that the preliminaries of peace had been agreed upon by the American and British commissioners at Ghent.

The boat returned to the *Spencer*, (anchored at the Brown,) where she remained at the date of the letters, with the white ensign at her foremast.

We have heard nothing of this business since. It may be so—but, the *Spencer*, we are told, wanted provisions.

REXON II. Several persons who have been on board the squadron off New London, and recently returned, report a variety of observations of the officers as to information received by a vessel, which had just joined them, stating that the *Constitution* had fallen in with and sunk the *Maidstone* frigate. Others say that the *Maidstone* was understood to have made her escape, after receiving a broadside or two and to have arrived at Halifax. This vessel rates 36 guns. We chiefly fear that the *Constitution* has not fired "a broadside or two" at her; convinced of that, we should put her down as gone to "*Davy's Locker*."

**Mr. KING**—From the *National Intelligencer*.—A debate of some interest took place on its passage; [of the bill to lay a direct tax of six millions] in the course of which, we were much gratified at the accidental opportunity of hearing some honorable sentiments uttered on the occasion by Mr. King of N. Y. Much as he deprecated the state of war in which the nation was placed, he said he should contribute his vote, by all constitutional means, to make it effective, by affording to the executive men and money to carry it on. It might be and no doubt was true, that blame was in a degree imputable to the executive department, as well for the fiscal as the military conduct of the war; but it behoved congress, he justly remarked, to examine how far they were culpable of omissions to furnish the means to enable the executive to act. It was their duty to raise armies, to provide the ways and means to support them. It was well worthy of consideration, he said, how far the omission or delay to perform these duties had disabled the executive from performing his duty in the most efficient manner.

**COL. MITCHELL** and **LIEUT. COL. TOWSON**, both of the U. S. artillery, on Saturday last partook of a splendid entertainment got up in honor of them by the citizens of Baltimore, at Burney's Inn. About 160 gentlemen attended, and among the invited guests, were major gen. Scott, brig. gen. Stricker, lieutenant col. Arnistead, and all the principal military and naval officers in the city. Edward Johnson, esq. mayor, presided, assisted by the gentlemen composing the committee of arrangement, five democrats and five federalists—all republicans. The toasts, after dinner, were *American* and our gallant heroes, on land or at sea, were gratefully remembered.

**COM. PERRY**—The citizens of Newport have presented to com. PERRY, an elegant silver vase, of the largest size, surmounted by an eagle, and embellished with appropriate emblematical figures, and appropriate inscriptions.

**FOUR BOWERS**.—The following account of the British disaster at Fort Bower, is copied from a Barbadoes paper of Nov. 21—"His majesty's ship *Hermes*, C. W. Percy, with a gun-brig and four smaller vessels, have recently made an unsuccessful attack upon fort Bower, at Mobile, on the gulf of Mexico, east from New Orleans. The *Hermes* anchored opposite the fort and opened a cannonade, which was returned by the fort, and continued with much activity for several hours, until at length, the cables of the *Hermes* were shot away, and she drifted in a disabled state, stern on shore, about 700 yards below the fort, and a short time afterwards blew up—and out of 170 on board at the commencement of the contest, captain Percy, with 20 of his crew, only, escaped the explosion. The brig and the other four vessels after the disaster, of their commodore, made sail and went out into the gulf with a light breeze. Reinforcements were expected, and the attack was to be renewed.

**CAPT. BLAKELY**.—The legislature of N. Carolina have voted that a superb SWORD, appropriately adorned, be presented to capt. JOHNSON BLAKELY, of the *Wasp* sloop of war, for the destruction of two of the enemy's vessels of equal force—which deeds, says the resolution, "reflected honor upon North Carolina in being performed by one of her sons."

**CONSCRIPTION**.—*British plan*.—For the navy—to seize upon any suspected of having ever been at sea; if he resists to knock him down, and handcuff him, throw him into a tender; carry him off when convenient, and keep him as long as they can prevent him from escaping or dying.

*For the militia*.—It "The militia is composed of a

regiment from each county, composed of a certain number of companies, in proportion to the size and population of the counties respectively."

II. "As a regiment is not so numerous as to comprise all the males, from 21 to 50, each parish ballots for its assigned number; and those who are drawn, must either find a substitute or serve, when called on, for five years."

III. "There is a lord lieutenant for each county, who is commanding officer of the militia, and appoints the officers."

**PENNSYLVANIA**.—Message to the legislature—"The revolution was achieved by our fathers when the means of the colonies collectively were scarcely equal to the present resources of our state, then eminently conspicuous for the aid she afforded in money, donations in lands and otherwise, to those of her sons who served in the Pennsylvania line during that ever-glorious conflict. To these monuments of patriotism we are wont to appeal with laudable pride, but should appear in vain, if now, with means vastly more abundant, and those means untouched, we should hesitate to sustain and preserve the invaluable blessings we enjoy, now they are threatened to be wrested from us by that same foe who could not then prevent their establishment.—These considerations, and justice to our militia lately in service of the United States, would dictate to a patriotic legislature the authorizing a loan, from the several banks that have been incorporated under the act of the 21st March, 1814, of a sum equal to a payment of the balances due them from the United States, and the providing for similar or other occurrences that may possibly arise from the present embarrassed state of the finances of that government.

I would suggest also the providing by law for the punishment, by sentence of a court martial, if the offender be subject to militia duty, and summarily before a civil tribunal, if not so subject, of any person that shall in future encourage disobedience in the militia ordered into service by the constituted authorities of the United States or of this state.

SIMON SNYDER.

Harrisburgh, January 3, 1815.

*Copy of a letter from the governor of the state of South Carolina to the secretary of the treasury, dated*

Executive Department, Columbia, Dec. 27.

**STR**—On the 21st inst. I received a letter from major-general Pinckney, covering several others the purport of which was to inform me that the funds of the general government at his disposal were exhausted, and that the troops, now in service for the defence of this state, could not be subsisted without money, and suggesting the propriety of my recommending to the legislature the expediency of an appropriation in relief of the finances of the United States at this moment. I have the pleasure to inform you that 260,000 dollars have been put at the disposition of the government by the legislature last evening. This disposition of the state manifests the continued good will and faithfulness which our citizens feel towards the administration—in return for which I cannot but crave their special care of its defence. I hope, it is unnecessary to add, that my individual and official efforts will not be wanting in aiding the government whenever in my power.

Respectfully yours, &c.

DAVID R. WILLIAMS.

*Copy of a letter from the comptroller-general of South Carolina, to the secretary of the treasury, dated*

State of South Carolina, Office of comptroller-general, Dec. 21.

**STR**—In compliance with an act of the legislature of this state, just passed, I do myself the honor of informing you, that they have directed me to cause to be passed to the credit of the treasurer of the



United States, in the bank of South-Carolina, subject to his immediate draft, the sum of 260,000 dollars; the sum at which they estimate this states' quota of the direct tax, about to be laid by congress.

You will perceive in this act of the legislature a sincere wish to assist the United States. If the sums thus appropriated to meet the direct tax should exceed this state's contingent, some future arrangement may be made to reimburse the state the excess. If it should fall short, I am authorised, whenever the same shall be ascertained, to apply a further sum to the credit of the United States.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient humble servant,

THOMAS LEE, compt.  
gen. &c. of the state of S. C.

#### MILITARY.

A fine company of U. S. riflemen left their encampment near Rogersville, Ten. on the 29th ult. for Hagerstown, Md. we presume on their way to the northern frontier.

The court martial met at Utica the 3d inst. and adjourned to the 8th, to suit gen. Wilkinson's convenience, who was not prepared for the trial.

It is stated that gen. D. Rottenburg has issued a proclamation interdicting all communication with the states. From this it is inferred, that an expedition was on foot.

Seven hundred regulars, five hundred riflemen and two hundred infantry, recruited in North and South Carolina, have reached Richmond on their way to the northern army in the spring; but to remain for the present about *Fredericksburg*, subject to the orders of major-general Scott.

*Plattsburg Dec. 24.*—It is reported we understand by a deserter who came in night before last, that the British are two or three thousand strong at Isle Aux Noix, and have a large number of sleighs and about 80 or 90 pieces of cannon.

Also, That they have other large forces near that place, and confirms the report that they are about fitting out an expedition of some kind.

A gentleman arrived in the Albany stage last evening says, that upwards of 600 ship carpenters and artificers had passed that place for the lakes.

The islands of Martinique and Guadaloupe have at length been given up to the French. *St. Cyr*, formerly one of Bonaparte's generals, has been appointed governor of Cayenne. Packets are established between the French colonies and France.

*Rutland, (Vt.) December 17.*—A number of British deserters last week reported themselves to the commanding officer of the rendezvous in this town. They came from Canada.

Adjutant and inspector-general's office,  
December 26. 1814.

**GENERAL ORDERS.** Major Macpherson, of the light artillery, is charged with the superintendance of the recruiting service—all returns and communications relative thereto, will hereafter be addressed to major Macpherson, superintendent of the recruiting service, city of Washington.

It is expected that every recruiting officer will be at his post.

Circular letters of instruction will be addressed to the officers superintending the recruiting service, for each regiment or corps, detailing their various duties, and the duties of their subordinate officers, the arrangement of depots, distribution of rendezvous, and every thing appertaining to the government of their conduct.

These instructions will be communicated as soon as the laws depending before congress shall have passed, and, in the interim, all existing regulations,

not interfering with this order, will be strictly observed.

The department of war calls for the most vigilant attention of all officers engaged in the recruiting service—while meritorious conduct in the discharge of these highly responsible duties will receive honorary testimony from the department, every species of neglect will meet with severe reprehension. By order of the secretary of war,

D. PARKER, adj. and insp. gen.

#### NAVAL.

The mail-boat from Humpston for Norfolk, was captured on the 1st instant, by several of the enemy's barges. Two or three persons made their escape in a canoe, bringing off the mail. There were several passengers—the women and children were immediately returned, but the males were made prisoners. In the boat were several negroes, which, strange as it may appear, they sent up a few days afterwards, saying they had left it to their choice to stay with them or return to their masters—and they preferred the latter. Finally all the persons in the boat were released except the master and a soldier who happened to be on board. We rejoice at this evidence of returning civilization.

The enemy's barges were pursued by those of the *Constellation*, almost under the guns of their ships—and there might have been a *fair fight*, if the British had thought it *advisable* to have made a party to it.

*A little while ago.*—"History is philosophy, teaching by example." It is pleasant and useful frequently to look back, and bring to fresh recollection things that are past—it enables us sometimes the better to judge of passing events, and, at others, may give us a glimpse at futurity.

Who has not heard of sir John Jervis's **terrific** fight off Cape *St. Vincent*? The facts are briefly these—on the 13th of February, 1797, admiral Jervis, with *fifteen* sail of the line, fell in with and attacked and defeated a Spanish fleet of *twenty-seven* sail of the line, viz. one of 130; seven of 112; one of 80, and nineteen of 74 guns. The manoeuvring and fighting lasted nearly the *whole day*, and ended in the capture of two Spanish ships of 112 guns, though one of them was called *Salvador del Mundo* (the savior of the world); one of 80, and one of 74. In this *hard* fight sir John lost only 73 men killed and 227 wounded. He received the thanks of parliament for the glorious victory, was created earl of *St. Vincent*, and received a pension, &c. &c.

The times are much changed on the ocean since that day. An American privateer—(the *Armstrong*) hemmed up in port, it seems, can kill more Englishmen in two or three hours than a Spanish fleet of 27 sail of the line could do in a whole day: and that if one of our frigates (the unlappy *Chesapeake* excepted) had the good luck to get along side of a vessel of the enemy, they might lose half as many men in *seventeen minutes*, of *Decatur's* time, as sir John lost in this *terrible* fight with the Spaniards. The Prince of Neufchatel privateer also killed 62 of them, 11 less than this great victory cost them. Now, suppose an American fleet of 27 sail of the line were to meet a British fleet of 15 sail, who thinks that we should lose four ships at an expence to the enemy of only 73 lives!!—Indeed, from the instructions given to the commander of the *Pique* frigate to run away from the *Constitution*, we rather suspect if lord *St. Vincent*, or any other lord they have got, were to attack our "sea dogs" with such an inequality of force, that he would soon be *on board*. The *New-Castle* and *Acosta* frigates, carrying together 108 guns, have gone off in hopes

of fighting, in company, the Constitution of 48 guns! O! "the wooden walls of old England!"

### CHRONICLE.

"The back woods." In a Cincinnati paper of Dec 13, we observe the following notice, in succession; a copy of an oration delivered before the "school of literature and the arts" to be published—a notice to the "United brethren of the German church" of a meeting for worship—of a concert and ball—relating to the establishment of a theatre—and terms of advertising in the three Cincinnati papers.

It is understood that Richard Biche has been appointed postmaster at Philadelphia, vice Michael Leib, removed. This change is noticed in the Register because the appointment of Mr. F. had excited much conversation in Pennsylvania and some other places.

It is said that Poland is to be added to the dominions of Russia—that Bonaparte is to be transferred from *Elba to England*—that *Castlereagh* is about to return from Vienna, to meet parliament; nothing said of what is doing in the congress at that place.

The king of France has appointed twenty *censors of the press*. Many difficulties appear to occur in settling the claims of the emigrants, original possessors of a great part of the real estate of France. The state of *Spain* remains unsettled. The princes of *Italy* seem dissatisfied with *Murat's* possesson of *Naples*. The French military establishment appears very large. The congress at *Vienna* had done little, if any, business, at the last dates.

*West-India markets*.—The brig *Speed*, that arrived at Boston some days ago from the *Havan*, sold her potatoes at eight dollars a bushel, and her fish at twenty dollars per quintal.

A respectable female of the island of *St. Bartholomew*, having gone from thence to the island of *St. Martins*, for the benefit of her health, being afflicted with a complaint which soon proved fatal. After her death much difficulty was experienced in obtaining plank necessary to make her a coffin—one person alone was found possessed of some, which could not be bought or obtained; until the friends of the deceased agreed to furnish (within a limited time from *St. Barts*) as much plank as should be used for that purpose—after which stipulation, the boards were furnished, otherwise this unfortunate female must have been interred without a coffin.

*France and England*. Among the articles worthy of observation in *Cobbett's* paper, of the 17th of October, is that which relates to the vast emigration from England to France, since the restoration of the Bourbons. In corroboration, by the last advices we learn that it was calculated not less than 50,000 persons, many of them of the class of gentry whose income amounted from 100 to £1,000 per annum had left the country. It is known that a man with £200 a year, can live as handsomely and luxuriously in France, as in England for £600. In France, a loaf can be got for 4*d*. which will cost 1*s*. in England—beef may be had for 2*d*. per lb. a swal for 4*d*. and a turkey for 2*s*. In France, a bottle of the best wine may be got for 1*s*. which costs 5*s*. in England; every thing else in proportion. The climate of France also is infinitely preferable to that of England, and the habitual cheerfulness and suavity of the French people in general, is another inducement to men who are disgusted and exhausted by the long list of government taxes, tythes, and poor rates.

In short, in the month of September last, it was calculated that a drain of five millions of ready money had already been made on the English nation,

to supply the wants and expences of the emigrants, a sum greater than the expence of lord Wellington's army during the war!

To this vast drain is to be added, that nearly all the foreigners who had taken refuge in England during the continental troubles, have left that country, and drawn all their monies from the banks and funds—And this accounts for the great depression of public stocks and annuities.——*American*.

*The Jesuits*.—The bull issued by Paul III, in 1540, establishing the order of Jesuits, limited their number to 60. This limitation was soon after removed. In 1608, the numbers had increased to 10,581. In 1679, their numbers were 17,655, including 7,877 priests; in 1710 they amounted to 19,928. In 1717 they had 714 colleges and other establishments, more than 200 missions, 161 seminaries, 19,876 members, comprising 10,055 priests. The affairs of the order were conducted by one general, 87 provincials, 350 priors, &c.

**THE ENEMY.**—In our late Montreal papers, (says the *N. Y. Evening Post*) from which we have made some other extracts to-day, we perceive an advertisement of the deputy commissary of the British army in Canada, offering to contract for eighteen thousand cords of wood, to be delivered into the barracks at the following places: It serves to shew the different encampments of the British soldiery in Lower Canada during the ensuing winter, and will enable the reader to form some idea of the force at each of these military posts. *N. Y. E. Post.*

At Coteau du Lac	1,500 cords
Laprairie	3,000
St. Phillips	750
Blairfindy	750
Chambly	6,000
Yamaska	1,500
St. John's	2,500
Isle Aux Noix	3,000

**OUTRAGE.**—From the *New-Hampshire Patriot*.—On the night of the 25th of November, a bandit of Canadians, aided by their associates on this side of the line, went to the dwelling-house of Mr. Samuel Hugh of *Canaan, Vt.* and after a scene of unfeeling cruelty which exceeds in barbarity the outrages of their ferocious savage "allies"—took him from his bed, tore him from his weeping wife and screaming children, tied him on his horse, and after robbing his desk of his money, collected his whole stock of cattle and drove him and them off to Canada. On the return of this gang of ruffians, robbers and smugglers to Canada, they robbed the farms of the hon. *Micajah Ingham* and *Daniel Goss, esq.* of all their stock of cattle and drove them also to Canada. The only pretence to this unparalleled and insufferable outrage is that Mr. Hugh has sinned past forgiveness against Canadians and smugglers by a very zealous and faithful discharge of the duties of an inspector of the customs; and that judge *Ingham* and Mr. *Goss* are decided and influential supporters of their government. Mr. Hugh is still detained a prisoner in Canada.

To cover the disgrace of the *Reindeer, Avon, &c.* the British have reduced the rates of their sloops of war two guns, though possibly adding two more to their complement. *John Bull* must be cheated. We repeat the story because it is a "good one." When they took the *Guerriere* from the French they called her by the guns she carried, a "44 gun frigate," and added five guns to her and called her a "thirty eight." The Democratic Press informs us, that capt. *Elliott* is to command the "steam frigate building at *Baltimore*."

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 22 OF VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1815.

[WHOLE NO. 178.]

*Hec olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

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## New-England Convention.

No. V.

**PROPOSITION THE SECOND.** The "friends of commerce" and of "peace," as aforesaid, under the malignity of *Great Britain*, are the cause of the continuance of the war.

**PROPOSITION THE SECOND.**

Having, in my opinion, fully established the first proposition, I shall proceed to a brief consideration of the second.

It is universally known that the causes for which we declared war are no obstruction to peace. The practice of blockade and of impressment having ceased by the general pacification of *Europe*, our government is content to leave the principle as it was—referring its settlement to some future arrangement, or the common opinion of the civilized world—or, in reserving the right again to resist both, or either, if repeated, hereafter. *Great Britain* may pretend to what she pleases. The papal title of her king, "Defender of the [Roman Catholic] faith," affects not the catholics one way or another; though it does not seem becoming that his own priests should "pray lustily" for the downfall of that faith which he proudly announces himself to be the "defender" of; and the king may, if he pleases, with a gun boat stationed in the Lake of the Woods, declare he has a right to blockade all the "coasts, rivers, harbors, outlets and inlets" of the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans, and to impress all of us, men, women and children, on land or on water, provided only he keeps his "hands off," abstaining from the practice. We will not quarrel for words: But never can we acknowledge those things as his "right." His pretensions will stand for just as much as they are worth, and time will ascertain their boundaries and fix their landmarks. Nevertheless, I take it for granted, that there is not one man in the United States, that affects the character of an *American*, who is prepared, boldly and above-board, to admit that the practice of *Great Britain*, in respect to those things, is legal, and should be submitted to. The "illustrious assembly" lately in "grand divan" at *Hartford*, would have unanimously resisted such an admission. The first goes to the full and complete regulation of all the foreign trade of the United States; and the latter to an extinction of the means of carrying on that part of it. G. B. might feel it her interest to leave us, besides making us absolute slaves. It is true, the orders in council have been withdrawn; but with a proviso to renew them at discretion.

Having, as before observed, and for the reasons stated, preferred peace on the terms that we stood upon before the war was declared, we have no further business in hostility than such as is **REPELLENT**; while that of *Great Britain* is to humble or subdue us. The war, on our part, has become a contest for *life, liberty and proberty*—on the part of our enemy, of *revenge or ambition*. No matter for what cause it was waged—such is the principle of its duration; and one might have thought that such a state of things would have united the whole people to repulse the enemy. But alas! it certainly ap-

pears that the more outrageous he is, the more unpudent are the jacobins to distract the measures of government and enkindle the spirit of party. A bold faced pensioner some time ago said, that "peace, without a change of rulers, would be a curse;" and it appears probable that this may be a rule of action to the jacobins—who, to use the strong language of a friend, "would rather send themselves and their countries to the infernal regions, where they would have a change of PROMOTION, than remain here in peace, without power." And, indeed, upon a careful investigation of the nature of the war, as it now stands, I cannot discover any other principle by which they work. They tell us, they want *peace and commerce*. So do we all. Let them tell us what we shall offer to *Great Britain* to get these blessings! I defy the most prudent of them, ("the gentleman who treats the Analysis," excepted—famous in *Henry's* disclosures) to say he would go further than our government has gone in the work of conciliation. When I hear a man clamor for peace, ardently desired by all—I ask him, how he would proceed to obtain it—what he would do that our ministers at *Ghent* are not authorized to do? I have put these questions to several, and never got an answer but *once*; when the jacobin said, he would get it by changing the president. I put to him the little monsyllabic "H. W.?" and he was silent. But this is a favorite idea with *G. B.*; and it is not wonderful that her partisans here have sometimes the baseness to think of sacrificing the right of *sufrage* to satisfy her demands. The fact is, that our form of government is offensive, and they would wish it changed. The very men that would depose Mr. Madison, as the price of peace, are the people that, of all others, abused those of the Spaniards as traitors to God and their country, who sided with *Joseph Bonaparte*; put on the throne to secure peace between *France and Spain*. I am not, perhaps, the most ardent admirer of Mr. Madison—I have thought that other men might be found better fitted for the times in which we live, (though I know that many of the faults attributed to him, justly belong to congress, whose half-way measures at the last, and disgraceful waste of time in the present session, had nearly brought the country to ruin.) Yet were he to me the most offensive of beings, I would not sacrifice the freedom of choice in the people, or violate the provisions of the constitution, to "depose him," (as the "legitimate" phrase is)—and, though I might vote against him myself, I can hardly conceive any danger that I would not encounter to support him in his legal authority, against the dictation, or power of a foreign nation. In armouts, indeed, must he be, that would suffer insolent foreigners to settle domestic political differences.

The war then, on our part, is entirely **DEFENSIVE**—and the enemy wages it with a degree of barbarity unknown to the history of modern times. He allies himself with the *carages*—he allies himself with *negro slaves*—he would desolate the frontiers with the tomhawk, and give up the interior to all the horrors that exterminated the white population of *St. Domingo*. He avows his object, to "destroy all places unassailable," and has performed the part of a *Goth*, a perfect finished *Goth*, in many. He despised the rules and practices of a civilized nation, and brings us back to the usages of *St. Louis's* *Chippewas*.

*Attila.* What then are we to do? Are we to encourage him by divisions among ourselves—to hold on the hope of a separation of the states and a civil war—to refuse to bring forth the resources of the country against him—to make a sort of indirect bargain with him that he may do what he pleases with certain parts of the United States, provided he shall not touch other parts? I did think that in a *defensive war*—a struggle for all that is valuable—that all parties would have united. But it is not so—every measure calculated to replenish the treasury or raise men, is opposed, as though it were determined to strike the “*star spangled banner*” and exalt the *bloody cross*. Look at the votes and proceedings of congress—and mark the *late spirit* (now, perhaps, “*laid*” for a time) that existed in *Massachusetts*, and see with what unity of action every thing has been done to harass and embarrass the government. Our loans have failed; and our soldiers have wanted their pay, because those who had the greater part of the monied capital *covenanted* with each other to refuse its aid to the country. They had a right, *egally*, to do this; and perhaps, also, by all the artifices of trade or power that that money gave them, to oppress others not of their “*stamp*” and depress the national credit—but history will shooek posterity by detailing the lengths to which they went to bankrupt the republic; really more able to pay its debts than any nation in Christendom, as they very well know.

With a perfect knowledge of these transactions, how could Great Britain be better encouraged to persevere in the war, to “*cripple us for fifty years*,” as ruffian *Cockburn* declared she intended? *Divide et impera* is the everlasting principle of arbitrary power. Look at Britain’s conduct in the *East-Indies*. What is the fate of those mad native princes that leagued with her against other native powers? *All are swallowed up in one common vassalage!* The English have talked of the inordinate ambition of *Napoleon Bonaparte*—Villainous hypocrites!—all that *Bonaparte* attempted in *Europe* was but a type of what they themselves had done in *Asia*, where they boast of from *sixty to eighty millions* of slaves. What the “*detestable Napoleon*” did was *angelic*, compared with their deeds in *India*—his most finished crimes stood forth as virtues, when contrasted with the stupendous ruin of that country and its people.—*Bonaparte* paid reverence to *Mahomet* in *Egypt*—but *Great Britain* derives a revenue from HUMAN SACRIFICES offered to an idol called *Juggernaut!* Such are the monsters that set themselves up as the preservers of the religion, the liberty and the morals of the world—Reader, these are solemn and serious truths; and no man will dare to deny them.

“*In union there is strength*,” and were our people united the war would immediately end; or, be prosecuted with different success.

If the negotiations at *Ghent* shall not have very considerably advanced before the news of the “*Hartford convention*” reaches the cabinet of *London*, I am clearly of opinion, that they will be suspended, or shuffled off, until the proceedings are known; for nothing is more evident than that the war is prosecuted for REVENUE or AMBITION; and what, under heaven, is so well calculated to aid it, as the ideas that were held out as to the objects of that assembly—“*to withhold the resources of the N. E. States and make a separate peace*.” It is indubitable that she regards us with envy and hate. Our manufactures and commerce, the glory of our little navy and the steady valor of our army, excite horrid sensations in her bosom. She beholds, in easy perspective, the *wool sack* snatched from beneath her lord high chancellor, and the *trident* grasped from the hand of her seaman. “*WESTWARD* the course of empire takes its

way;” and she is quite as jealous of the prosperity of the *United States*, as the “*new Englanders*” are of the progressive population and rich products of the states beyond the mountains; and the old and new England jacobins appear perfectly to agree in this—that a man should not consult his own happiness, or interest, as to the place of his location!

While this convention was going up, and every thing appeared so full of fight — THE SOIL OF MASSACHUSETTS WAS UNRESISTINGLY TRODDEN BY A FOREIGN ENEMY.

To conclude—why does the war continue? It is not the fault of our government—we demand no extravagant thing. I answer the question, and say—*it lasts because Great Britain depends on the exertions of her “party” in this country to destroy our resources, and compel “unconditional submission.”*

Thus the war began, and is continued, by our divisions.

## Cotton Spinning.

[COMMUNICATED.]

It is a great and, at this moment, an interesting question to the United States—and particularly to those engaged in the manufacture of cotton—can the manufacture of cotton be carried on in the United States when peace shall take place?—The following observations having a bearing on this question, are collected principally from “*Emporium of arts and sciences*,” no. 2. vol 4.

In the years 1809 and 10 *Great Britain* imported 981,397 bags—the average of these two years is 490,698 bags.

In another page of the work the imports for 1809 are stated in pounds at 98,436,810.

Taking this last mentioned sum, we find by the same work that 41,477,520 *lbs.* of cotton were received from “*N. America*” (United States, it is presumed) which is only 6,357,865 pounds short of the half of the whole quantity imported in that year; and as the imports from the United States were 88,126 bags more in 1810 than in 1809, we may readily suppose that in time of peace *Great Britain* received one half her supply of cotton-wool from hence—the remainder was made up by less than one fourth of the whole quantity from British possessions, the remaining one fourth was foreign.

	s. d.
From 1781 to 1788, the averaged price of cotton-wool in Great Britain is stated at	2 2 3/8
From 1788 to 1796 the average price was	1 6
The average to 1801, rose to	2 7 1/2
to 1807 it declined and the average was	2
Of 1808 and 9 no average could be made on account of the fluctuation.	
Of 1810 the average as near as could be calculated was about	1 10
	Sterling 10 2

Making the average for 22 years, 45 cents per *lb.* From 1781 to 1788, it appears that the British government levied no duties on cotton-wool—but from that time to 1810 the duties and charges continued to increase, so that, in that year, the mercantile charges are stated at *5d. 1-2 per lb.* and the duties at *2d.* making *7d. 1-2 sterling* or *12 1-2 cents per lb.* and reducing the averaged price as above stated to *32 1-2 cts per lb. nett* to the grower of cotton, (supposing exchange at par, or a king the averaged sales from 1807 to 10) *30 1-2 cents per lb.* On an average of 3 years, previous to 1808, the British plantation charges on raising one pound of

Cotton and getting it ready for market, were calculated at 7d. 1-2 per lb. sterling, but since that time (owing in part to the "American decrees") the plantation charges are admitted as a "broad and uncontrovertible fact" to have advanced 50 per cent. making the expence of raising and preparing 1 lb. of cotton, in the British W<sup>est</sup>. Indies, d 10 1-2 sterling on 18 cents—leaving to the planters there 12 1-2 cents nett for their labor. Since 1808 the price of provisions &c. in the West Indies must have experienced a further advance; but a peace with the United States may restore them to the average of 1805, 6, 7.

From what is above stated we find that the mercantile charges and duties on a pound of cotton, from the West Indies to England, is about 12 1-2 per lb. since that date an additional duty of about 1-2d. per lb. has been laid on American cotton, making something more than *thirteen cents per pound*—(the reader will recollect we are speaking of times anterior to the American declaration of war) and the averaged sales having been proved to be about 45 cents, would leave to the American planter 32 cents, including the expence of getting it to the port of shipment.

The work we have heretofore quoted, states the averaged product of an acre of land in the West Indies at 200 lb. nett of cotton wool—taking this as a rule for the American planter, 200lb. wool, at 32 cents. per lb. is 64 dollars per acre; from which the charges of cultivation are to be taken, which we have no data to calculate.

From what we have said above, it appears that the charges on shipping one pound of cotton wool to Great Britain was about 13 cts. per lb. including duties on its arrival (before the war,) from which deduct the supposed cost of transportation from the cotton growing to our manufacturing states at 1 cent. per lb. gives the American manufacturer an advantage over the British manufacturer of 12 cents per lb. Supposing one pound of twist of an averaged number will now sell in the United States at 100 cts.

And that it will require 21 oz. for this quantity—the British manufacturer will pay for the cotton.

Shipping charges and duties on the twist the same as on the cotton imported, 13 1-2 cts. per lb. supposed

Duty on arrival in America 30 per cent. and admitting the twist invoiced. at 60 cts. per pound (to avoid heavy duties)

Leaving for the British manufacturer per lb.

The American manufacturer pays for 21 ounces of cotton at 33 cents per lb.  
Expence of transportation and sales 7 1-2 per cent.

Leaving for the American manufacturer

Or, 40 cents per lb. more than the British spinner.

Let us suppose further, 21 oz. cotton costs in Great Britain, as stated above

Shipping to the North of Europe the same as from the West Indies, and mercantile profit 5 1-2 per pound—for 1 1-3 lb. is 7 1-4d. duty 2 3-4d. is 10d. sterling,

Or, 40 cents per lb. more than the British spinner.

To the American manufacturer one and one third pound cotton at 33 cents.  
Shipping to the North of Europe say  
Insurance 5 per cent.  
Sales and remittance 7 1-2 per cent.

Difference per pound in favor of the American manufacturer

And further, supposing the one pound of twist sells in the North of Europe at

The American manufacturer has per lb.  
The British manufacturer

The above calculations are made on a supposition that there would be no greater difference in the price of cotton in England and America, than what would result from the charges and duties. But it is believed that heretofore this has not been the case; as the planter will prefer selling at a lower rate where payment is obtained more readily and the credit and risk less. If any difference of this kind will exist, it must be in favor of the American manufacturer. "Such is the state of the British cotton planter—that of his North American rival is much superior. Situate in the midst of the necessaries of life, he depends on himself or his neighbors for support—he purchases his land at a cheaper rate" and has his "negroes at an inferior expence." This in the language of the British writer—it was not his business to speak of cotton spinning, or it is presumed he would have found the American manufacturer as enviously situated in comparison of the British manufacturer, as the American cotton planter in regard to his British rival.

### Lexington, Kentucky.

This town, which promises to be the great inland city of the western world, is situated in the centre of an extensive plain of the richest land. It is the seat of a great commerce, and has many flourishing manufactures. The population is already between six and seven thousand souls. Its buildings are generally of handsome brick, neatly erected. The streets are paved with limestone and the footways with brick. The public buildings are an Episcopal church, a Presbyterian meeting-house, a Methodist meeting, two for the Seceders and one Roman chapel; also a court-house and theatre, all of brick. The market is as plentiful and good as any in the United States. There are two banks in the town. Mechanics of all descriptions receive nearly double the price for their labor that they get to the eastward, and the expence of living is not more than one half. They are greatly wanted to keep pace with the rapid improvement and increase of manufactures in the place. There are six steam mills in operation here—one on Evans' plan for manufacturing grain; one on the same for making paper; one on Watt and Bolton's for spinning cotton; one on the same for grinding grain; another for a large woolen manufactory—and a sixth erected by a citizen of the town on a plan of his own, for various purposes. Cotton is to be had in any quantity at 6 or 7 cents above the New-Orleans price; and common wool is 50 cents, part blooded Merino from 75 to 125, full-blooded Merino 150 to 200 cents per lb.; hemp is 80 dollars per ton; flax, 15 dollars per hundred. There is a fine opening for a linen manufactory by steam. There are four cotton

56
17 1-2
18
91 1-2
8 1 2
100
44 cts.
7 1-2
48 1-2
100
56 cts.
18
7 1/2 cts.

makers in the place, who do business extensively and employ many hands. The farms in the neighborhood are well cultivated, and the farmers are generally rich and opulent, and many of them have coaches and carriages, made at Lexington, that cost one thousand dollars. Nothing seems wanting but artists, of all classes, especially smiths, carpenters and joiners, brick makers and layers, painters and glaziers, cotton and wool machine makers, fullers and clothiers, upholsterers, &c. It is with delight we notice the great prosperity and rapidly rising importance of the future metropolis of the west; where *town lots* sell nearly as high as in Boston, New-York, Philadelphia or Baltimore, which shews that it is not a place in the *wilderness*, as some people suppose it to be!

### Naval Establishment.

*The following is the report which Mr. W. Reed, of Massachusetts, introducing into the house of representatives, the two bills for the appointment of a navy board, and for regulating navy contracts:—*

The committee to whom was referred the resolution adopted by the house on the 18th of March last, directing an enquiry, whether any, and if any, what means of retrenchment and economy, and of reform in the general management, and of extension and efficacy, in the naval establishment, may be practicable and expedient, report:

That having considered the several important subjects referred to them, they do not deem it useful to exhibit to the house a detail of the various abuses which have prevailed in the naval establishment. Such a detail, though it might lead to the detection of individual delinquents, would not afford redress for former abuses, or prevent their repetition. For it was obvious to your committee, that these abuses were either sanctioned by the forms of law, or for the want of adequate provisions and penalties in the law must remain unpunished. After having examined and availed themselves of the labors of their predecessors, in their investigations, made under the directions of this house, and referred to this committee, they have concluded that it is unnecessary and unprofitable, further to extend the investigation, and that it would be more satisfactory to the house, and more promotive of the object of their appointment, to limit their efforts to "a reform in the general management of this establishment," under a full conviction that the experience of this war has already satisfied the most scrupulous, of the ability of this country to create and equip a naval force competent, not only to the defence of our extensive maritime frontier, but also for the great annoyance of a foreign enemy; and that such a force is now equally demanded by every section of our country, as indispensable for its security. The committee have likewise deemed it unnecessary to go into an argument, to show the propriety of bestowing upon this branch of our national force that measure of increase and support which its brilliant exploits on the ocean and on the lakes, and its efficiency in annoying the trade of the enemy, during this war, under all the abuses to which it has been exposed, have shown, should only be limited by our means.

The opinion that has existed from the first establishment of this department, and been declared successively by almost every secretary, that the duties incumbent on them were greater and more diversified than the most capable and laborious could discharge, with honor to himself, and justice to the nation, led the committee to an examination of the system, as now established, and the abuses that resulted from it. In prosecution of this examination,

especially on that part which applies to the detail of service, they have principally relied on the information derived from the intelligent and experienced officers of the navy, whom they have always found ready and desirous of giving all the information in their power. By the information obtained from this and other sources, the committee are convinced that most, if not all the abuses complained of, are attributable to three distinct causes:

First. The excessive and laborious duties of the secretary:

Second. The want of sufficient checks upon, and the consequent irresponsibility of, subordinate agents:

Third. The great latitude allowed commanders, in altering, repairing and furnishing their ships.

It is presumed to be unnecessary to offer to the house any further evidence of this statement than is contained in the following extract from the report of the late secretary of the navy, made to the senate of the United States on the 15th of November last:

4th page. "But regulations however correct and adequate to the end, become nugatory, or worse, unless the authority and the means are co-extensive and competent to enforce the execution, or punish the violation thereof. This may account for the non-existence of many wholesome regulations in the civil administration of the navy of the United States, and for the imperfect execution of those which exist: breaches of the latter too frequently escape with impunity, from the impossibility of the head of the department taking cognizance of all the multifarious concerns of the establishment."

Great and obvious as the defects in this establishment are by all confessed to be, the committee have felt no little anxiety as to the best mode of correcting them. Desirous equally of avoiding the opposite errors, of rashly changing from one system to another, without an attempt to correct known abuses, or loading it with formal but inefficient appendages, which more frequently incumber than relieve or give energy to its operation; and concurring in the opinion expressed by the late secretary, in the report before referred to, that a board composed of intelligent and experienced officers, in aid of the executive of this department, would most effectually accomplish this object, and if properly organized, avoid the dangers from too great innovation on one hand, and inefficiency on the other, they directed a copy of his report to be forwarded to every captain in the navy of the United States, with the annexed circular marked A. From the answers thereto, which invariably approve the general design, it was thought unnecessary to publish more than those which contained particular observations upon the plan submitted. These are annexed, number 1 to 8.

From these materials, collected from intelligent and practical sources, the committee have endeavored to digest a plan, which they unanimously believe, if adopted, will immediately correct many of the abuses complained of, and lay the foundation of an improved system for the management of this department. They therefore beg leave to recommend the adoption of the two bills accompanying this report.

### Treasury Report.

Treasury Department, Jan. 17, 1815.

Sir—I have deemed it hitherto my duty to wait, with deference and respect, for a decision upon the measures which I had the honor to suggest to the committee of ways and means on the 17th October last. But the rapid approach to the termination of the session of congress induces me again to trespass

upon your attention, earlier, perhaps, than is consistent with a satisfactory view of the situation of the treasury, as some important plans are still under legislative discussion. I have now, however, the honor to submit to the consideration of the committee of ways and means the following additional statements and propositions:

STATEMENTS.

I. Statement of the situation of the treasury at the close of the year 1814.

1. *The charges on the treasury for 1814.*

It appears, that at the close of the year 1813, there was a general balance of the appropriations for that year, remaining unsatisfied, and subject to be called for at the treasury in the year 1814, amounting to about \$8,131,313 03, and composed of the following items:

Of the appropriations for the civil department, about	\$590,499 07
Of the appropriation for the military department	2,666,230 33
Of the appropriation for the naval department	3,611,240 75
Of the appropriation for the diplomatic department	253,846 62
Of the appropriation for miscellaneous services	1,209,496 26
	<hr/>
	8,131,313 03

The annual appropriations for the year 1814, amounted to the sum of 38,003,691 28

The sum necessary to meet the engagements, in relation to the public debt, was about 11,560,586 39

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49,563,277 67

The gross charge on the treasury for the year 1814, was 57,694,590 70

2. *The ways and means of the treasury for 1814.*

The gross charge upon the treasury for the year 1814, amounting to 57,694,590 70, included, as above stated, the balance of the appropriations of 1813, remaining unsatisfied, at the close of that year. It is, therefore, proper to place to the credit of the treasury, the outstanding revenue and resources, at the commencement of the year 1814, and these consisted of the following items:

Of cash in the treasury on the 1st of January, 1814	5,196,482
Of revenue received at the treasury in the 1st quarter of 1814	4,286,062 28
Of revenue received in the 2d quarter	2,822,108 05
Of revenue received in the 3d quarter	2,313,183 02
Of revenue received in the 4th quarter by estimate	1,920,000
	<hr/>
	11,311,353 53

Of the proceeds of loans contracted for in 1813, and paid in 1814

3,592,665

Of the proceeds of treasury notes issued under the act of 1813, and received in 1814

1,070,000

---

4,662,665

Of the amount of the loan authorised by the act of the 24th

March, 1814,	25,000,000
Of the amount of the loan authorised by the act of the 15th of Nov. 1814,	3,600,000
	<hr/>
	28,000,000

Of the amount of treasury notes authorised to be issued by the act of the 4th of March, 1814,	5,000,000
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Of the amount of treasury notes authorised to be issued by the act of December 26, 1814	3,000,000
	<hr/>
	8,000,000

From this statement, therefore, it appears, that the charges on the treasury for 1814, amounted to 57,694,590 70

That the ways and means of the treasury for 1814, amounted to 57,170,500 53

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\$524,090 17

And this excess of charges on the treasury amounting to 524,090 17-100 dollars, beyond the ways and means, actually appropriated, will be payable out of the revenue, uncollected on the 31st of December, 1814. But independent of the general view thus taken of the existing charges on the treasury, and of the ways and means designated by law, for the service of 1814, it is necessary to present a statement of the actual receipts and disbursements for that year.

The *actual receipts* at the treasury, during the year 1814, amounted to the sum of \$40,007,661 53; and consisted of the following items:

The cash in the treasury on the 1st of January, 1814, amounted, as above stated, to

\$5,196,482

The revenue received at the treasury, during the year 1814, amounted, as above stated, to

11,311,353 53

The cash received at the treasury, in the year 1814, on account of the loans and issues of treasury notes authorized in 1813, amounted, as above stated, to

4,662,665

The cash received at the treasury on account of the issues of treasury notes, authorized in 1814, amounted, in the 2d quarter, to

1,392,100

In the third quarter, to

1,003,900

In the fourth quarter, by estimate, to

4,231,280

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7,227,280

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40,007,661 53

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In the fourth quarter, to

4,231,280

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7,227,280

---

40,007,661 53

40,007,661 53

The actual disbursements at the treasury, during 1814, (taking a part of the fourth quarter by estimate) amounted to the sum of \$38,273,619 28, and consisted of the following payments:

For the civil department	133,327 '97	
For miscellaneous services,	1,207,492 30	
For the diplomatic department;	206,306 52	
For the military department,	20,510,238	
For the naval department,	7,312,899 90	
For the public debt,	8,103,354 59	
		38,273,619 28

The estimated balance of cash in the treasury, on the 31st of December, 1814, being

	1,734,042 25
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To these views, however, 1st, of the general charges on the treasury, and of the ways and means designated by law for the service of 1814; and 2nd, of the actual receipts and disbursements, at the treasury, during that year, it is proper to add a statement of the result, showing the condition of the treasury at the end of 1814, in relation to the unsatisfied demands, and to the unexpended ways and means.

The unsatisfied demands on the treasury at the close of 1814, amounted to \$19,420,971 42, and consisted of the balances of appropriations for the following objects:

For the civil department,	519,967 11	
For miscellaneous services,	1,285,682 36	
For the diplomatic department,	230,940 10	
For the military department,	9,458,898 33	
For the naval department,	4,468,251 72	
For the public debt	3,457,231 80	
		19,420,971 42

The unexpended amount of the ways and means provided for 1814, was \$23,396,881 25, and consisted of the following items:

Cash in the treasury on the 1st of January, 1814, estimated at	1,734,042 25	
Revenue uncollected and outstanding, estimated at	4,500,000	
Authority to borrow money and to issue treasury notes, not executed, or not yet productive, under acts of the 4th and 24th of March, 1814	8,162,839	
Stock sent to Europe	3,000,000	
Under act of November 15, 1814,	3,000,000	
Under act of Dec. 26, 1814,	3,000,000	
	9,000,000	
		23,396,881 25

The surplus of ways and means, in reference to the service of 1814, including revenue and the unexe-

cuted authority to borrow, and to issue treasury notes, is, therefore, 3,975,909 83

The conclusion from this statement of the situation of the treasury at the close of 1814, under the different views which have been presented, would seem to establish, that the ways and means provided for the service of that year were considerably more than the demands on the treasury would require. But it must always be recollected that the demands are positive and urgent; while a great portion of the ways and means rests upon a precarious foundation. Thus:

The unsatisfied demands on the treasury for the service of 1814, positive and urgent in their nature, amount to	19,420,971 42
The cash in the treasury and the outstanding revenue, only amount to	6,234,042 25
	13,186,929 17

And, consequently, the payment of the difference, amounting to \$13,186,929 17, for the service of 1814, must depend on the success of raising money by loan, or by issues of treasury notes, under the unexecuted authority constituting the remaining ways and means designated for the same year.

II. Statement of the situation of the treasury for the year 1815.

1. *The charges upon the treasury for the year 1815, as already ascertained.*

The estimates for the annual appropriations amount to \$40,538,889 39, consisting of the following items:

For civil, diplomatic and miscellaneous expenses	1,979,239 39	
For the military department	30,342,238	
For the naval department	8,217,362	
		40,538,889 39

The public debt will call for a sum of \$15,493,145 30, to answer the following claims.

For interest and reimbursements of stocks existing before the war	3,452,775 46	
For interest on the funded debt created since the war	2,922,816 72	
For the interest on loans to be effected in 1815, by estimate	1,500,000	
For the principal and interest of treasury notes falling due in 1815, and on the 1st of January 1816	7,617,553 12	
		15,493,145 30
		56,032,034 69

From this view it appears, that ways and means must now be provided for an expenditure of \$56,032,044 69, in the year 1815, independent of such additions as may arise from the contemplated establishment of a sinking fund, in relation to the public debt created since the war, and from any other new object of expence, which shall be authorized during the present year.

2. *The ways and means of the treasury for 1815.*  
The outstanding and uncollected revenue, at the commencement of 1815, has been considered as applicable to the payment of the unsatisfied balances



the appropriations for the preceding year; and, consequently, only such parts of the revenue, as shall accrue, and be actually received at the treasury, during 1815, can be embraced in the resources for the current service. But it also follows, from that view of the subject, that the treasury is entitled to be credited in 1815, for the excess, in the provision of ways and means, to meet the expenditure of 1814.

This excess, consisting of cash, of outstanding revenue, and of an authority to borrow, or to issue treasury notes, amounts, as above stated, to the sum of

The net sum receivable into the treasury, in the year 1815, for the duties on goods imported during that year, cannot be safely estimated at a greater sum than

The direct tax will probably give to the treasury during the year 1815, a sum of

The internal duties, old and new, and postage, on an estimate which is stated in the schedule A. will probably produce, in the year 1815, a sum of

The sales of public lands will produce, in the year 1815, a sum of

The amount of incidental receipts, from miscellaneous sources will probably be

\$15,125,909 83

But it appears, that the single item of public debt will require in the year 1815, a sum of

And that the revenue (independent of the excess of the authority to borrow, &c. brought from the last year's ways and means) will only be

Leaving a deficiency, in that respect alone, of

In a more general view, however, it is to be stated—that the charges upon treasury for the year, 1815, amount to the sum of

That the existing sources of supply amount only to

And that ways and means must be provided to raise the deficit of

It will be readily seen, that the estimates of the product of the direct tax, and of the new internal duties, are applicable only to the present year; and that in every succeeding year, the amount will be greatly augmented.

It must also be repeated, that in the statements now presented, no provision is inserted for the contemplated sinking fund; nor for the payment of a considerable amount of unliquidated claims upon the government for services and supplies; as these objects seem to require a distinct consideration.

PROPOSITION.

I. It is respectfully proposed, that provision be made to raise a sum of 40,936,124 dollars and 86 cents, in addition to the amount of the existing revenue, for the service of the year 1815, partly by taxes, partly by an issue of treasury notes, and

partly by an authority to procure the money upon loan.

II. It is respectfully proposed, that an additional sum to be raised by taxes, to the amount of 5,000,000 dollars; and that the following objects, or a selection from these objects of taxation, graduated in the amount to produce that sum, to be made equally productive, shall form the basis of the additional levy:

1. A tax upon inheritances and devises, to be paid by the heirs or devisees, may be made to produce 900,000

2. A tax upon bequests, legacies and statutory distributions, to be paid by the legatees or legal representatives, may be made to produce 500,000

3. An auxiliary tax upon all testamentary instruments and letters of administration, to be paid by the executors or administrators, may be made to produce 200,000

4. A tax upon the legal process and proceedings in the courts of the U. States, to be paid by the parties at the time of taking out the process, or entering the proceedings, may be made to produce 250,000

5. A tax upon conveyances, mortgages and leases, to be paid by the grantees, mortgagees and lessees, may be made to produce 300,000

6. A stamp tax upon bonds, penal bills, warrants of attorney, notarial instruments, policies of insurance, all negotiable notes, protests of bills of exchange and promissary notes, bills of sale, and hypothecations of vessels, bottomry and respondentia bonds, may be made to produce 400,000

7. A tax of one dollar upon every barrel of wheaten flour, to be paid by the miller, may be made to produce 3,500,000

8. A tax upon the dividends (other than the dividends of banks) and upon the sale and transfer of the stocks of banks, insurance companies, and other corporations, operating for profit, upon a money capital, may be made to produce 600,000

9. An income tax, may easily be made to produce 3,000,000

III. It is respectfully proposed, that the additional sum to be raised, by the specified taxes, shall be appropriated as follows:

1. Towards establishing a sinking fund, in relation to the public debt, created since the war,

2. Towards the payment of principal and interest of the treasury notes, to be issued in the manner hereafter suggested,

3. Towards defraying the expenses of the present year,

IV. It is respectfully proposed, that there shall be an emission of treasury notes, for the service of the year 1815, to the amount of fifteen millions of dollars, on the following plan:

I. The denominations of the notes shall be such as the secretary of the treasury with the approbation of the president may direct.

2. The notes of the denomination of 100 dollars, and upwards, shall be made payable to order, and shall bear an interest of five and two-fifths per centum per annum.
3. The notes of a denomination less than 100 dollars, and not less than 20 dollars, shall be payable to order, and bear an interest at the same rate, or shall be payable to bearer, and bear no interest; as the secretary of the treasury, with the approbation of the president of the United States, shall direct.
4. The notes of denomination under 20 dollars, shall be made payable to the bearer, and shall be circulated without interest.
5. The notes shall be issued, and be made payable at the treasury only; but any portion of them may be deposited with the loan officers of banks throughout the United States, for the purpose of being put into general circulation.
6. The holders of the treasury notes, not bearing an interest, may, at any time, exchange them, in sums not less than 100 dollars, for certificate of public stock, bearing an interest of seven per cent. per annum, and irredeemable for 12 years, from the date of the certificates respectively.
7. The notes shall be receivable in all payments of the United States; but, in such cases, they may be re-issued.
8. The notes payable by an annual instalment, according to their dates, and in the manner to be notified by the treasury, to wit:
 

In 1816, the sum of (one-fifth)	3,000,000
In 1817, the sum of (one-fifth)	3,000,000
In 1818, the sum of (one-fifth)	3,000,000
In 1819, the sum of (one-fifth)	3,000,000
In 1820, the sum of (one-fifth)	3,000,000

15, 000,000

9. The reimbursement of the notes shall be effected, according to the instalments, either by the payment of the principal and interest to the holders; or by taking out of circulation, and destroying the amount of the instalment, in notes, which have been paid to the United States for duties, taxes, or other demands.
10. There shall be an appropriation of such a portion of the taxes, above specified, as will be adequate to the payment of the successive instalments of the notes; and the faith of the United States should be pledged to make good any deficiency.
11. There shall be no additional issue of treasury notes, upon a specific pledge of the same taxes, or of other competent taxes, to an amount equal to the reimbursement of the notes, according to the stipulated instalments.

V. It is respectfully proposed, that authority should be given to the president, to borrow the sum of twenty-five millions of dollars on the faith of the United States.

1. The loan to be accepted on the most advantageous terms that can be obtained.
2. The amount of the loan, for the payment and security of principal and interest, to be placed on the same footing as the rest of the funded debt created since the war.

If the proposition submitted to the consideration of the committee of ways and means should be adopted, the treasury will be placed on the following footing for the year 1815:

1. The ascertained demands upon the treasury, amount to \$5,032,034 69
2. The existing sources of revenue and supply will

produce	11,150,000
3. The excess of outstanding revenue, and of authority to borrow money and to issue treasury notes for the service of 1814, beyond the demand, is estimated at	3,975,909 33
4. The taxes now proposed are estimated to produce for 1815.	5,000,000
5. The issue of treasury notes for the service of 1815, will produce	15,000,000
6. The authority to raise money by loan, for the service of 1815, extends to	25,000,000
	60,125,909 33

Surplus of ways and means 4,093,875 14

The surplus of ways and means for the year 1815, will be applicable to the establishment of the contemplated sinking fund, and to the payment of any additional expenses that congress may authorize.

In making the present communication, I feel, sir, that I have performed my duty to the legislature of the country; but when I perceive that more than forty millions of dollars must be raised, for the service of the year 1815, by an appeal to public credit, through the medium of treasury notes and loans, I am not without sensations of extreme solicitude.—The unpromising state of the public credit, and the obstructed state of the circulating medium, are sufficiently known. A liberal imposition of taxes, during the session, ought to raise the public credit, were it not for counteracting causes; but it can have no effect in restoring a national circulating medium. It remains, therefore, with the wisdom of congress to decide, whether any other means can be applied to restore the public credit, to re-establish a national circulating medium, and to facilitate the necessary anticipations of the public revenue. The humble opinion of this department on the subject, has been respectfully, though frankly, expressed on former occasions; and it remains unchanged.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration, sir, your most obedient servant,

A. J. DALLAS.

*J. W. Eppes, Esq. chairman of the committee of ways and means.*

SCHEDULE A.

Treasury Department, Revenue Office, Dec. 6, 1814.  
 Sir—I have the honor, in compliance with your request, to submit the annexed estimates of the products of the existing internal duties, and of the additional duties proposed to be hid by the bills now before congress; the first statement exhibiting the products for an entire year after the respective duties shall be in full operation, and the last statement shewing the amounts that may be expected to be received from each duty during the year 1815. It may be proper to add that the materials do not exist for forming estimates, with regard to the new duties, on which a perfect reliance should be reposed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
 S. H. SMITH, *commissioner of the revenue.*  
 Honorable secretary of the Treasury.

No. 1.

*Estimate of the products of the existing internal duties and of the proposed additional duties for an entire year after they shall be in full operation.*

Stamps	510,000
Carriages	300,000
Tobacco at auction	300,000
Refined sugar	150,000
Licenses to retailers	800,000
Licenses for stills with the duty on spirits	4,600,000

Postage	250,000
Lotteries	150,000
Furniture	1,238,000
Horses for the saddle and carriage	70,000
Gold watches	60,000
Silver watches	170,000
Boots	75,000
Saddles and bridles	65,000
Paper	50,000
Candles	220,000
Playing cards	8,000
Tobacco and snuff	210,000
Hats	400,000
Iron	350,000
Nails	200,000
Beer, ale and porter	60,000
Leather	600,000
Doll. 10,379,000	

No. 2.  
 Estimate of the amounts that may be expected to be received from the foregoing duties, during the year 1815.

Stamps	510,000
Carriages	300,000
Sales at auction	210,000
Refined sugar	150,000
Licenses to retailers	875,000
Licenses for stills with the duty on spirits	2,670,000
Postage	250,000
Lotteries	50,000
Furniture	1,238,000
Horses for the saddle and carriage	70,000
Gold watches	60,000
Silver watches	170,000
Boots	75,000
Saddles and bridles	65,000
Paper	50,000
Candles	220,000
Playing cards	8,000
Tobacco and snuff	210,000
Hats	400,000
Iron	350,000
Nails	200,000
Beer, ale and porter	60,000
Leather	600,000
Dolls. 7,553,000	

This estimate has been made, on the supposition that the bills laying the new duties will be passed previously to the 1st of January next.

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

NEW-ORLEANS.—We are yet without definite intelligence from New-Orleans. The news will probably arrive *this day*, that will, at least, relieve our suspense. The latest date we have is of the 24th December, at six o'clock, A. M. The several official articles that have reached us are inserted below—and we have the following intelligence from several private letters.

The Tennessee and Kentucky troops, that were instantly expected, by our last accounts, had arrived on the 22d or on the morning of the 23d. The enemy, without being discovered, effected a landing (about 5,000 strong) on general Villeri's plantation, by a bayou or creek, from lake Borgne, about eight miles from the city, on the evening of the 23d.—General Jackson immediately hastened to meet them and a severe skirmish ensued, which lasted from about half past seven until after nine o'clock at night. What our loss, or that of the enemy, or what the amount of the forces engaged on either side was, we are not informed of—the result, however, seems clearly this, that the enemy was driven back—and that fifty of his men and two majors were brought to the city as prisoners. After which it seems that general Jackson had taken an advantageous position, nearer the city, where he was throwing up entrenchments, &c. A decisive battle was universally expected the next morning—the morning of the 24th—and though we cannot say that we *fear*, we have, nevertheless, a trembling anxiety for the result.

One letter says that Jackson engaged them with only about 2000 men—he had about 8000 men under

his command—it also says that the British had not been able to land their artillery, and expresses an idea that the whole of them would be made prisoners that day—that is, December 24.

The whole British force is variously stated by the prisoners, at from 7 to 15,000 men—the probable number is 6000, commanded by major-general Keane.

Such is the substance of our intelligence. We think New-Orleans is safe, and anticipate the details of a glorious victory—if it has fallen, it has been dearly purchased.

### MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

New Orleans, December 14.

The enemy is in force in the vicinity of the state, and his movements indicate a disposition to attack this capital. The governor and commander in chief therefore directs that the militia within the city and the Faubourgs and the settlements on Gentilly and the Bayou St. John, be called out (by the respective commanding officers of regiments and corps,) armed, accounted, and to be drilled by companies twice in each day for one hour at each time.—Officers commanding regiments and corps will designate the ground, and the hour for drill.—The field officers of each corps are to superintend the drill, and inspect minutely the state of the arms and ammunition.

The whole of the militia must be held in readiness to march, and meet the enemy at a moment's warning, as well by day as by night.

The men should not incur themselves with too much baggage. On a march, a spare shirt and a pair of shoes with a good blanket in their knapsack, will be quite sufficient.

The several companies of ancients will on this occasion set an honorable example, nor will the fathers of families composing the companies, be wanting in zeal.

Until further orders the uniform companies will form a battalion under the immediate command of capt. Planché.

The drill and exercise to commence on to-morrow the 15th inst.

Wm. C. C. CLAIBORNE,

Governor and commander in chief.

On Sunday the 18th Dec. general Jackson reviewed the militia of the city, the battalion commanded by major Planché, and a part of the regiment of men of color. Being drawn up on their respective parades, the following addresses were read to them by Mr. Livingston, one of his aids,

### TO THE EMBODIED MILITIA.

Fellow citizens and soldiers!

The general commanding in chief would not do justice to the noble ardor that has animated you in the hour of danger, he would not do justice to his own feelings, if he suffered the example you have shewn to pass without public notice. Inhabitants of an opulent and commercial town, you have by a spontaneous effort shaken off the habits which are created by wealth, and shewn that you are resolved to deserve the blessings of fortune of bravely defending them. Long strangers to the perils of war, you have embodied yourselves to face them with the cool countenance of veterans—and with motives of disunion that might operate on weak minds, you have forgotten the difference of language and the prejudices of national pride, and united with a cordiality that does honor to your understandings as well as to your patriotism. Natives of the United States! They are the oppressors of your infant political existence, with whom you are to contend—they are the men your fathers conquered whom you are to oppose. Descendants of Frenchmen! natives of France!

they are English, the hereditary, the eternal enemies of your ancient country, the invaders of that you have adopted, who are your foes. Spaniards! remember the conduct of your allies at St. Sebastian, and recently at Pensacola, and rejoice that you have an opportunity of avenging the brutal injuries inflicted by men who dishonor the human race.

Fellow citizens, of every description! remember for what and against whom you contend. For all that can render life desirable—for a country blest with every gift of nature—for property, for life—for those dearer than either, your wives and children—and for liberty, without which country, life, property, are no longer worth possessing; as even the embraces of wives and children become a reproach to the wretch who could deprive them by his cowardice of those invaluable blessings. You are to contend for all this against an enemy whose continued effort is to deprive you of the least of these blessings—who avows a war of vengeance and desolation, carried on and marked by cruelty, lust, and horrors unknown to civilized nations.

Citizens of Louisiana! the general commanding in chief, rejoices to see the spirit that animates you, not only for your honor but for your safety, for whatever had been your conduct or wishes, his duty would have led, and will now lead him to confound the citizen unmindful of his rights with the enemy he ceases to oppose. Now, leading men who know their rights, who are determined to defend them, he salute you, brave Louisianians, as brethren in arms, and has now a new motive to exert all his faculties which shall be strained to the utmost in your defence. Continue with the energy you have began, and he promises you not only safety, but victory over the insolent enemy who insulted you by an affected doubt of your attachment to the constitution of your country.

*To the battalion of uniform companies.*

When I first looked at you on the day of my arrival, I was satisfied with your appearance, and every day's inspection since has confirmed the opinion I then formed. Your numbers have increased with the increase of danger, and your ardor has augmented since it was known that your post would be one of peril and honor. This is the true love of country! You have added to it an exact discipline, and a skill in evolutions rarely attained by veterans; the state of your corps does equal honor to the skill of the officers and the attention of the men. With such defenders our country has nothing to fear. Every thing I have said to the body of militia, applies equally to you—you have made the same sacrifices—you have the same country to defend, the same motive for exertion—but I should have been unjust had I not noticed as it deserved the excellence of your discipline and the martial appearance of your corps.

**TO THE MEN OF COLOR.**

Soldiers—From the shores of Mobile I collected you to arms—I invited you to share in the perils and to divide the glory of your white countrymen. I expected much from you, for I was not uninformed of those qualities which must render you so formidable to an invading foe—I knew that you could endure hunger and thirst, and all the hardships of war—I knew that you loved the land of your nativity, and that, like ourselves, you had to defend all that is most dear to man—but you surpass my hopes. I have found in you, united to those qualities, that noble enthusiasm which impels to great deeds.

Soldiers—The president of the United States shall be informed of your conduct on the present occasion, and the voice of the representatives of the American

nation shall applaud your valor, as your general now praises your ardor. The enemy is near; his "sails cover the lakes," but the brave are united; and if he finds us contending among ourselves, it will be for the prize of valor and fame its noblest reward.

By command

THOMAS L. BUTLER,

Aid-de-camp.

*Copy of a letter from commodore Patterson to the secretary of the navy, dated*

New Orleans, 10th December, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to inform you, that since the date of my last letter, Dr. Marshall has arrived at this place, and made to me the within statement relative to the action between our gun vessels and the barges of the enemy, and their subsequent movements; since when no further intelligence has been received. By this statement it appears the enemy's force was infinitely superior to that reported by Mr. Johnson. The vessels stated by Dr. Marshall to be within the Passes of Christian and Mary Ann, must have been built expressly for our shoal waters, and their having brought them within those shoals, indicates, I think, an intention to rely upon them and numerous flat barges, to attempt this city by forcing their way up the Bayou St. John. To guard against their so doing, on the evening of the 17th, I commenced erecting on the banks of the Bayou, two batteries to mount each 2 long 24 pounders, one of which, in despite of rain and other difficulties, is now, through the active exertions of my few remaining officers, ready for action—the other will be completed by tomorrow night, when I hope the enemy may attempt us by that route. These two batteries are independent of the fort St. John, at the mouth of the Bayou. Every exertion is also making to have five vessels ready for them in the event of an attack by way of the river. Their attack will, no doubt, be made simultaneously by the river Baratavia and lake Pontchartrain. Captain Henley and lieutenant Norris have the superintendance of the batteries erecting at the Bayou St. John. Lieutenants Alexis and Thomson, acting lieutenants Crowley and Cunningham, and sailing-master Pollock, are indefatigable in their endeavors to expedite every measure which is found necessary at this time.

The flag sent to the enemy has not yet returned. I am happy to inform you, that the most determined spirit of resistance to the enemy is manifested by every class of citizens of this country; and I have no doubt that the enemy will be repulsed in any attack he may make upon us, with very great loss. The gallant resistance made by the few gun vessels appears to have roused the spirits of the people and animated them to the highest pitch.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration and respect, your obedient servant.

DANL. T. PATTERSON.

The hon. secretary of the navy, Washington.

*Copy of a letter from acting surgeon Marshall to commodore Patterson, dated*

New Orleans, 17th December, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to inform you, that on Tuesday evening the 13th inst. at 10 o'clock, A. M. the enemy landed at Pass Christianne, with one hundred and six barges from the squadron off Ship Island. At 2 P. M. got under weigh and directed their course towards the United States' gun vessels, then laying at anchor off Bay St. Louis. They did not, however, come up with our squadron that night, which, in the mean time, retreated to the Malheraux Islands, where the wind and tide forced them to remain. Wednesday, the 14th inst. the weather being calm, at 10 o'clock, A. M. an engagement ensued, which continued about two hours, when the enemy closed and surrounded the gun vessels, in every direction,

keeping up a constant fire from their great guns and musketry, and making frequent attempts to carry by boarding. In this situation our gallant officers and men, resolving never to give up their ships, fought with the most distinguished bravery for the incredible space of one hour against such an overwhelming force; when the action terminated in the capture of gun vessels No. 156, 162, 163, 23, 5 and despatch boat Alligator, which were immediately carried to the eastward. I immediately proceeded, with Mr. Johnson, to the Petite Coquilles, where I received instructions to join the enemy and render such aid as their prisoners might require. On Friday morning I arrived at the Bay of St. Louis, and discovered that the British had succeeded, without difficulty, in getting one large ship, several brigs and schooners through Pass Mary-Ann, and others rapidly following them, amounting to at least fifty in number.— Having made this discovery, I deemed it prudent to dispense with my instructions in order to acquaint you with this circumstance. I accordingly employed a guard to convey me in the most expeditious route to New Orleans, (the direct communication being in possession of the enemy.) Friday evening I discovered ten schooners in the mouth of Pearl River, and five gun vessels at the east entrance of the Rigolets, under weigh and steering towards the Petite Coquilles.

I have no doubt the above vessels are constructed for those waters, and that in ten days the British will have from twenty to forty sail in Lake Ponchartraine.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,  
(Signed) GEORGE MARSHALL,  
*Acting surgeon.*

Com. D. T. PATTERSON.

IN THE SOUTH the enemy has appeared in considerable force. He has taken possession of Cumberland island, (the next north of *Amelia*) with about 2,000 men. The naval forces are under the command of ruffian *Cockburn*, in the *Albion 74*. What their design is, is not yet "demonstrated"—they will probably, at least, ravage the islands, and possibly attempt the stealth of negroes, &c. from the plantations on the main. An attack on *Savannah* is apprehended, but their force seems hardly sufficient for such an enterprize. Since the above was written we have learned that the British have possession of *Point Peter* and *St. Mary's*.

MOBILE.—We have nothing additional to the notice in our last of a reported attack on *Fort Boyer*. IN THE CHESAPEAKE the enemy has lately entrapped a few small craft, but done nothing important. This force is small at present.

BRITISH ATROCITY. *From the Buffalo Gazette*—We have never experienced such sensations of indignation, as were excited on learning that a few days after the battle of the Cataract, commonly and improperly called Bridgewater, and Lundy's Lane, the British lieutenant-general Drummond denying the rites of sepulture to our fallen heroes, caused them to be collected in heaps and burnt! This most atrocious act of the enemy, together with several others of a deeper die, have long been well known to the left division—these brave men disdained to vent their rage in words, but with their swords have taken vengeance on this monster in human shape—this imitator of Tamerlane and Khan. He may have hoped that the memory of his defeat and disgrace at the Cataract, would have perished with the bodies of the brave who fell in victory.—Vain, delusive hope! The thunders of the cataract shall cease, and records be extinct, before the memory of that glorious battle shall fade from the mind of man. The recital of it will furnish a splendid page in American history, and add another proof

to the truths taught at Zama, Marathon and Plataea, that slaves and hirelings must always yield to the brave and the free!

Did the American troops ever omit the honors of the grave to a fallen foe? No, never! After the repulse of the assault of the enemy on Fort Erie, the slain were interred with all the pomp and honors of war, and the party of troops engaged in this sacred duty were fired upon by the enemy, and many of them slain, notwithstanding he was repeatedly informed they were burying his dead. JUSTICE.

*St. Inigo's November 28, 1814.*

*Messrs Gales and Seaton*.—I read in your paper, some time ago, an account of a boat's crew having landed at St. Inigo, near the mouth of Potomac and committed various excesses, but particularly had taken away the sacred vessels, &c. consecrated to divine worship and the service of the altar. Those facts were true, and the individuals concerned, as well as the crimes perpetrated, required such excuses to be published; but as by the annexed letter we are assured that these excesses were unauthorized and that a public acknowledgement and reparation has been in part made, by a return of almost all the articles, justice, even to an enemy, requires that the said return and letter should be published. *To the clergymen belonging to the chapel of St. Inigo's, and the other residents there, to whom this letter refers.*

Gentlemen—An officer and boat's crew, belonging to his Britannic majesty's sloop *Saracen*\* under my command, having landed at St. Inigo's on the 30th ult. and taken several articles of furniture, and other things from the houses and chapel there; and such proceedings being unauthorized by me, I have taken the earliest opportunity of causing restoration to be made of the property so taken; and now send one of my lieutenants with this letter, and the property above mentioned, to you under a flag of truce; hoping this instance of justice will efface every prejudicial sentiment towards the British from your minds, and that the injured parties will express their satisfaction at our present conduct in this matter.

I beg you to believe, gentlemen, it is matter of great regret to me, that the proceeding complained of should have been performed by those under my command; and, with sentiments of consideration, I am, gentlemen, your very obedient servant,

ALEXANDER DIXIE, Capt.

*His Britannic majesty's sloop Saracen,  
off George's island, 18 November, 1814.*

BRITISH OFFICIALS. The London Morning Chronicle, speaking of naval affairs, says, "British official accounts in cases of capture or destruction [or defeat] have ceased to exist."

[I believe it is a fact, that British official accounts of the battle on Champlain, or of the capture of the *Epervier*, *Reindeer*, *Avon*, &c. or of the destruction of the *Hermes*, &c. &c. have never appeared. At least, I have never seen either of them. "The wooden walls of old England."]

TRADE. We have conversed with a gentleman from the district of Maine, who informs us, that trade at Castine is very brisk; that there is a great and constant influx and eflux of traders, to such an extent that the town is overflowing. The enemy have fortified Castine with 120 pieces of cannon, and cut a canal of eighteen feet, by which the town is islanded. They do not attempt to molest the people in the interior who have pretty generally refused to take the oath of allegiance. The goods

\*In the former publication, a mistake was made in stating that it was the brig *Jason*, capt. *Watts*.

purchased by the traders, are transported up the Penobscot, to a narrow place, where lies a *neutral* schooner, which is warped backwards and forwards, laden on the British, and unladen on the American side, when they are regularly entered at the custom house, and the duties paid. They are then shipped off in waggons, to Boston, and other places. Vessels are continually arriving from Halifax; and an accommodation stage is daily running between Lowell and Castine, a distance of 57 miles.

*"Can such things be  
Without our special wonder?"*

*Providence Patriot.*

**MORE TRADE.**—*Daniel Lambert turned smuggler!* This mammoth gentleman of wax, who exhibited for the admiration of the curious in every part of the country, was lately met on his way from Canada by a custom-house officer, who remarking the rotundity of Daniel's corporation, had the curiosity to subject it to a critical inspection: when lo! instead of flesh and blood, or even straw, the entire fabric of this unwieldy gentleman was found to be composed of *fine English cloths and ker-cymeres!*

*[Albany Argus.]*

**DIRECT TAX.** The following are the portions of the several states of the direct tax of six millions:

Newhamphshire	\$193,586 74
Massachusetts	632,541 90
Rhode Island	69,404 35
Connecticut	236,335 41
Vermont	90,687 43
New-York	860,283 24
New Jersey	217,743 66
Pennsylvania	730,958 32
Delaware	64,092 90
Maryland	303,247 50
Virginia	738,360 88
Kentucky	337,857 52
Ohio	298,200 28
North Carolina	443,476 36
Tennessee	320,173 10
South Carolina	393,810 96
Georgia	189,872 98
Louisiana	56,590 22
	\$5,000,000 00

**ST. AUGUSTINE.**—It is stated in a way that, we think, may be fully relied on, that colonel *Woodbine* was at *St. Augustine* early in December last, where he was actually raising a military force, enlisting all red, black and white persons that chose to come forward to the *red cross* of British humanity. On the 3d December he is said to have had between 4 and 500 men. Is this the *neutrality* of the Spaniards?

**PRIZES.**—A paragraph is running through the newspapers, respecting the *value* of the prizes captured from the enemy, which, from the *manner* of the publication, may be thought to have appeared in this work—and the editor feels it due to his own credit to disavow the extravagant calculation. He never made it, or said anything on the matter.—*"The thing values such prizes at one hundred and thirty-three millions of dollars!!!"*

**COL. MITCHELL,** on a visit to *Elkton*, (Md.) his native village, was invited to and partook of a splendid public entertainment there on the 18th inst.—The company was very numerous and respectable. The colonel has since proceeded to his command on the Canada frontier.

**TRAITEROUS INTERCOURSE.**—*From the New-York Columbian.*—We hear from *Plumb-Island*, that a few days since, one of the mail-boats from the land of *Steady Habits*, in going alongside one of the ships of the squadron, upset, and the poor fellow in the

boat came very near being drowned. He lost his mail, newspapers, letters, &c

One of the *Beebes*, at *Oysterponds*, some time since, was detained a prisoner on board for ten days or a fortnight. He said a mail from the shores of good old Connecticut was regularly delivered on board the squadron twice a week as punctually as it is at any of our post-offices.

They get the news from *New-York* on board the ships, via Connecticut, earlier than we receive it in the *Long-Island* mail.

**QUEBEC.**—The following from a *Montreal* paper of *Jan. 7*, may serve to give us some idea of the great trade that is carried on between *Lower Canada* and the *United States*. It is *impossible* that these goods could have been imported for the use of the *Canadians*:

"We have been favored by a friend with the amounts of the imports and exports at the port of *Quebec*, in 1814: and with the assistance of that friend, have ascertained their actual value of custom house entry. This is a subject upon which we dwell with no ordinary pleasure; because it illustrates the growing prosperity of the country, amidst the din of war and devastation, which to many may appear paradoxical. The import of wines at prime cost [this is the rule we go by] is 225,000*l.* currency; colonial produce, including brandies, gin, Irish spirits, and teas, nearly 925,000*l.* dry goods, all manufactured in the *British isles*, come to nothing short of 1,600,000*l.* The custom-house duty is charged at the manufacturers' price; to which we add 15 per cent. for all charges to *Canada*; and we believe we scarcely set down enough, so that the total value of the imports will be found to exceed 2,750,000 currency. In 1810 they were not a quarter of this amount! The exports cannot be counted beyond 430,000*l.* currency. Although the value in 1809—10 was of three times the extent, or thereby; yet this is no inclination of a declining prosperity. For two years the crops have been good in both provinces, and the prices of all necessaries fetch double any former average, one article with another. To this may be accounted the great augmentation of internal consumption owing to the increase of the army and navy, and the various departments attached to them."

**NEUTRAL RIGHTS.**—*Or another instance of British magnanimity in a neutral port.* We yesterday noticed in our paper the arrival at *Philadelphia* of the schooner *Ellen*, from *Lisbon*, since which, we have been informed, that when the *Ellen* was ready to sail, she was detained, by order of the *Portuguese* government, 24 hours, in consequence of the sailing of a *British* vessel, in conformity to the laws of nations; which, they alleged, does not allow a vessel of one belligerent to sail within 24 hours after the vessel of another belligerent from a neutral port.—Afterwards, the captain of the *Ellen* requested of the *Portuguese* government not to allow any of the *British* ships of war, then in *Lisbon*, to leave port within 24 hours after his departure.

This request was assented to, and orders given to that effect—but, as soon as the *Ellen* got under way for sea, the *British* frigate *Curacoa* immediately weighed to follow her out. The fort, at *Bellum*, fired a blank cartridge at the frigate, of which she took no notice—afterwards, several shot were exchanged, and the frigate proceeded on. The fort below, viz. *St. Julian*, then fired, and the *Curacoa* thought proper to come to an anchor and give up the pursuit. The *British* officers while the *Ellen* lay in *Lisbon*, had viewed her with great attention, and declared that they meant to have her, as she would make an elegant tender for his majesty's navy. The conduct of the *Portuguese*, on this occasion, was very honor-

ble and spirited. But the conduct of the British officer was, as it almost invariably has been, ever since the commencement of the war, base and infamous, and truly characteristic of the government. They seem totally regardless of every principle of honor, and the rights of every independent nation.

[*Nat. Adv.*]

The *Democratic Press* of Saturday last, contains a letter from the captain of the *Ellen*, to our consul at Lisbon, in which he states the particulars of the affair, and says that by the firing of the *British* upon the castle of Bellum, the commandant's life was endangered; and shews clearly that the design of the enemy was to capture the schooner in the *Tagus*, had they not been prevented by the fort, St. Julian, having placed boats for the purpose, &c. These "*friends of religion, liberty and law*," are the most finished pirates of the world, the gang late of *La Fette*, not excepted.

Mr. LLOYD, of *Massachusetts*, has written a very long letter in reply to Mr. *Randolph*. We expect to give it a place in our next.

VERMONT. The people of gallant *Vermont* are emulating the example set them by the town of *Poultney*—(see page 336) and appear to be taking efficient measures to prevent traitorous intercourse with the enemy—in which they are ably seconded by major-generals Strong and Orms.

SACKER'S Hannon, guarded by *Brown*, with his veterans, is considered perfectly safe until spring—when it will be protected on the lake.

St. Louis, (Missouri) December 3.

Colonel Russell, with the volunteers and rangers, came in on Monday last, from a tour into the Indian country. We understand they proceeded north to the trace leading from Rock river to Boon's lick settlement. From thence towards Grand river, and returned by the upper settlements without being able to see an enemy.

Colonel Russell has favored us with the following report from captain Moore, who commanded the detachment of rangers that was attacked by the Indians while employed in escorting beef cattle to fort Clark.

CAMP RUSSELL, Nov. 19th, 1814.

Sir—Agreeably to your command I left this place on the 10th inst. and proceeded on without much inconvenience, until a few miles beyond the old Kickapoo town, where we came upon a party of Indians to the number of ten. They were discovered by major John Munsick, who that day was behind in captain Short's detachment, and who had went out into a point of wood to spy, or make discoveries. On his information, the rear of the whole detachment got ahead and attacked the Indians. We killed five of them,\* and took a squaw and a boy of about 3 years old prisoners, the two latter are here.

The information the squaw gave us was that we were surrounded by the Indians, in considerable numbers, and the most of them Kickapoos; and her information seems to correspond with the discovery we made of many trails leading from the Wabash towards the mouth of Sangameux. As to herself, she said she and her party were Pottowatomies; but as proof of their hostility, they had with them a hoe that had been taken from Cox, who was killed on Shoal Creek, and also they had their mouths full of balls: moreover they had with them a home-made blanket and a hat supposed was taken from a Miss Cox about one year ago. The total number of

\* Three men, a boy of about 13 or 14 years of age, and a squaw. The latter was killed without my knowledge.

the men then under my command, including officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, was only seventy-six; this was far an inadequate force, and our situation was very precarious. I called all the officers together, and after a consultation it was an unanimous opinion to return immediately. This was thought to be more advisable and justifiable in consequence of getting one of our men wounded mortally, (who that night died) and also the charge of the cattle: being compelled that night after the attack, to travel through large prairies in the utmost darkness, and through an excessive rain and cold; we lost nineteen of the cattle, which we hunted for next morning until an hour by sun, when again it was an unanimous opinion, that it was not safe to tarry any longer, as more danger was then apprehended than before.

On the same night we discovered many fires around us, and in the morning the prairies were burnt in many places.

I am with much respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES B. MOORE.

Colonel Wm. Russell.

MILITARY.

There are upwards of 1500 British prisoners at Pittsfield, Mass.

Certain movements of the troops indicate a design to draw the chief part of the force from *Buffalo*—a part seems destined for *Sacketts-Harbor* and *Plattsburg*.

The legislature of Virginia has made choice of *Robert B. Taylor* and *Armistead T. Mason*, major-generals in the state corps which the state has determined to raise.

The brigadier generals are, John H. Cocke, Charles F. Mercer, David Campbell, John W. Green.

NAVAL.

The "rotting"\* *Peacock*, captain Warrington, and "rotting"\* *Hornet*, M. C. Biddle, with the schooner *Tom Bowling*, and several other vessels, went to sea from New-York on Friday the 20th inst. Thus they go, without waiting for the "clemency" or "forbearance," as governor Gore says, of Great Britain, to "permit" them.

The ship carpenters at *Sacketts Harbor* are said to be competent to build two 74's and a frigate of the first class, and have them ready for the lake, by the time they will be wanted.

*The Wasp*. A brig is reported to have arrived at a southern port, that fell in with the U. S. sloop of war *Wasp*, off Turks Island, 35 days since—all well, but no particulars stated.

A small party of brave fellows went off from New London a few nights ago in a commissioned barge, and re-captured a sloop with three men on board, though lying between the *Majestic* and a man of war brig, and brought her in safe.

On the death of Mr. Dolph, killed by the English in retaking two prizes from them last week, of *Saybrook*, the Connecticut Gazette remarks—"It is very extraordinary, that notwithstanding the numerous rencontres we have had with the enemy, he is the only person who has been killed in Connecticut, or on our coast since the war."

The British privateer *Rover*, lately was off the mouth of Connecticut river, and sent a barge to capture some craft; but a few of the people volunteered and manned a long boat—re-captured the vessels, and made the Englishmen prisoners. In the skirmish we had one man killed, and the lieutenant of the privateer was also slain.

Two small vessels, prizes to the British privateer

\*See last No. page 335.

Rover, have also been driven on shore, near Brook-Haven, (Long Island Sound)—three of the prize crews were drowned, and the survivors, six in number, gave themselves up prisoners. The vessels were got off by the inhabitants without much injury.

A sloop was recently seen off New London manœuvring till dark, with a cargo of *live stock*—the next morning she was under the stern of the majestic razeel! What a pity that such villains are not *executed*.

The kind of treatment received by American prisoners of war in England, may be gathered from the following extract of a letter from an American seaman, to his parents in Philadelphia:

"Dartmouth prison, (England) October 22d, 1811.

"In the beginning of the year one thousand eight hundred and one, I arrived in England from Philadelphia. Shortly after my arrival I was impressed on board his majesty's ship Princess, receiving ship for impressed seamen. I could not obtain my discharge on account of an order which was issued, *to impress, notwithstanding their protections, a number of AMERICANS!* I was sent to Plymouth, and, after being detained there three months, was ordered on board the Nautilus sloop of war, about to sail as one of a convoy from Spithead for Gibraltar. During this time I, in vain, endeavored to procure my discharge.

"Soon after arriving at Gibraltar, we were stationed for a considerable time in the Mediterranean. After a series of hardships, and no scanty share of brutal treatment, which would neither afford you pleasure in perusing, nor me in penning, in the month of December, 1812, we received intelligence of war having been declared. The Americans on board of our ship immediately gave themselves up as prisoners of war. Being then in the Mediterranean, we were sent to prison in Malta, *at which place the plague was then raging*—in this prison we were kept till the 4th of May, 1814.

"During our confinement we suffered excessively for the common necessaries of life—and every trick was tried to torture us into the horrid alternative of entering on board their ships. You may form some idea of our situation and feelings, when I inform you, that not less than eleven thousand of the inhabitants were hurried to their graves, starvation staring us in the face, and no prospect of release from a close, foul prison! All their attempts at our seduction proved fruitless.

"We were, however, finally sent to this prison. I need scarcely mention that I never received a penny of pay. The number of Americans here is supposed to be between 4 and 5000.

My best respects to my brothers—inform them of my present situation, and the treacherous, ungrateful treatment that I have and am now receiving from the infernal tyrants that now oppress me: after having faithfully, though reluctantly, served them for twelve years, without pay, prize-money, or pension—thrown into prison, and there doomed to spend the remainder of my life. Such is British *gratitude!* Such is the *recompence* they make to the defenders of their country! Such infamy must, *at some period*, meet with its deserts. Notwithstanding the love I bear my brothers, I would sooner hear of their falling by the sword of their enemy than remaining inactive spectators."

*Dreadful shipwreck.* The British sloop of war Sylph went on shore near the east end of Long Island, on the night of the 17th inst. and all her crew, 14 excepted, perished! One hundred dead bodies were counted on the beach. Another account says that only 6 persons were saved.

A fifty guinea sword has been subscribed by the school companions of lieut. Frederick Rolette, a Ca-

nadian born subject, and some Canadian gentlemen of Quebec, for said lieut. Rolette's conduct under the brave com. Barclay, in the action with the American squadron on the 10th Sept. 1813, which conduct merits the warmest approbation of his countrymen, and reflects great credit on lieut. Rolette, as an officer and seaman.—*Quebec Gaz.*

## Statistical Scraps.

"SALT," says a letter to the editor, from *Kenhawa Salines, Va.* "is now selling here from 50 to 62 1/2 cents per bushel of 50lbs." Jan. 1815.

Ohio. *Extract of another letter to the editor of the REGISTER.*—"As you are a friend to the western country, you will no doubt be delighted to hear of proofs of its rising importance, from any source: Our monthly returns from the several land offices in Ohio and Indian Territory, exhibit an unparalleled sale of public lands, since the pacification of the Indian tribes in that quarter. In some districts the sales have been *doubled in the last six months.* In the Canton District, for instance, the sales in November (the last account received) is upwards of 45,000 acres, nearly all in quarter sections. When I came into the office in May last, the monthly sales were only about 17,000. In Cincinnati district, the sales exceed Canton. The emigration to the state the last summer, also, has been beyond all example, great. The main road through the state, I am told, has been almost literally covered with waggons moving out families.

Sheep. Another letter to the editor says—"We are in the culture of *Merino sheep*, and have a beautiful flock of nearly five hundred. We have named our plantation after the celebrated plains of Estramadura, in Spain. We are situated two miles from Kendall." (Ohio.)

In the statistical work of Dr. Colquhoun the conquests made by Great Britain since 1792, are estimated at 106,000,000£, whereof 87,000,000£ are restored by the treaty of Paris. Since the commencement of the war, there have been taken ships and other floating property worth 50,000,000 or 60,000,000£ more.

The French papers give the following statement of the number of troops employed according to them, against France, during the late campaign: troops of the *et devant* confederation of the Rhine 145,000 men. 2. Austrian army in France and Italy, 250,000. 3. Russian army, 250,000. 4. Prussian army, 200,000. 5. Swedish army, 30,000. 6. Corps of Dutch, 30,000. 7. English army in Spain and the Netherlands, 60,000. 8. Spanish and Portuguese army in the field, 80,000. 9. Neapolitan army, 30,000. 10. Danish auxiliary corps, 10,000. Total, 1,350,000 men exclusive of the landwehr.

It appears by a return made to the house of commons from the colonial department, dated the 5th instant, of the slave ships condemned in the British colonies, together with the number of slaves they had on board, from 1810 to 1812, that no less than 40 vessels were condemned during that period, viz. 27 at Sierra Leone, 5 at the Cape, 3 at the Bahamas, 2 at Barbadoes, and 3 at Jamaica, containing altogether, 6257 slaves of whom 1200 were females.

The present state of the church establishment of England is indicated by two of those official documents for which the public are indebted to the vigilance of parliament. By an abstract of the non-resident incumbents laid before the house of lords for the year 1812, it appears that at this time there appertain to our church establishment 10,582 benefices, including 133 dignities; that of these, 5,100 are non-resident, and 5,482 are resident. That of these



1,964 reside on other benefices; 382 are infirm; and 1,120 want a parsonage house. The non-residents, without leave, are 746, of whom there are 221 in St. D vid's and 93 in Exeter. The diocesses in regard to their size, contain, Lincoln 1,252 benefices; Norwich 1,030; York 830; Litchfield 677; Exeter 610; London and Chester respectively, 586 and 585; the others fewer, and Rochester but 107. In Carlisle, Chester, London, Peterborough, and York, the residents exceed the non-residents; and in Bristol they are 131 each; but the non-residents are to the residents in St. D vid's nearly as 8 to 1; in Bangor as 4 to 1, and in Landaff as 7 to 1; owing, as may be supposed, to the poverty of the benefices; though in Litchfield and Lincoln they are at least 2 to 1. By another of these interesting documents, made up to January 1st, 1813, it appears that (Ely excepted) there were 3,926 curates, 58 of whom received but 10*l.* per annum; 217, but 20*l.*; 679, 30*l.*; 683, 40*l.*; 617, 50*l.*; 100 from 60 to 100*l.*; and only 40 above 100*l.*

## Proceedings of Congress.

### IN SENATE.

*Thursday, Jan. 19.*—After disposing of some other matters—the senate proceeded to the consideration of the message from the house announcing its disagreement to the amendments of the senate to the bank bill.

After a variety of speaking and debating, and several motions, the question to insist on the first amendment, was decided as follows:

*For insisting*—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Chase, Condit, Howell, Laeock, Morrow, Roberts, Smith, Taylor, Turner, Vanuam, Walker—13.

*Against insisting*—Messrs. Barbour, Brown, Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Giles, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, Kerr, King, Lambert, Mason, Robinson, Tait, Thompson, Wells, Wharton—11.

So the senate refused to *insist* on this amendment.

Mr. Roberts moved to postpone the further consideration until the 2d Monday of March next—equivalent to a rejection. After debate, the question was decided as follows:

*For postponement*—Messrs. Gaillard, German, Kerr, Laeock, Lambert, Roberts, Taylor, Turner, Vanuam—9.

*Against postponement*—Messrs. Anderson, Barbour, Bibb, Brown, Chase, Condit, Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, Giles, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Howell, Hunter, King, Mason, Morrow, Robinson, Smith, Tait, Thompson, Walker, Wells, Wharton—25.

The question on Mr. Giles's motion to *recede* from the said first amendment, was then decided in the affirmative, ayes 18.

Mr. King then moved to *recede* from all the other amendments to which the house had disagreed.

The senate then *receded* from such of the said remaining amendments, as preceded the following:

The question on *receding* from the insertion of the section, authorising the bank under certain circumstances, to suspend payment of their notes in specie, was decided as follows:

*For receding*—Messrs. Barbour, Brown, Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Giles, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, Kerr, King, Lambert, Mason, Thompson, Wells—8.

*Against receding*—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Chase, Condit, Howell, Laeock, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Smith, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Vanuam, Walker, Wharton—16.

So the senate virtually *disagreed* to the insertion of such a section. Whereupon

M. Bibb moved to postpone to the second Monday in March (to reject) the further consideration of this bill.

Mr. Smith, then, expressing a desire to have a night's reflection on this question, moved to adjourn.

There were 19 ayes in favor of the motion; and the senate adjourned at a late hour.

*Friday, Jan. 20.* After disposing of other business, among which was the question as to the right

of Mr. Bledsoe, to a vote, which was decided in the negative—

The senate resumed the consideration of the amendments to the bank bill.

The question on Mr. Bibb's motion to postpone to the 2d Monday in March (to reject) the further consideration of the subject, being yet under consideration—

A very able and highly interesting debate took place, in the course of which Mr. Bibb, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Roberts supported the affirmative, and Mr. Giles the negative side.

The question was decided at late hour as follows:

*For postponement*—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Condit, Gaillard, Howell, Kerr, Laeock, Morrow, Roberts, Smith, Taylor, Turner, Vanuam, Walker—14.

*Against it*—Messrs. Barbour, Brown, Chase, Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, German, Giles, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason, Robinson, Tait, Thompson, Wells, Wharton—26.

So the senate refused to postpone the bill.

On motion of Mr. Giles,

The senate then determined to *recede* from its disagreements with the house. Adjourned.

[The bill wants only the signature of the president to become a law.]

*Monday, January 23.*—Mr. Mason's motion for requiring of the executive the reasons why a call for information by the senate in relation to the state of the army, had not been obeyed, was again considered, and negatived, 18 to 12.

The senate was occupied the principal part of the day in discussion of the bill from the house "to prohibit intercourse with the enemy, and for other purposes;" the further consideration of which was, at the close of the sitting, postponed until to-morrow.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Thursday, Jan. 19.* The house resumed the consideration of the report of the select committee on the letter of Patrick Magruder, clerk of this house, touching the destruction by the hands of the enemy, of the vouchers for the contingent expenditures of his office; and after considerable debate, the resolution reported by the committee was amended so as to read as follows, and then agreed to by the house, viz.

*Resolved*, That Patrick Magruder, clerk of the house of representatives, be credited at the proper office in the treasury department for the sum of \$36,668 78, and such other sums as he shall exhibit satisfactory evidence of having properly paid for expenditures on account of the contingent expenses of the house of representatives since his last settlement; and that a copy of this and the former report of the committee be filed in the auditor's office.

The bill from the senate, supplementary to the act passed at the last session for the indemnification of certain claimants of public lands in the Mississippi territory, was read a third time as amended, and passed.

The bill for the better regulation of the ordnance department, passed through a committee of the whole, and was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The bill to alter and amend the several acts establishing a navy department, by adding thereto a board of commissioners, went thro' a committee of the whole.

*Friday, Jan. 20.* The speaker laid before the house two letters from the secretary of the treasury, the one transmitting his annual report of the names and salaries of the clerks employed in the treasury department of 1814, and the other the annual statement of the district tonnage of the United States on the 31st December last; and also a letter from the secretary of the navy, transmitting his annual report

of the names and salaries of the clerks employed in the navy department for the year 1814.

The bill to amend the several acts for establishing a navy department was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading—and a great deal of other business of lesser importance was transacted.

*Saturday, Jan. 21.*—The report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two houses relative to the volunteer bill, was agreed to by both houses; and the bill only wants the signature of the president to become a law.

Several memorials and resolves of the legislature of the Mississippi territory, were presented in each house; among which was a petition for authority to call a convention to form a constitution, preparatory to admission into the union.

The several bills passed to a third reading on Friday were read a third time and passed.

Mr. Jackson's bill to amend the militia act (so far as relates to the organization of the militia) underwent considerable discussion and some amendment in committee of the whole, and, being reported to the house, was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Clark made a motion to supersede the present clerk of the house—ordered to lie on the table.

*Monday, Jan. 23.*—Mr. Eppes reported a bill to levy a direct tax on the district of Columbia—for laying a duty on lotteries—and a bill to amend the act laying duties on the retailers of licenses (for the relief of domestic manufacturers of wine, who themselves dispose of their products), the two first of which were committed, and the latter ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

On motion of Mr. Clarke, of Ken. the further consideration of the orders of the day was postponed until to-morrow, in order to proceed to the consideration of the resolution for the removal of Patrick Magruder from the office of clerk of the house of representatives, and the appointment of a successor.

[It is alleged that the clerk or his deputies, did not take sufficient care to preserve the records of the house, during the late incursion of the enemy, though it seems the most valuable papers were saved.—Among those lost were the vouchers for the contingent expences of the last year, on account of which he had received 50,000 dollars—it is stated that all had been expended except about 3,000 dollars—but vouchers for more than 30,000 cannot be obtained.]

*Tuesday, Jan. 24.* Mr. Troup, from the committee on military affairs, reported a bill making provision for subsisting the army of the United States by authorizing the appointment of commissaries of subsistence, which was twice read and committed.

Mr. T. also from the same committee reported a bill to authorize the purchase of a tract of land for the use of the United States (being the land adjacent to the village of Plattsburg, on which fort Moresau and other batteries are erected)—which was twice read and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The speaker laid before the house a letter from Benjamin W. Crowninshield, secretary of the navy, transmitting an annual report of the commissioners of the navy pension fund; which was ordered to be printed.

The engrossed bill to amend the act laying duties on licenses to retailers of wines, spirituous liquors, and foreign merchandize, was read the third time and passed.

The order of the day, on Mr. Jackson's proposition to amend the constitution, so as to give to congress power to establish a national bank, &c. having been called over, on motion of Mr. Jackson, the fu-

ther consideration thereof was postponed indefinitely.

*Wednesday, Jan. 25.* The house was engaged in various business this day. It postponed, indefinitely, Mr. Jackson's bill to conform the organization of the militia to that of the several states, &c.—also the bill for declaring the assent of congress to an act of the legislature of Georgia, establishing fees for the health officer, &c. at Savannah at St. Mary's—and passing the bill for purchasing certain land in the vicinity of Plattsburg; and that for extending the time of Oliver Evans' patent.

*From the New-York Evening Post.*

FROM PORT-AU-PRINCE.—The letter-of-marque schooner *Jonquill*, capt. Carman, has arrived at Beaufort, (N. C.) in nine days from Port-au-Prince, with a cargo of sugar, tortoise shell, some prize goods and a considerable amount in specie, to Cox and Montauvert, of this city, owners—She has captured on her voyage 4 prizes, manned one, (arrived,) ransomed another, gave the third up to the prisoners, and the fourth destroyed. Captain Carman writes to his owners in this city, that the only news at Port-au-Prince or from the island is, that the two ministers sent out by the court of France were received by the president Petion and emperor Christophe. Their demands on the part of the King were, that the island and inhabitants should return to their former allegiance. This was promptly rejected—Christophe sent his soldiers and unexpectedly seized the ambassador with all his instructions, in which it was found he was to encourage and promote disaffection between the mulattoes and blacks, he instantly turned him out to the soldiery, who terminated his mortal existence. Petion treated the other with much courtesy during my stay, and sent him in a small vessel under a strong expedition to Jamaica. He says the torches are ready when their tyrants approach to destroy every vestige of civilization, not a cock shall crow on the plains to nourish them, not a tree or a hut shall afford them shelter from a Tropical sun, and the mountains shall become our abiding place from whence we have the abundant means of annoying them, and rendering them still more comfortless than God and nature will do. They are already storing the mountains with cured provisions and the most active preparations are going on to complete their means of defence. The minister to Petion represented the foreign merchants there as a set of desperate and needy adventurers who were his bad counsellors, and that when his master sent there they would be committed to the stake. The secret expedition that was progressing in Jamaica had not yet sailed—general opinion was that it was destined for some southern quarter of the United States.—While at Port-au-Prince, his B. M. sloop of war *Peruvian* touched there on her way to Gonnaives, Bermuda and New-Providence, with an agent of the house of Boyles and co. Jamaica, supposed for the purpose of placing funds at the two latter places to purchase southern produce that is to be captured by the expedition now fitting out.

**POSTSCRIPT.**

We have the details of the operations of the enemy in the south. They have captured *Point Petre* and *St. Mary's* without much opposition, and an attack upon *Savannah* was apprehended. Their force is stated at from 1500 to 2500 men.

The Georgians are rising in arms—and we shall soon see a contrast between *St. Mary's* and *Custine*—the southern and eastern extremities of our coast.

Nothing of importance in congress on Thursday.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 23 OF VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1815.

[WHOLE NO. 179.]

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.—VIRGIL.*

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann.

## Legislature of Pennsylvania INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

*To the Senate and house of representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.*

*Fellow-Citizens*—Again honored by a re-election to the office of chief magistrate; again in the presence of the representatives of the people, I have renewed my oaths of fealty to the constitution, and again, in sincerity, and singleness of heart, I pledge myself ever to be mindful of the rights, interests and happiness of the people, who have repeatedly and in the most distinguished manner reposed their highest confidence in me; all the return I can make, is, an honest devotion of all the faculties of my mind to promote their welfare; that such devotion has been heretofore rendered and acceptably received, I have abundant reason to be convinced.

Having by message communicated to the legislature the state of the commonwealth, and suggested such measures as have appeared to me likely to promote the general weal, I have now no special recommendation to offer to your consideration as legislators; yet such are my impressions, and anxieties, that I should feel I had but half discharged the obligation of duty, were I to return from this assembly, without endeavoring to impress upon all its members, and would to God upon all their constituents, the sacred, and at this time indispensable necessity of such an union of sentiment, as shall secure an union of action, against our common enemy. It is scarcely possible to read the resolutions, against the inadmissible terms proposed by the British ministers, which were unanimously adopted by the highly respectable legislatures of the states of New-York, Virginia and North Carolina, without feeling a glow of patriotic fervor and inward conviction that such unanimity throughout the United States would be the surest guide to successful warfare, and the surest pledge of an honorable and speedy peace.

The blood of our brave troops has been shed in vain; vain are the laurels they have won, and the praises they have received, if the public voice be rent in twain by discord, and the public arm be palsied by faction; in vain has our flag, resplendent with many victories, been proudly displayed in every clime, and its victorious defenders been hailed as the bravest of the brave, if their countrymen will not emulate their virtues, and unite head, heart and hand against the common foe. When the independence and integrity of our country are at stake, what American will withhold his utmost efforts to redeem them. When the soil which gave us birth and covers the bones of our fathers is trodden by the feet of hostile men, who threaten to destroy and lay waste our homes and temples of worship, shall we hesitate to march to meet them because we may not have approved of the declaration of war, or because we may not approve of the manner in which it has been conducted, or, because we do not approve of the men who are constitutionally in authority? most certainly not; such reasoning, however satisfactory to the individual it might influence, would have no weight with the community, and would be but a feeble apology for abandoning the nation in time of peril and danger. Let us go forth united, and who shall stand before our em-

battled multitude. When we have expelled the proud invaders, and conquered an honorable peace; then let us settle our political differences, exact rigid accounts from those in authority, and in the usual constitutional regular manner let the highest of our public functionaries be arraigned at the bar of public opinion, and if any be found dishonest or incapable, let them be set aside, and men more worthy be appointed to fill their stations. But let us not, I beseech you, indulge party feelings at the expense of principle, nor engage in party animosity and fan a flame in which the vital interests of our country may be consumed. Upon you my friends and fellow citizens much depends, your conduct and example will, as it ought, have much influence with your constituents, will not be viewed with indifference by other states or even by the enemy. If I have urged this subject with more words, warmth or earnestness than you may deem necessary, impute it to the deep conviction I have of the salutary effects of every measure which represents us to the enemy as a divided people.

This is probably the last time I shall personally have the honor to address the general assembly of Pennsylvania, and I embrace it to express the affectionate solicitude I feel for the happiness, and prosperity of a state, which has not only bestowed upon me, in common with my fellow citizens, the enjoyment of so many civil, religious and political rights, but has also honored, and distinguished me so frequently as to bind me to its interests by the strongest ties of gratitude, and esteem. To you, gentlemen, the representatives of this state, I tender for yourselves and your constituents my best wishes for your happiness; and I offer up my fervent prayers to the Giver of all good, that he will bless, protect and defend you and our country from the machinations of all enemies public and private.

SIMON SNYDER.

*Harrisburg, December 20, 1814.*

## Brevet Appointments.

*Adjutant and Inspector-General's Office,*

*1st December, 1814.*

The president of the United States has conferred brevet rank on the following officers of the army, for gallant and meritorious conduct, during the last campaign:

Benjamin Forsyth, major of the 1st rifle regiment, to be a lieutenant-colonel by brevet, 6th February, 1814.

Andrew H. Holmes, captain in 24th infantry, to be major by brevet, 4th March, 1814.

Robert H. M'Pherson, captain light artillery, to be major by brevet, 30th March, 1814.

George E. Mitchell, lieutenant-colonel artillery, to be colonel by brevet, 5th May, 1814.

Daniel Appling, major of the 1st rifle regiment, to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet, 30th May, 1814.

Turner Crooker, captain in 9th infantry, to be major by brevet, 4th July, 1814.

Thomas S. Jesup, major in 25th infantry, to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet, 5th July, 1814, colonel 25th July, 1814.

Henry Leavenworth, major in 9th infantry, to be

lieutenant-colonel by brevet, 5th July, 1814, colonel, 25th July, 1814.

John McNeal, major in 11th infantry, to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet, 5th July, 1814.

Nathan Towson, captain in artillery, to be major by brevet, 5th July, 1814, lieutenant-colonel, 15th August, 1814.

Roger Jones, captain in artillery, to be major by brevet, 5th July, 1814.

Thomas Harrison, captain in 42d infantry, to be major by brevet, 5th July, 1814.

Loring Austin, captain in 46th infantry, to be major by brevet, 5th July, 1814.

William J. Worth, 1st lieutenant in 23d infantry, to be captain by brevet, 5th July, 1814.

George Watts, 2d lieutenant, light dragoons, to be 1st lieutenant by brevet, 5th July, 1814.

Stephen Rector, 3d lieutenant of rangers, to be 2d lieutenant by brevet, 13th July, 1814.

Winfield Scott, brigadier-general, to be major-general by brevet, 25th July, 1814.

James Miller, colonel of 21st infantry, to be brigadier-general by brevet, 25th July, 1814.

William McRee, major of engineers, to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet, 25th July, 1814, colonel 15th August, 1814.

Eleazer D. Wood, brevet major, to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet, 25th July, 1814.

John B. Murdoch, captain in 25th infantry, to be major by brevet, 25th July, 1814.

Benjamin Watson, captain in 25th infantry, to be major by brevet, 25th July, 1814.

Daniel Ketchum, captain in 25th infantry, to be major by brevet, 25th July, 1814.

Edmund B. Randolph, 2d lieutenant in 20th infantry, to be 1st lieutenant by brevet, 25th July, 1814.

Robert Desha, captain in 24th infantry, to be major by brevet, 4th August, 1814.

Edmund P. Gaines, brigadier-general, to be major-general by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

Jacob Hindman, major of artillery, to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

Samuel D. Harris, captain of light dragoons, to be major by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

Thomas Biddle, captain of artillery, to be major by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

John T. Chunn, captain in 19th infantry, to be major by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

Alexander C. W. Fanning, captain in 19th infantry, to be major by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

William S. Foster, captain in 11th infantry, to be major by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

Morril Marston, captain in 21st infantry, to be major by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

Benjamin Birdsall, captain in 4th rifle regiment, to be major by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

R. A. Zantinger, 1st lieutenant of artillery, to be captain by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

Nathaniel N. Hill, 1st lieutenant in 21st infantry, to be captain by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

Jonathan Kearsley, 1st lieutenant in 4th rifle regiment, to be captain by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

Joseph Gleason, 1st lieutenant in 9th infantry, to be captain by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

John Watmaugh, 2d lieutenant in artillery, to be 1st lieutenant by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

Charles Cissna, 3d lieutenant in 19th infantry, to be 2d lieutenant by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

Richard H. Lee, 3d lieutenant in 4th rifle regiment, to be 2d lieutenant by brevet, 15th August, 1814.

Alexander Macomb, brigadier-general, to be major-general by brevet, 11th September, 1814.

George Armistead, major in artillery, to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet, 12th September, 1814.

William Lawrence, major in 2d infantry, to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet, 15th Sept. 1814.

William A. Trimble, major in 19th infantry, to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet, 17th Sept. 1814.

D. PARKER, *adjutant and inspector-general.*

*Adjutant and Inspector-General's Office,*  
December 31st, 1814.

The president of the United States has conferred the following additional brevets for gallant and meritorious services:

Thomas Aspinwall, lieutenant-colonel 9th infantry, brevet colonel, 17th September.

James McDonold, lieutenant-colonel 1st rifle, brevet colonel, 17th Sept.

Talbot Chambers, major 4th rifle, brevet lieutenant-colonel, 17th Sept.

George M. Brook, major 23d infantry, brevet lieutenant-colonel, 17th Sept.

Donald Fraser, 1st lieutenant 15th infantry, brevet captain, 17th Sept.

Richard H. Lee, brevet 2d lieutenant 4th rifle, brevet 1st lieutenant, 17th Sept.

Samuel Riddle, 3d lieutenant 15th infantry, brevet 2d lieutenant, 17th Sept.

Patrick O'Flug, 3d lieutenant 9th infantry, brevet 2d lieutenant, 17th Sept.

Joshua Brant, 2d lieutenant 23d infantry, brevet 1st lieutenant, 17th Sept.

George Bomford, major of engineers, brevet lieutenant-colonel, 22d December.

John E. Wool, major 29th infantry, brevet lieutenant-colonel, 11th Sept.

Daniel Appling, brevet lieutenant-colonel 1st rifle, brevet colonel, 11th Sept.

Joseph G. Totten, brevet major engineers, brevet lieutenant-colonel, 11th Sept.

Alexander S. Brooks, captain artillery, brevet major, 11th Sept.

George McGlassin, captain 15th infantry, brevet major, 11th Sept.

White Youngs, captain 15th infantry, brevet major, 11th Sept.

Edward De Russy, 1st lieutenant engineers, brevet captain, 11th Sept.

George Trescott, 2d lieutenant engineers, brevet 1st lieutenant, 11th Sept.

John Mountfort, 1st lieutenant artillery, brevet captain, 11th Sept.

Chester Root, 1st lieutenant artillery, brevet, captain, 11th Sept.

Harold Smyth, 1st lieutenant artillery, brevet captain, 11th Sept.

J. J. Cromwell, 2d lieutenant artillery, brevet 1st lieutenant, 11th Sept.

D. PARKER, *adjutant and inspector-general.*

Brevet commissions, as majors of marines, have also been conferred on captains Samuel Miller and Alexander Sevier, of the marine corps, for their gallant and good conduct in the action at *Bladensburg*.

## Statistical Scraps.

### MORTALITY.

The annual bill of mortality for the city and precincts of *Baltimore*, for the year 1814, gives us the following results. Whole number of deaths, 1152; of which were—under 1 year 249; from 1 to 2, 115; 2 to 5, 70; 5 to 10, 41; 10 to 20, 76; 20 to 30, 179; 30 to 40, 167; 40 to 50, 115; 50 to 60, 49; 60 to 70, 29; 70 to 80, 35; 80 to 90, 25; 90 to 100, 7. The greatest number of deaths was in October, 125; the least in June, 62. There died, of consumption, 225

cholera morbus, 102; bilious fever, 113; typhus do. 56; other fevers, 7; of fits, 80; old age, 69; pleurisy, 110; still-born, 70; worms, 85; dropsy, 36; croup, 25, &c. &c. Deaths in the army not included—the population of Baltimore, as aforesaid, may be esteemed at 50,000.

The annexed bill for Boston, for 1814, states 727 deaths—as follows: under 1 year, 161; 1 to 2, 76; 2 to 5, 53; 5 to 10, 28; 10 to 20, 35; 20 to 30, 114; 30 to 40, 87; 40 to 50, 56; 50 to 60, 33; 60 to 70, 45; 70 to 80, 27; 80 to 90, 21; 90 to 100, 1. The males were, 399; females 328. Greatest number of deaths in October, 100; least in June, 40. There died, of consumption, 153; typhus fever, 77; other fevers, 44; infantile diseases, 208; old age, 39; still-born, 32, &c. The population of Boston is about 34,000.

The annual bill for New-York for the same year, gives the whole number of deaths at 1974; of whom, 1062 were males and 912 females. Of these, 407 were of the age of one year and under; 100 between 1 and 2; 132 between 2 and 5; 91 between 5 and 10; 94 between 10 and 20; 280 between 20 and 30; 245 between 30 and 40; 218 between 40 and 50; 133 between 50 and 60; 91 between 60 and 70; 84 between 70 and 80; 35 between 80 and 90; 2 between 90 and 100, and 2 of unknown age; wards. Total 1974. Of these died 572 of consumption.

A writer in "the (London) Public Cause," gives us the subjoined statement of mechanics' and laborers' wages in 1785 and 1811, together with the prices of provisions for their respective years, and goes on to attribute the present misery of the inhabitants of the "fast anchored isle" to the quantity of accommodation bank provincial notes. The inundation of bank paper has undoubtedly a great tendency of producing misery and distress particularly when it is made a legal tender; but another and greater cause will be found in the pernicious course pursued by the British ministry in the prosecution of disastrous war and disregard of neutral rights.

The year 1785.		The year 1811.	
Mechanic and laborer happy, his family smiling and content.		Mechanic and laborer miserable, his family dejected and in rags.	
Wages per week.		Wages per week.	
s.	d.	s.	d.
Mechanic	15 0	Mechanic	25 0
Laborer	10 6	Laborer	15 0
Price of provisions.		Price of provisions.	
s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef, mutton, &c. per lb.	0 4½	Beef, mutton, &c. per lb.	0 9
Butter	0 6	Butter	1 6
Cheese	0 6	Cheese	1 0
Candles	0 6	Candles	1 0
Soap	0 6	Soap	1 0
Salt	1 0	Salt	0 6
Bread	0 9	Bread per gallon	3 0
Vegetables	0 1	Vegetables	0 6
House rent, taxes, &c. per week	2 6	House rent, taxes, &c. per week	6 6
	5 9½		15 9

With every other article proportionably cheap. With every other article proportionably dear.

It is stated from an account, laid before the house of commons, that the total quantity of corn, grain, meal and flour of all sorts, imported into Great Britain during the twelve years from 1799 to 1810, both inclusive, was 17,004,031 quarters.

NEW-YORK.—The next census of the state of New-York will astonish us all; though its great western district, where the increase of population will mainly rest, has borne an extraordinary portion of the hard-

ships and calamities of the war. The gallant and patriotic county of Ontario has, of itself, received an accession of nearly sixteen thousand souls since the year 1810!—and there is every reason to believe that many other districts of that delightful and extensive country have gone forward to the "fulness of strength" with about the same ratio. The cause of these things is to be found in the madness of the eastern jacobins—who, by discouraging manufactures and encouraging political strife, have driven their people rather to seek plenty, with domestic peace, in the neighborhood of the public enemy, than remain near the "bones of their ancestors" to starve on a thin soil, and wrangle with those who should be their friends. I think it likely that New York, with two senators in congress, will have as great a free population as all the "nation of New-England," in 1820, having ten senators—but the jacobins say that that section of the country has not its due weight in the councils of the nation! Ohio, in the same lapse of time, will probably outnumber any two states of the "nation," except Massachusetts, and "tread close on the heels" of that great commonwealth!

Census of Ontario county, (N. Y.) 1814.

Avon,	2,336
Benton,	3,403
Bloomfield,	3,232
Bristol,	1,868
Brighton,	673
Canandaigua, village and town,	5,643
Farmington	2,736
Genseo	1,286
Gorham,	3,516
Groveland,	1,137
Honcoyee,	1,908
Jerusalem,	776
Lima	1,738
Livonia,	1,406
Lyons,	2,102
Mendon,	1,353
Middlesex,	1,253
Naples,	1,357
Ontario,	1,391
Palmryra,	2,993
Phelps,	4,354
Penfield,	1,874
Perinton	821
Pittsford,	2,222
Seneca, and village of Geneva,	3,735
Sodus,	965
Sparta,	798
Williamson,	1,560
Victor,	1,170
Total,	57,630
Of the above, 213 are slaves:	
In 1810,	42,082

Increase in four years 15,598

If the returns had been made with a correct understanding of the law (says the Ontario Messenger), in all the towns, the population would probably have exceeded 58,000

LEHIGH CHAIN BRIDGE. From the Philadelphia Daily Advertiser. This bridge is built over the river Lehigh, one mile below the borough of Northampton (alias Allentown) on the great road leading from the borough of Easton to Reading. It is constructed on the plan of judge Finley, with material improvements; its length is 475 feet, in two whole and two half spans or arches. The piers were sunk in the autumn of 1813. In the latter end of May 1814, the building was recommenced, and in the middle of September last the bridge was passable. It has a double passage for carriages, with a foot way of 20

feet between the middle chains. The chains are made of 1 3/8 inch square bar iron, of superior quality from Mr. Spang's iron works. The whole of the iron work was made by the calculation and under the immediate superintendance of Mr. Jacob Blumer, of Northampton, and every part thereof fitted so remarkably well, that the whole was raised in a few days without altering a single link. The total cost amounted to no more than about \$20,000, which, considering the short time in which it has been completed, is certainly a very trifling sum. It is allowed by judges to be one of the best built bridges in the United States, as also a perfect model in regard to workmanship. It required about 27 tons of bar iron.

Stoves.—From the same.—Public attention has been lately drawn to the improvement of stoves and saving fuel. The materials of which stoves are constructed, are to be more or less esteemed as they retain the heat.

The writer of this article had soapstone and marble cut to the size of common bricks, and exposed to the same heat—the common brick cooled first, the soapstone next, the marble retained the heat a little longer than the soapstone. The difference between brick and stone is considerable, and merits particular attention. There are in and near the city of Philadelphia 20,000 houses, say as many stoves; if a quarter of a cord only could be saved in each season, by using stone or brick in the cast stoves (see below) it would amount to 5,000 cords, say 30,000 dollars per annum: probably experience will prove that the calculation may be doubled, and that will save 60,000 dollars. It cannot be too generally known that the heat of stone is more agreeable than iron, or even bricks.

Fill all parts of a stove not necessary for the fuel or cooking with stone or brick, and lay a stone slab on the top plate the same size, and 3 or 4 inches thick; also where the fuel is consumed, there is generally room for a row of bricks or more. Iron heats quickly, and as quickly cools; stone retains the heat. A thermometer, or even common observation, will determine how far this subject deserves attention.

## Events of the War.

### NEW-ORLEANS & ST. MARY'S.

We have devoted a large portion of our paper to details, official and unofficial, of events at *New-Orleans* and *St. Mary's*. The former has especially, engaged the public attention, for the object contended for is of incalculable importance. Our latest date is of the 7th January (which must have been written very early in the morning, the mail closing, as we are told, at 7 o'clock, A. M.) received by a house in Baltimore which states that "one of the British ships (the *Herald*) had got over the bar in the river Mississippi; but in consequence of some information received by express, the whole fleet had left the Balize, their destination not known." When we compare this movement with the information contained in a letter to the 6th, "that their main body had retreated towards the bayou where they landed," it would appear to be the intention of the enemy to withdraw their forces—at least, to be prepared for such an event.

A letter to the editor of the REGISTER says, that when the British were attacked on the evening of the 23d, they were leisurely preparing to cook their suppers. But they got much hotter COFFEE than they expected. This letter speaks confidently

of the safety of the place (*before* the arrival of the brave spirits from Kentucky) and observes, that though the capture of the enemy is desirable, the protection of the city is infinitely to be preferred; and gives the opinion that *Jackson* would not risk its safety. It passes the highest eulogiums on the patriotism of the people, and says the mulattoes fight manfully, and that the French shew the greatest possible anxiety to beat the enemy. The stores were all shut up, and an idler was not permitted to walk the streets of the city.

Of the battle with the gun-boats we have some intelligence *via Havana*, brought by a Baltimore vessel arrived in the Delaware. The Dictator 64, came to the Havana direct from the neighborhood of New-Orleans, which she left on the 1st or 2d of January. The commander publicly stated, that he had been present at the action with our gun-boats. He spoke of the resistance they made as being without parallel. That many of the British were killed by tomahawks while boarding, and that there was a dreadful contest on the deck of every vessel. He acknowledged that there were one hundred Englishmen killed before our flags were struck. We have very little doubt from this statement, that the capture of these five little boats, carrying five guns in all, and manned with probably less than 150 men, cost the enemy at least two hundred lives, as several of their great barges were torn to pieces and sunk, and perhaps 300 wounded. Better "stuff" than composed our naval force at New-Orleans never "cracked a biscuit." High-minded spirits, emulous of the glory of their brethren, and only wanting opportunity to earn the wreath that crowns our Hull's, Decatur's, Jones's, Bainbridge's, Perry's, Warrington's and Macdonough's, or the double glory of our *Blakeley's*. Commodore *Patterson*, who has the command, is one of the best and bravest of men.

The commander of the Dictator further gave his opinion, or rather expressed his fears, that the whole British army might be destroyed or captured. He said they had been led to their place of disembarkation by a Spaniard, and expected to have carried *New-Orleans* immediately; and that a return to their shipping was difficult, if not impracticable, with the opposition they might reasonably expect. We think there is good reason to hope something of this kind from the fact of the British having entrenched themselves. It would certainly shew that they calculated on acting upon the DEFENSIVE.

My own opinion of the affair has been, from the beginning, that the British would sustain one of the greatest losses they ever met with, in their attack on *New-Orleans*. And it will not surprize me (though the reverse may be fact) that the "soldiers of *Wellington*" are captives to the "raw militia" of *Tennessee* and *Kentucky*, led and conducted by the inestimable *Jackson*, *Carroll* and *Coffee*, and hundreds of others "unknown to fame" equally worthy our gratitude and praise. Amen! So mote it be!—that not one shall escape to tell the story!

A letter from *St. Francisville* of January 8, under advices from *New-Orleans*, says "Report also states, that the enemy is in a starving condition. This much is certain, that on the day of the last engagement our troops took a number of prisoners, and on examination of their knapsacks, found rations of horse flesh, say 1 1/4 lb each, which was to last them four days.

Under such circumstances they cannot hold out

long; and ere this I have no doubt, they are either buried or in safe keeping. The enemy has been very much disappointed in their calculations—they supposing the natives generally disaffected. There certainly never were people more unanimous than our good citizens."

The *National Intelligencer* says—"We are sorry to learn that the state of general Jackson's health is so precarious as to give reason to apprehend that his country may be deprived of his services at this critical moment\* Some complaints are made of a scarcity of ammunition, which, however a few days will supply, as we understand there are great quantities on the passage down the river. One of the private letters states that lieutenant-general *Picton* is in command of the British forces near New-Orleans, and, as the deserters inform, that the enemy daily expects reinforcements. Before he receives them, we hope to hear of his defeat and dispersion.

We have heard, and we believe correctly, that, to guard against possible events, the government intend to call out five or six thousand men, from Kentucky principally, to proceed down the Mississippi, to join our forces in that quarter."

*Copy of a letter from general Andrew Jackson to the secretary of war, dated*

Camp, below New-Orleans, 25th Dec. 1814.

The enemy having by the capture of our gun-boats obtained command of the lakes, were enabled to effect a passage to the Mississippi, at a point on the side of New Orleans, and about nine miles below it. The moment I received the intelligence, I hastened to attack him in his first position. It was brought on in the night and resulted very honorably to our arms. The heavy smoke, occasioned by an excessive fire, rendered it necessary that I should draw off my troops, after a severe conflict of upwards of an hour.

The attack was made on the night of the 23d—since then both armies have remained near the battle ground, making preparations for something more decisive.

The enemy's force exceeded ours by double, and their loss was proportionably greater. The moment I can spare the time, I will forward you a detailed account. In the meantime I expect something far more important will take place. I hope to be able to sustain the honor of our arms and to secure the safety of this country.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

ANDREW JACKSON,

*maj. gen. comd'g.*

Hon. JAMES MONROE, secretary of war.

Head quarters, 7th military district, Camp, below New Orleans, 27th Dec. in the morning.

Sir—The loss of our gun boats near the pass of the Rigolets having given the enemy command of Lake Borgne, he was enabled to chuse his point of attack. It became therefore an object of importance to obstruct the numerous bayous and canals leading from that lake to the highlands on the Mississippi. This important service was committed, in the first instance, to a detachment of the 7th regiment, afterwards to colonel De Laronde, of the Louisiana militia, and lastly, to make all sure, to major-general Villere, commanding the district between the river and the lakes, and who, being a native of the country, was presumed to be best acquainted with all those passes. Unfortunately, however, a picquet which the general had established at the mouth of the bayou Bienville, and which, notwithstanding my orders, had been left unobstructed, was completely

surprised, and the enemy penetrated through a canal leading to his farm, about two leagues below the city, and succeeded in cutting off a company of militia stationed there. This intelligence was communicated to me about 12 o'clock of the 25d. My force at this time, consisted of parts of the 7th and 44th regiments not exceeding six hundred together, the city militia, a part of general Coffee's brigade of mounted gunmen, and the detached militia from the western division of Tennessee, under the command of major general Carrol. These two last corps were stationed 4 miles above the city. Apprehending a double attack by the way of Chief-Menteur, I left general Carrol's force and the militia of the city posted on the Gentilly road; and at five o'clock P. M. marched to meet the enemy, whom I was resolved to attack in his first position, with major Hind's dragoons, general Coffee's brigade, parts of the 7th and 44th regiments, the uniformed companies of militia under the command of major Planche, 200 men of colour, chiefly from St. Domingo, raised by colonel Savary and acting under the command of major Dagwin, and a detachment of artillery under the direction of colonel McRea, with two 6 pounders, under the command of lieutenant Spots; not exceeding in all 1500. I arrived near the enemy's encampment about seven, and immediately made my dispositions for the attack. His forces amounting at that time on land to about 3000, extended half a mile on that river, and in the rear nearly to the wood. General Coffee was ordered to turn their right, while with the residue of the force, I attacked his strongest position on the left near the river. Commodore Patterson having dropped down the river in the schooner *Caroline*, was directed to open a fire upon their camp, which he executed at about half after seven. This being a signal of attack, general Coffee's men, with their usual impetuosity, rushed on the enemy's right, and entered their camp, while our right advanced with equal ardor. There can be but little doubt, that we should have succeeded on that occasion with our inferior force in destroying or capturing the enemy, had not a thick fog which arose about 8 o'clock, occasioned some confusion among the different corps. Fearing the consequence, under this circumstance, of the further prosecution of a night attack with troops, then acting together for the first time, I contented myself with lying on the field that night; and at four in the morning assumed a stronger position, about two miles nearer the city. At this position I remained encamped, waiting the arrival of the Kentucky militia and other reinforcement. As the safety of the city will depend on the fate of this army, it must not be incautiously exposed.

In this affair the whole corps under my command deserve the greatest credit. The best compliment I can pay to general Coffee and his brigade is to say, they behaved as they have always done while under my command. The 7th led by major Pierre, and 44th commanded by colonel Ross, distinguished themselves. The battalion of city militia commanded by major Planche, realized my anticipations, and behaved like veterans. Savary's volunteers manifested great bravery; and the company of city riflemen having penetrated into the midst of the enemy's camp, were surrounded, and fought their way out with the greatest heroism, bringing with them a number of prisoners. The two field pieces were well served by the officers commanding them.

All my officers in the line did their duty, and I have every reason to be satisfied with the whole of my field and staff. Colonels Butler and Platt and major Chotard, by their intrepidity, saved the artillery. Col. Haynes was every where that duty or

\*We are disposed to hope and believe this is not correct.

danger called. I was deprived of the services of one of my aids, capt. Butler, whom I was obliged to station, to his great regret, in tow. Capt. Reid, my other aid, and Messrs. Livingston, Duplissis and Davizac, who had volunteered their services, faced danger wherever it was to be met, and carried my orders with the utmost promptitude.

We made one major, two subalterns, and sixty three privates prisoners; and the enemy's loss in killed and wounded must have been at least —. My own loss I have not as yet been able to ascertain with exactness, but suppose it to amount to 100 in killed, wounded and missing. Among the former I have to lament the loss of colonel Lauderdale, of general Coffee's brigade, who fell while bravely fighting. Colonels Dyer and Gibson of the same corps were wounded, and major Kavenaugh taken prisoner.

Colonel De Laronde, major Villere, of the Louisiana militia, major Latour of engineers having no command, volunteered their services, as did Drs. Kerr and Hood, and were of great assistance to me.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

ANDREW JACKSON,  
Major general commanding.

Hon. James Monroe, secretary of war.  
Head-quarters, 7th Military District,  
Camp below New Orleans, Dec. 9, 1814.

Str—The enemy succeeded on the 27th in blowing up the Caroline, (she being becalmed) by means of hot shot from a land battery which he had erected in the night. Emboldened by this event, he marched his whole force the next day up the level, in the hope of driving us from our position, and with this view opened upon us, at the distance of about half a mile, his bombs and rockets. He was repulsed, however, with considerable loss—not less, it is believed, than 120 in killed. Ours was inconsiderable—not exceeding half a dozen in killed, and a dozen wounded.

Since then he has not ventured to repeat his attempt, though long close together. There has been frequent skirmishing between our picquets.

I lament that I have not the means of carrying on more offensive operations. The Kentucky troops have not arrived, and my effective force at this point does not exceed 3,000. There must be at least double—both prisoners and deserters agreeing in the statement that 7,000 landed from their boats.

ANDREW JACKSON,  
Major general commanding.  
UNOFFICIAL ACCOUNTS.

Copy of a letter from his excellency Wm. C. C. Claiborne, governor of Louisiana, to a senator in congress, from that state.

New Orleans, Dec. 30, 1814

Str—I am to apprise you of the situation of the state of Louisiana, to which no citizen of the United States can be indifferent.

The enemy entered the lake Borgne behind this city, about the 10th inst. Their fleet consisted of a number of vessels, of different sizes. It soon overpowered and captured five gun-boats, our whole naval force on that lake. Severe as the loss was to us, our gallant tars rendered it a very dear advantage to the foe. In the course of the following week, we heard of the landing of some of the enemy's forces on the shores of Pearl river, and on the 23d inst. early in the afternoon, information reached this city, of the arrival of part of them at the house of major-general Villere, below; and at the distance of seven miles from this city, and on the same side of the Mississippi:

They had approached the shores of that river through a small creek (bayou Bienvenu) which emp-

ties itself into the lake Borgne, has its head within four miles from the river, where it meets a canal through which fishermen bring their fish to market in small canoes, and from which there is a small portage to the Mississippi. General Jackson, who commands the forces of the United States in this district, immediately marched with the regulars and militia that were in town and some artillery, and was soon after followed by gen. Coffee's cavalry and a detachment of the militia of Tennessee, under gen. Carroll, who were encamped three miles above. Towards dark, the vanguard of our army had a brisk engagement with the enemy, in which we had several killed, many wounded and some missing.— We took twenty odd prisoners, and the loss of the enemy in killed and wounded is said to be much more considerable than ours.

During the night gen. Jackson took an advantageous position, and threw up on the next day a strong entrenchment from the river to the Cypress swamp parallel to it, behind which he has lodged his army in considerable safety. We had two armed vessels on the river (the one commanded by com. Patterson, the other by capt. Henly) which on the following day kept a brisk fire on the enemy, and compelled them to retire into the swamp; but in the night between the 25th and 26th the enemy erected a battery on the shore, from which they fired hot shot on one of our armed vessels, which a strong current and contrary winds kept at anchor. She caught fire, and was abandoned by the crew. On the 27th in the morning the enemy prepared to attack our lines and advanced in close column which the strong fire from our lines compelled to retreat.

On the 28th they were again harrassed by the fire of our armed vessels, which compelled them to retreat again into the swamp.

On the 29th three deserters from the enemy came to our camp; no attack was made.

From the prisoners and deserters we have various accounts of the force and designs of the enemy.

The main body of the army that opposes us sailed from Plymouth on the 28th of September last; it consisted of about 3,000 men; they touched at Madeira, Barbadoes and Jamaica. In the two latter islands they took some troops which had before garrisoned the island of Martinico, and two regiments of blacks. There are, it is said, some indians also with them; but this is not credited.

Combining the various accounts we have, the probable result is, that the force of the enemy below the city, is not less than four nor more than seven thousand, and that of this number are from 1000 to 1500 blacks; they are well supplied with arms, ammunition, artillery and provisions. The force of gen. Jackson before the enemy is from six to seven thousand, and is drawn up in lines behind a high and strong entrenchment impenetrable to musketry and the shot of small cannon, at the distance of about 2 miles from the enemy. In front of the entrenchment and along its whole length, is a wet ditch; the right flank covered by the river, and the left by an impenetrable cypress swamp, and the whole front is defended by several pieces of cannon of various calibres.

None even among the most timid entertain any apprehension of the enemy's ability to force our lines, and I imagine our present force sufficient to insure our temporary safety at least. We are in hourly expectation of the arrival of gen. Thomas with a large reinforcement from Kentucky, and detachments of militia are approaching the city from several quarters; so that I apprehend not the least danger from the enemy, unless they be strongly reinforced.



[The remainder of the letter is the same nearly as that copied letter from the Tennessee papers.]

*Copy of a letter from a gentleman in New Orleans to a gentleman in this city, dated Dec. 30.*

Sir—After the action last Friday with the British, gen. Jackson fell back a short distance, where he strongly and advantageously entrenched himself. Monday the enemy succeeded in destroying one of our schooners, the Caroline, by means of their artillery, of which they have a few small pieces. Wednesday they made an attempt on our lines, but were repulsed at every point, with a loss, as is said, of 150 men killed. They have subsequently endeavored to entrench themselves in the vicinity of our camp, but have been compelled to retreat to their original position, their force being insufficient apparently to effect any thing, offensively. Our loss in both actions has been inconsiderable. Some few are known to be killed, some to be prisoners. It appears from the report of deserters, that the British calculate on the neutrality of the French and Spaniards; and with a view to realize it, they have liberated every Creole who has fallen into their hands, observing that they did not make war upon them, and that their property should be generally respected. Upon the whole the greatest confidence prevails in our ability to drive away the enemy; and I am sanguine that in a short time they must either surrender to our arms or evacuate the country. The Kentucky troops, 2,500 strong, are momentarily expected. Our force will then amount to 10,000, fully equal to the defence of the country at the present moment.

Clarion office, Nashville, Jan. 10,—12, A. M.

*Extract of a letter to his excellency governor Blount, from colonel Andrew Hynes, dated*

Orleans city, Dec. 30.

The British have landed with a large army, and are now within about five miles of the city of New Orleans. We began fighting them on the night of the 23d inst. and have been at it almost ever since, but the principal mischief has been done by cannonading. General Coffee's division of the army covered themselves with glory on the night of the 23d. His loss was considerable, among whom were the brave colonel Lauderdale and major Kavanaugh—colonels Dyer and Gosson were wounded. Whatever may be the issue of the pending conflict, rests only with Heaven. We pray to the Almighty that we may not tarnish the reputation of the troops of Tennessee. A detachment is this moment advancing from our lines on the enemy, and our heavy artillery are firing almost constantly on them.

Day before yesterday the brave colonel Henderson and some others were killed by the advance of the enemy's column on the left wing of our army.

Generals Jackson, Carroll and Coffee are worth more than their weight in gold to the American government.

Admiral Cochrane is said to be with the army, and perhaps is not more than a mile from us.

This is said to be the army that took the city of Washington.

General Kean is said to be the commander.

*Extract from a letter to his excellency governor Blount, from his excellency governor Claiborne, dated*

Orleans, December 30.

The enemy remains encamped about 7 miles from this city, within full view of our army under the command of general Jackson. The force of the enemy is variously stated, from four to seven thousand. In an attack on the evening of the 23d inst. he suffered considerably, and, but for the darkness of the night, which caused some little confusion in our ranks, the affair, I am told would have been de-

cisive. We have lost some very brave men, and among the number I am sorry to mention two highly esteemed officers of your state, colonel Henderson of the rifle corps, and colonel Lauderdale of the volunteers. The Tennessee troops equal the high expectations which were formed of them, nor is it possible for men to display more patriotism and firmness in battle, or composure under fatigue and privations. The Louisianians also deserve and will receive the highest approbation. We are united as one man, and a spirit prevails which insures our safety. We may have, and calculate on having some hard fighting; but you need not fear for the result. The general inspires much confidence, and all his troops, regulars, volunteers and militia, are in high spirits, and anxious to be led against the enemy. This will be done in due season; the Kentucky troops are daily expected; until reinforced by them, the general has very prudently determined to maintain his present position—a position which completely covers the city, and from which the enemy cannot dislodge him. The American army is drawn up in a line, extending from the Mississippi to the Cypress-Swamp, having in front a wet ditch and an entrenchment impenetrable to musketry or smaller pieces of ordnance—the right flank covered by the river, and the left by the swamp, and the whole defended by several pieces of cannon of various calibres—32, 24, 12 and 6 pounders.

*Extract of a letter from the post-master at New Orleans, to the post-master in Nashville, dated December 30.*

"You will have heard, I presume, of the landing of the British here, and of an action which took place last Friday in which it is thought they suffered much. Since that time our army has entrenched itself very strongly and advantageously about five miles from town. Last Wednesday the enemy attacked our lines, but were repulsed with considerable loss; ours trifling. Previous to the attack, they succeeded in destroying a schooner belonging to us by means of their artillery, of which they have a few small pieces.

"In this state the affairs rest—the Kentucky troops being momentarily expected, which, added to our previous force, puts the country, I conceive, entirely out of danger.

*Extract of a letter from colonel R. Butler, adjutant general, dated Camp, 6 miles below New-Orleans, December 30, 1814.*

"I am here surrounded with the din of war—artillery and small arms alternately playing. On the 23d at night we attacked the enemy; and, as reported by deserters, we killed, wounded and took prisoners about 500. Our loss comparatively very small. Colonels Lauderdale and Henderson have bit the dust and are no more. The latter on the 28th inst. at which time the enemy advanced on us, with a view to storm our works; but they found us too strong to attempt it. We opened our artillery, and a deserter says we killed 140 men that day—among them sir Beverly Evanson of the 85th. We cannot estimate their force as yet correctly—we are in fine spirits and have no doubt of drubbing the rascals."

*Extract of a letter from the honorable Elegius Fremontin, senator in congress from Louisiana, to his friend in Baltimore, dated*

Washington, January 28, 1815.

"I hasten to relieve your anxiety about New-Orleans—New-Orleans was safe on the 30th December, and I hope is safe now. Take your own time to read the details below, extracted from letters which I received this morning from governor Claiborne, Thomas Urquhart, Richard Relf, John Kilty Smith and James Sterrett. All my correspondents agree

together about all the material facts; and they all agree likewise with Brown's and Robertson's correspondents, so that you may give an entire belief to the following narration.

"Strange as it may appear, the enemy were in general Villere's yard before any body knew that they had even attempted to land. *Villere's son* was a prisoner by them in his father's house; but under some pretence he got leave to go into the yard, made his escape, and was the first to give the news in New-Orleans at about two o'clock, p. m. on the 23d December. Our videttes at the mouth of the bayou *Bienvenu* had been before made prisoners, supposed to have been betrayed by some fishermen, who were in the habit of bringing fish from the lake through that bayou to the New Orleans market. General Jackson went immediately to the enemy with what regulars and militia of every description happened to be in New-Orleans, the whole amounting to about 4000. Our army attacked the British at about eight o'clock, and after an engagement of about an hour and a half, the firing ceased on both sides, as if by mutual consent. Our loss is supposed to be about 200 in killed, wounded and missing—that of the enemy is believed to be much more considerable. We took that night seventy odd prisoners. *Parmelee* was found dead on the field of battle—he is the only one whose death has been ascertained. Among the missing, supposed to be prisoners, are *George Ogden, George Pollock, John Lynd, Laverty, Nathan Cox, Brandagee, Wm. Flowers, Story,* and others, whose names are not given. *Sterrett, Porter* and *Alexander Smith*, (*Kilty's* brother) were slightly wounded. They are getting well, and ready for another action.

All the American prisoners are sent on board of their fleet. The *Creoles* were first ordered to be released on condition of their taking with them a proclamation from the British commanding general to the inhabitants of Louisiana. This they every one refused to do. They were nevertheless released on parole. In the number are, *Prieur, Beauregard, Renaud, Rey,* and *Villere, jun. who, it seems, after he made his escape from his father's house, put himself at the head of a company of Creole volunteers, formed on a sudden, on the spur of the occasion.*

After the night action of the 23d, the hostile armies respectively took a position, ours on *Edward Macarty's* plantation, adjoining our old country seat, and threw up breast-works from the river to the swamp, the old mill canal serving as a ditch ready made. The British established their lines on *Bienvenu's* plantation, about two miles below, and there fortified themselves, waiting for their artillery.

The two armies remained in the situation above described, and on the 25th, the ship *Louisiana*, and the schooner *Caroline* dropped down the river abreast the wings of the enemy, and opened their fire on them. The British suffered considerably from the brisk uninterrupted fire of our two vessels, and were at last compelled to retire to the swamps. But in the night of the 25th and 26th, they erected a battery on the shore, from which they fired red hot shot and succeeded in setting fire to the *Caroline* and blew her up, not however before the brave captain *Henley* had taken on shore all his guns. Not a man was hurt in consequence of the *Caroline* blowing up.

On the 27th or 28th (for in that respect our several accounts are at variance) the enemy advanced in considerable force with their artillery, and attacked at the same time the whole of our line; but they were repulsed at all points with considerable loss. This action lasted nearly three hours, a severe and incessant cannonading. Our loss in this last affair is about 50 killed and wounded. Major *Carmick* of

the marines has been severely wounded, not dangerously. Since that time to the 30th December, 9 o'clock, p. m. the date of my last letter, nothing has been done but firing during the day from our entrenchments on the works which the British erected in the course of the night.

The ship *Louisiana* and several other small armed vessels, with the fire from our lines, harass the British constantly, and not unfrequently drive them to the swamps. It appears that general *Jackson* means at present to keep his strong hold, and to act on the defensive until the arrival of general *Hopkins*, who was expected on the 31st December with 800 men from *Lafourche* and *Iberville*, and of general *Adair* who was hourly expected with 2,500 men.

Three deserters from the enemy came to our camp on the 29th December.

From them and from the prisoners it is collected, that the force of the enemy amounts from 6 to 8 or 9,000 including about 1,200 black troops which are represented as not of any considerable use thus far, owing it is supposed to the excessive cold weather, which since the landing of the British has prevailed in Louisiana, to such a degree, that the bayou *St. John* is froze over, which I believe has never been known before.

All our letters speak in the highest terms of the unanimity, confidence and courage manifested by every description of people in Louisiana. No words can do justice to the bravery of the Tennesseans. The Louisianians are not unworthy of them. From the age of 15 to the age of 75, every man is in one way or other engaged in resisting the common enemy. This is truly a noble mode for Louisiana to repel the calamities by which she has been assailed from many quarters. A country thus defended cannot be conquered.

Generals *Packenham* and *Keene* commanded the army; and admirals *Cochrane* and *Malcolm* the navy. It is believed that *Lewis Kerr\** is with the British.

Yours, &c.

ELEGIUS FROMENTIN.

Another extract of a letter from a merchant at *St. Francisville*, to a gentleman in *Baltimore*, dated

January 1, 1814.

"The enemy under the command of major-general *Keene*, supposed to be the advance guard of lord *Hill*, made their appearance within seven miles of *New-Orleans* on Friday, the 23d December, where they were met by general *Jackson*, with a force of 4000 men; an action immediately ensued, and *Jackson* succeeded in driving them off the field of battle, after killing and wounding many of them; their force was estimated at 7000 men, they fought like men, but the force under *Jackson* fought like devils. The particulars we have not yet ascertained, I must therefore refer you to general *Jackson's* official report."

Extract of a private letter received at *Washington city*, dated

Camp, near *New Orleans*, Jan. 6th 1814.

After narrating occurrences of which we are already informed, the letter says—"We all remained perfectly quiet until the morning of the 1st January, when the enemy had advanced within 600 yards of our breast works, under cover of night and a heavy fog, and erected three different batteries, mounting in all 15 guns, from 6's to 32's. About 8 o'clock, when the fog cleared off, they commenced a most tremendous fire upon us, but it was amply returned by us, and a heavy cannonading was kept up without the least interval on either side, except that occasioned by the explosion of my magazine in the rear of my

\**Lewis Kerr* has been absent from *New-Orleans*, for five or six years.

battery, and the magazine of my captain in the night, owing to their Congreve rockets. Against 4 o'clock in the afternoon, we had dismantled all their guns but two. They retreated during the night to their strong hold, about a mile and a quarter from our lines, where they have remained perfectly quiet ever since. On new year's day we lost about 15 killed and as many badly wounded. That of the enemy, from the accounts of two prisoners taken on that day and three deserters since, must have been much greater. Twice have the enemy tried to storm and carry our batteries, with the firm belief of dining in Orleans the same day, but woefully have they been deceived. All deserters that have come in, agree that the enemy's force is from 7 to 9000 strong; but we generally suppose it to be about six thousand.—The enemy in killed, wounded, and prisoners, since the 23d, must have lost near one thousand men. Since our last fight, the Kentucky troops have arrived—near three thousand men, which makes our force better than 8000; so that Orleans, I believe, is pretty safe."

*Extract of a letter from a gentleman in New Orleans to a gentleman in the same, dated*

New Orleans, January 6th, 1815.

Sir—The operations of the enemy since Friday, the day on which they were repulsed in an attempt to pierce our left flank, have been confined to firing upon our camp from their heavy ordnance, erected on an advance battery, and the discharge of every species of combustible matter, under expectation of throwing us into confusion and thereby giving a chance for storming our lines and bring on a general engagement. The cool and intrepid conduct of our men, however, defeated their scheme; while the fire from our batteries drove them back beyond their works, enabling us in a sortie to demolish them. Since this discomfiture, their main body is said to have retreated towards the Bayou, where they landed, intending as may be presumed, either to wait reinforcements, by the river, a feature in the original plan of invasion, or to effect clandestinely an escape to their shipping. They are said to be distressed for provisions and very sickly, and appear heartily to repent their presumption. General Adair's force reached this Wednesday week; our effective force 10,000 men.

*Extract of a letter from an officer in the navy to his friend in Baltimore, dated*

Camp, 3 miles below New Orleans, Jan. 6.

"We are entrenched, say from eight to ten thousand men, between the British lines and the city.—Their entrenched camp is about four miles from Orleans—where they are supposed to be 10,000 strong. They have made several attempts on our works, and were always handsomely repulsed. I do not think they will take New Orleans this winter. It is now 14 days since the first battle—and the whole of these two weeks the cannonading has been incessant—we have battered down their advance works as fast as they can erect them. We have lost from 100 to 200 men, amongst whom some of our most respectable citizens.

General Jackson behaves well: I think, however, he exposes himself too much; for should a chance shot take him off, I know not what might be the consequence. And of this there is no little danger—his head quarters being so near the lines that at least thirty cannon balls have passed through his house. The opposing lines are so near that the picket guards skirmish daily. The enemy is fortifying and entrenching his camp very strongly."

*To the editor of the Philadelphia Gazette.*

New Orleans, 6th January, 1815.

You will no doubt expect to hear by this day's

mail of something important having occurred in this quarter; but nothing decisive has as yet taken place.

On Sunday the 1st inst. the enemy, who had the preceding night erected a battery in advance of their lines and near our works, opened a very heavy fire upon us, and made two bold attempts to force and turn our left wing, in both of which they were repulsed with considerable loss, and obliged to retreat to their entrenchments, leaving all their guns on the battery, a considerable quantity of ammunition, working tools, and their dead unburied.

Since then no other attempt has been made on our lines; but all accounts concur in stating, that they are fortifying themselves very strongly, with what intention we know not.

It was reported a few days ago, that several of the enemy's vessels had entered the river; and we were seriously alarmed lest they might succeed in passing fort Philip or Plaquemine, and thus co-operate with the army.

But accounts from there to-day state, that they had retired. It is also said there is some misunderstanding between the land and naval commanders. God grant this may prove propitious to our cause!

We have had a few deserters come in since my last.

I have just learnt that the detachment stationed at the Chief Monteer road, on lake Borgne, have taken and destroyed an English transport brig, laden with provisions for the army. This will prove a severe blow to them; for they are said, by the prisoners and deserters, to be short of bread—of meat they find abundance in the country they possess, having the command of all the eastern shore of the river, from about 6 miles below the town, including the rich settlement of Terre au Bœuf.

The forces under gen. Thomas, say the Kentucky quota of 2,500, arrived two days ago: *but their arms have not yet come on.\** It is generally supposed that the want of them (there being none here to supply the deficiency) prevents general Jackson from attacking the enemy. Their arms appear to have been shipped in some common trading boat, and God knows when they may arrive.

FROM ST MARY'S, &c.

*From the Savannah Republican of January 17.*

The following is a copy of a letter from captain Massias to brigadier general Floyd, received last Sunday afternoon by express.

*King's Bay, 11th Jan.—12 o'clock.*

Sir—I deem it expedient to apprise you by express, the enemy effected a landing this moment on Cumberland, in two divisions, with nineteen barges. Assisted by two look out boats, and flanked by two gun barges, at first they shewed a disposition towards the bay; but ascertaining we were prepared to receive them, they altered their course and took the Plumb Orchard passage, keeping Cumberland close ahead. The first division effected its landing at Dungeness—the second at the Plumb Orchard.

The officer left in charge of our battery was ordered not to let them approach our side with impunity; which he promptly obeyed.

One of the barges was sent out of line in chase of a boat making a retreat to St. Mary's, but on receiving a shot from an eighteen which came rather near him, he gave up the chase.

\*It appears that the steam boat Enterprize, and a keel boat, passed Louisville, Ky. about the 28th of December, with arms and various stores for New Orleans, and we fear it is so that gen. Adair's men are without arms. However Jackson's fertile genius may make them useful, or, perhaps, partially supply them. [Editor Register,

3 o'clock, P. M.—(11th January.)

Sixteen barges of the largest size, have passed towards Dungeness, and have landed.

I compute his whole force to be about fifteen hundred, *white and black*, their fleet are beating off 'St. Andrews', at which end they came in.

It was my intention to receive them at Cabin Bluff with riflemen: this could have been done with much advantage, but they were apprized of it, and kept the Plumb Orchard creek.

We are now at the Point, and on the alert, waiting an attack, which I expect momentarily; in which event I shall do my best.

In the event of a retreat, the assistant deputy quarter-master general has been charged to place a supply of provisions and ammunition at a point selected by myself in our rear.

The men have always two days provisions in advance, ready to march to any point at a moment's warning.

I have the pleasure to anticipate the best of conduct in the officers and men under me: though few, they are well chosen, and discover great eagerness for battle: they behaved well the day we prepared to receive the enemy.

*Extract of a letter from lieutenant colonel Scott, to the same, (by express) dated*

St. Mary's 12th January, 1815.

SIR—Your orders of the 5th inst. reached me, at this place, whither I had repaired on the first information of a serious attack being intended by the enemy, on the frontiers as well as by sea, having previously issued orders for detachments from the companies within my regiment to march to this place. These detachments have partially arrived, but from the alarms existing on the frontier, I fear much delay will arise before the entire number will arrive at this point.

The alarm guns from the garrison were fired the evening before last, and information soon after reached me of the enemy having entered and anchored in St. Andrews'. Yesterday morning seven large boats advanced up the river, and at 11 o'clock effected a landing at Dungeness, in full view of the garrison at Point Petre; and at 4 P. M. were joined by fifteen barges more. The enemy immediately formed their encampment and pitched their tents. Last night their fires were distinctly seen from this side.

The hostile attitude of the enemy leaves no doubt of an attack being meditated on the garrison and this place.

The alarm in this quarter is great beyond description, in consequence of the very large force of the enemy and the very defenceless state of this place.

Unless reinforcements are forwarded, this country is lost. Agreeably to your orders, I have issued mine to lieutenant colonel Pray, requiring reinforcements from his regiment.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

WM. SCOTT, lieut. col.

P. S. The enemy's force is estimated at 1000.

THE ENEMY IN POSSESSION OF POINT PETRE AND ST. MARY'S.

*Copy of a letter from captain Massias to brigadier general John Floyd, dated*

Sweet water Branch, 13th January, 1815.

SIR—The enemy moved against Point Petre this morning at half past seven o'clock, with his whole force, (about fifteen hundred.) His operations were simultaneous. I received information of his approach on my picket, near major Johnson's, with about 800 to a 1000 men and two pieces of artillery; aware of his intentions to place himself in my rear, while he at the same time was advancing in considerable force in front to attack the battery on the St. Mary's, with view to cut off my retreat. I made

the following disposition of my small but brave force. I ordered captain Stallings to remain at the Point, with about thirty-six effectives, with orders to defend it as long as possible, and if he should be overpowered, to spike the guns, fire the train at the magazine, and retreat to me with the remainder, (about 60 riflemen and infantry.)

I moved against the enemy in the rear, determined to oppose his passage at a narrow defile near maj. King's, and make good my retreat at all hazards; at about nine o'clock we came up with the defile, near major Johnson's; it is flanked by a marsh on each side, and has a complete cover for riflemen on the right and left, across which the day previous I had caused some large trees to be fallen; and we entered it on one end, the enemy did so on the other. It was my intention to gain the cross roads near maj. King's, but finding myself stopped, lieutenant Hall, of the 43d infantry, was ordered with a detachment of riflemen, to advance on the enemy's left, and lieutenant Harlee with another detachment, to pass the thicket and endeavor to gain his rear—this order was promptly obeyed. Captain Tatnall, of the 43d infantry, was ordered at the same time to advance in close column and pass the defile; at this moment their bugle sounded, and a brisk fire commenced on both sides. We had already passed some distance, and the enemy had given way twice, when capt. Tatnall, who stood near me, received a severe wound which obliged him to fall back. This produced a momentary pause, when the enemy pressed forward, but was received with unequalled firmness. It was at this moment I received unexampled support from serjeant Benson of the 43d infantry, and private Green of the rifle; but our efforts were unavailing, their numbers were too imposing—a thousand to sixty was too much odds; and believing the battery in the hands of the enemy, as but three guns had been fired, it was with reluctance that I ordered a retreat, which I am happy to state was effected in good order. We took a path to Mrs. Gordon's on the North river, at which place I had previously engaged a large boat, in the event of not being able to pass by the bridge near maj. King's; but the boat was taken away. I had but one resource left, and that was to pass at Miller's Bluff with a paddling canoe. I then sent an order to capt. Stallings to retreat by that way, which he promptly obeyed, the enemy followed him close in his rear, and I have the pleasure to state we effected it without the loss of a man. While I lament the necessity of informing you of the loss of the fort at Point Petre, I console myself with a consciousness of having done my best for its preservation, and of being peculiarly fortunate in making good a retreat, always doubtful, and by none believed practicable but myself. The enemy's loss must have been considerable; the defile was covered with blood. An officer of distinction, wearing a pair of gold epaulets, was among the slain—our loss was very inconsiderable, as will appear by the report annexed to this; I have reason to hope that some of those missing will yet join.

I should not do justice to the gentlemen I had the honor to command, did I not say they performed prodigies beyond all reasonable expectation. All were equally brave; but if I may be allowed to discriminate, and to recommend any to your particular attention, it would be capt. E. F. Tatnall, 43d infantry; he was conspicuous in every act, and gave me the utmost support.

I cannot but consider my little band highly complimented by the number the enemy thought fit to bring against them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. MASSIAS, Capt. c 1st rifle corps U. S.

Return of killed, wounded, prisoners and missing in the action on the 18th January, near Point Petre, (Geo.)

43d infantry—killed none, wounded, 1 captain, severely; do. 1 private do.; missing, 4 privates.—Total 6.

Rifle corps—killed, 1 private; wounded, 1 sergeant, prisoner, do. one private, severely; missing, 5 privates—grand total 14.

A. A. MASSIAS, captain,  
com. 1st rifle corps U. S. troops.

Copy of a letter from lieutenant-col. Scott to brig general Floyd, dated

Jefferson, 14th Jan. 1815.

"DEAR SIR—Yesterday, the enemy advanced in two divisions against Point Petre, which they carried by storming it. One division landed at maj. Johnston's, and marched on the rear of the fort—a number of barges made the attack in front. At this time, I was in the town of St. Mary's; the moment I received information of the enemy landing, I assembled the militia (which amounted to ninety men) and marched for King's bay. When I had advanced two miles from St. Mary's, I heard a heavy firing commence in the road leading from King's bay to Point Petre, which convinced me that the enemy had attacked the Point in the rear. I marched out quick step to make an attack on their rear. I soon found the firing ceased, which gave me to believe the party of reserve had surrendered—my hope then was to meet a party of reserve to guard their barges. I ordered a few horsemen to reconnoitre their landing. They reported, that their barges were all gone except two, which were adrift. I immediately fell back on St. Mary's; when I got within a mile of the town, I was informed that the enemy were advancing against the town of St. Mary's. I halted my men about a mile from St. Mary's—as I was informed some of the barges were in the North river. I proceeded to town myself. When I arrived, I discovered their barges had got as far as maj. Moot's causeway, and that maj. Clark and Mr. Sadler had been appointed by the inhabitants to carry a flag to the enemy to capitulate. The inhabitants appeared much alarmed lest I should make some defence. After getting some refreshments for my detachment, I returned to them. A few minutes after I arrived, a messenger was sent from town, to inform me that a British officer had just landed with a flag, offering the town honorable terms, if they surrendered; and, in case a single gun was fired, the town should be laid in ashes. Knowing my force not sufficient to defend the town, I thought it proper to retire. I had not retired far before I fell in with captain Massias, with the greater part of his command. They retreated by the way of capt. Miller's—we are now encamped at Jefferson.

I never experienced so much alarm: The inhabitants are flying in all directions. If we do not get reinforced, there will be scarce a family left in the county: The inhabitants dread colonel Woodbine and his indians, more than the British. Provisions are hard to be got. I shall do every thing in my power to protect the frontier of this part of the county. I have but eighty five men with me. The men, women, and children are all running away. I hope you will contrive some way to reinforce us. I shall never desert this part of the county, while I can raise a man.

While writing, a Mr. Brown made his escape from St. Mary's—he informs me, that the enemy are collecting all the horses and saddles about that place. From the best information we could obtain, it appears they intend marching by land to Savannah. I

shall endeavor to check their march as much as possible, at every advantageous post. I have not been able to ascertain their numbers. There is still a large force on Cumberland, at Point Petre, and in the town of St. Mary's.

I have the honor to be, your's sincerely,  
WILLIAM SCOTT,  
lieut. col. com. detachment."

FROM THE SAME.

Georgians!—Your state is invaded—the capital of it (Savannah) is threatened—your sires were gallant—you will do every thing in your power to repel the merciless enemy who carries the sword in one hand and the torch in the other—an enemy who wars on the widow and distressed—whose deeds have been as bad as the savage of the American woods, or the plundering Arab of the desert. Remember, the eyes of the world are upon you—Georgia expects every man to do his duty. To arms, then, Georgians, to arms!

The brigadier general commanding the troops at this station earnestly recommends to the citizens of Savannah the necessity of exertion to complete the fortifications around the city. It is hoped that private interest will on so important an occasion yield to public duty, and that every man possessed of American feelings will repair to the lines, and by united efforts render themselves secure against an attack from the enemy, who will avail himself of neglect. Citizens of Savannah! let your stores and shops be shut until the defences of the city are completed.

Extract of a letter from capt. Massias to brigadier-general Floyd, dated

Fort Barrington, 12 o'clock, Wednesday evening, 18th January, 1815.

SIR—The enemy is now near Darien—his fleet has anchored in Doby Sound—he keeps close to me; yet it is my belief Savannah is his object—I shall watch his motions."

Extract of a letter from lieutenant-colonel Scott to brigadier-general Floyd, dated

Brown's Ferry, January 18, 1815.

"SIR—I had the honor to receive your's of the 13th inst. by the express, in which you request me to send in my report, which is annexed to this letter. This morning a gentleman arrived here from St. Mary's, who informed me that admiral Cockburn had landed in town with an additional force, number unknown. I have since been told that a number of \*\*\*\*\* troops had been landed since the arrival of the admiral from on board of a bomb brig. The enemy are taking possession of all provisions they can find, and putting them on board their vessels, and are taking in water—they are likewise mounting guns on carriages and training horses, for what purpose I leave you to judge—they have not as yet attempted any fortifications in the town; on the contrary, they have reduced fort Physic; and, it is my opinion, that they will not march by land. I should have wished very much to have made a stand at Crooked River bridge; but captain Massias would not co-operate with me, which was the cause of my falling back to this place yesterday. I have been informed by one of the patriots of Florida that their spies had discovered two indians on the south side of St. Mary's, near Underwood's mills; the indians seeing them, retreated, and were followed until an encampment was discovered with a considerable smoke at different places, when they thought prudent to retire. I have 4 trusty spies out to give me immediate notice of any approaching danger. The distress of the families of this country is beyond description."

Our further advices from the south to the 22d ult. at Savannah, at eight o'clock in the evening

give us the following facts and reports. A report (on the 19th January) prevailed that colonel *Woodbine* was coming on in the rear, at the head of 600 indians, and that the settlements on the St. Mary's and Satilla rivers were breaking up in consequence. On the 21st it appeared ascertained that the enemy's force was about 2000 men, part blacks—and it was also stated that the ruffian *Cockburn* had arrived with a reinforcement—and that at St. Mary's they had plundered every body of every thing. [ ] This we should have presumed from the presence of *Cockburn*] Major-general *Pinkney* was expected at Savannah about the 23rd. The following articles from the Savannah paper of the 22d is the latest advices we have—and cause us to hope, that, by stealing excepted, no great damage may be done:

*Savannah, January 22.*—“Here we are, under martial law; not knowing the hour when the British forces may pay us a visit. We have no positive accounts from the southward, however, to warrant a positive conclusion, that they are coming this way. We believe the forces at Cumberland and St. Mary's to be about 6000 men.”

*Another extract—same date.*

“Martial law was declared to-day. Governor Early has arrived at the lines with 2,000 men. Strong reinforcements are on their way. Our fortifications progress rapidly, and are able at present to sustain and repel the attack of all the British forces said to have arrived.”

*Another extract—same date.*

“I have only time to say, we are under martial law—the enemy daily expected. Should they have the temerity to approach, I trust we shall give a good account of them—at least, they will not get the place, without a struggle; and that a pretty hard one.”

*Latest Extract—8 P. M.*

“We are in hourly expectation of the arrival of major-general *Pinkney*, who, we are informed, has ordered on 1500 of the South-Carolina militia: among whom are your country sharp-shooters, who can pick out a squirrel's eye at the distance of one hundred yards. They will match and beat *Woodbine's* motley crew, even if they have half of the number. A number of your disciplined officers are expected to start from Charleston for this place on the 24th instant.”

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

PEACE REMORS, we have in a great variety, but none of them, perhaps, worthy of credit. Our latest regular intelligence from Europe is of Nov. 5—and in the absence of it, we are supplied by many reports, possibly, mere speculations. Our present accounts come chiefly from *Castine*, one of which goes so far as to say that peace was signed on the *first of December*. British accounts to the 9th of that month are said to have been received at Halifax, and that the merchants there had received advices that peace was expected immediately. The traders at *Castine* are said to be selling off their goods by auction on account of this news.

CHAMPLAIN FRONTIER. Whether the enemy does or does not intend an excursion into our territory during the winter, we shall be well prepared for it.—Major general *Strong*, of Vermont, by a very spirited “general order” holds his “green mountain boys” in perfect readiness; who, as *Burgoyne* said they did in his day, will “hang like dark clouds” on the foe.—Gen. *Macomb* is deservedly popular with them; and has supplied those who wanted them with arms, &c. The militia of the New York side is also in readiness. Two new forts (forts *Tombkins* and *Gaines*) have been erected near Plattsburg, and other works were going on. Strong batteries are also erected

for the protection of our fleet, and the whole seems in such good train, that if general *Brisbane* makes the incursion, it is likely he may go further into the interior than he expects. The Plattsburg Republican of the 21st January, says, “The British came into Champlain last week, four miles west of the village, and carried off about 30 tons of hay.”

NATIONAL BANK. It will be seen by our congressional proceedings, that the president has refused his assent to the bill for establishing a national bank, as it lately passed both houses of congress—and we thank him for it: convinced in our own minds that such a bank, on such principles, would do immense injury to the United States, and essentially aid the operations of the enemies of the republic, at home and abroad. The editors of the *National Intelligencer* give an opinion that no bill to establish a bank, will be passed this session. The term of the present congress is nearly out—and we are much mistaken if the people at large are not very glad of it. Never, we think, has time, very precious time, been so shamefully wasted.

#### MILITARY.

It appears by despatches received at Milledgeville, (Geo.) that boats are about to be built to descend the Alabama, to transport general *McIntosh's* forces to Mobile, upon which an attack was apprehended. It is probable he will reach the place in time to defend it, if the enemy at *New-Orleans* does not get “enough” of the notion of “restoring” the country and makes the attack. Colonel *Hawkins* is at the head of 700 friendly indians to restrain the “Red Sticks” and avenge their murders. He was to leave fort *Mitchel* on an expedition, on the 10th ult.

Governor *Shelby*, of Kentucky, on the requisition of brigadier-general *McArthur*, has called out 1000 men to relieve the militia of that state now stationed at *Detroit*.

#### NAVAL.

LOSS OF THE PRESIDENT FRIGATE.

*New-London, January 25.*—On Monday afternoon a flag came up from the enemy's squadron off this port, was brought to off for *Trumbull*, and delivered a letter, of which the following is a copy:

“Rear-admiral *Hotham* has the honor to request general *Cushing* will please to convey the enclosed letter to the lady of commodore *Decatur*; who the rear-admiral begs leave to acquaint general *Cushing*, is gone to the Bermudas, in good health, on board the *Endymion*, having been captured in the United States' frigate *President*, on the 15th instant, by a detachment of his majesty's ships.”

*His majesty's ship Superb,*  
off *New-London*, 23d Jan. 1815. }

“Rear-admiral *Hotham* also begs leave to commit the accompanying letters to the care of general *Cushing*; which were received from persons late of the *President*.”

The letters were from commodore *Decatur* to his lady, and other officers to their friends; and none official. The officer who came with the flag declined making any verbal communication. A letter from an officer to his friend was read in town and forwarded. It was written on board the *Pomone*.

It briefly stated that the *President* was captured in the afternoon of the 15th instant, after an action of four hours and a half, by four British ships. That the first, fourth and fifth lieutenants were killed, and the sailing-master and two midshipmen wounded; with a great loss of men.

It appears that the enemy prohibited any particulars of the action from being communicated; from which we must infer that although they gained a frigate they have reaped no laurels from the capture. The *President* sailed from New York on Saturday

evening, and on Sunday morning before sunrise, the *Majestic* razee, which lay near Plumb Island, got under way in great haste, and proceeded to sea, leaving her water casks principally on shore. *A remarkable circumstance, which leads to the suspicion that information of the sailing of the President was received by traitorous information in twelve hours after her sailing; which, not improbably, led to her capture.*

The action must have been principally a running one, and nearly parallel to the coast of Long Island, as the firing was distinctly heard at Stonington and Newport.

It appears before the brave commodore struck his flag, he was assailed by the frigates *Pomone*, *Forth*, and *Endymion*, and the razee *Majestic*; and we have no doubt, that in this bloody and lamented action, new glory perched on the American standard.

*Connecticut Gaz.*

*From the United States Gazette.*

"Various statements have been given of the circumstances attending the loss of the frigate *President*. The following may be relied on as the substance of a brief letter from commodore Decatur to his lady, who is at present at Frankford.

On passing Sandy Hook the frigate struck on the bar, where she remained thumping for two hours, until the tide rose. Early in the morning she fell in with a British squadron consisting of the *Majestic* razee, the *Endymion*, *Pomone* and *Tenedos* frigates, and the *Despatch* brig. Every effort was made to escape, but in vain, the frigate having lost her sailing trim in consequence of the injury sustained at the Hook. The *Endymion* being the leading ship, come up with her, and getting close under the quarter, kept up a destructive fire, cutting up and crippling the rigging of the *President*. To suffer this was to make capture certain, without inflicting any injury on the enemy. The commodore, therefore, bore up and engaged the *Endymion*, and after a severe fight of two hours *silenced and beat her off*. [It is proper to mention that the *Endymion* is the same frigate that challenged the United States at New London. She is one of the largest frigates in the British navy, of superior force to the *President*, mounting 56 guns, (24 pounders on the gun deck) and was sent out expressly to fight our frigates.]

The *President* now made all sail and endeavored to escape. The sternmost ships were two miles distant. In three hours, however, the *Pomone* and *Tenedos* were along side, the others close astern, when, seeing all hopes of escape at an end, the *President* only waited to receive the fire of the nearest ships and surrendered.

Such are the principal circumstances of an affair which though it gives us cause to lament over the loss of valuable lives and a noble ship, affords us fresh proof, if such are necessary, of the gallantry and skill of our navy. It was a fortunate circumstance for Decatur that the situation of the enemy gave him an opportunity of fighting a distinct battle with the *Endymion*, and accomplishing a *positive and splendid victory* over her, before the other force could come up and overwhelm him with numbers."

The following is an extract of a letter from commodore Decatur—politely communicated to the *Columbian* for publication:

"The night we left the Hook, owing to some blunders of our pilots, we struck on the bar, and there remained thumping for two hours, until the tide rose. At day-light we fell in with the British squadron, consisting of the *Majestic*, *Endymion*, *Pomone*, *Tenedos* and *Despatch* brig. My ship, owing to her getting aground, lost her sailing. I lightened her as much as possible, but the enemy gained on us. The *Endymion*, mousting twenty-four pound-

ers on her gun deck, was the leading ship of the enemy. She got close under my quarters, and was cutting my rigging without my being able to bring a gun to bear upon her. To suffer this, was making my capture certain; and that too, without injury to the enemy. I therefore bore up for the *Endymion* and engaged her for two hours, when we *silenced and beat her off*. At this time the rest of the ships had got within two miles of us. We made all the sail we could from them, but it was in vain. In three hours the *Pomone* and *Tenedos* were alongside, and the *Majestic* and *Endymion* close to us. All that was now left for me to do, was to receive the fire of the nearest ship, and surrender; for it was in vain to contend with the whole squadron. My loss has been severe; the precise number I do not know, but believe it to be between eighty and ninety; of this number, twenty-five are killed;—Babbitt, Hamilton, and Howell, are among the slain. Mr. Dale is wounded, but is doing well.

I am in great haste—we sail to-day for Bermuda."

Many other letters confirm the general facts stated in the preceding accounts. Our loss in killed and wounded appears to have been from 80 to 90; about 25 of the former, among whom were lieutenants Babbitt, Hamilton, and acting lieutenant Howell—several other officers wounded. Decatur, the gallant Decatur, escaped without a hurt to revenge the unmanly attack. He was taken on board the *Endymion*, and many of the rest of the officers and of the crew transferred to the *Pomone*, where it appears they have been treated—as they would have treated the British in reverse circumstances. The *President* and *Endymion* were lost sight of in a gale—when last seen, the former had a signal of distress flying, having lost her fore and mizen-top-masts. She was ordered for Bermuda, whether also the *Pomone* was bound. Our frigate was captured the day after she left New York, no doubt by the information of some blue light wretch that yet defrauds the gallows of its due. Arrangements appear to be making in the city of New York to build immediately, a new frigate, or a 74, for Decatur. The *President* must have been greatly injured, as it is stated that several of her guns were dismounted; and we are not without our fears for the sake of our brave fellows that yet remained on board of her, that she may have been lost in the gale.

However we may lament the loss of the brave men who fell in this contest, the services of those wounded or carried into captivity, or of the vessel herself (which, however, we can easily replace,) we rejoice that our naval glory remains untarnished, and that this capture of *Decatur*, like *Porter's*, will add to his own fame and the renown of his country—Europe, astonished at the charm that has encompassed the British navy, will exult that it is so fairly broken; and hail our tars as masters of the sea, ship to ship and man to man. Under so great disadvantages, acting on the defensive and crippled before she turned upon the *Endymion*, the *President* reduced that ship, her superior in force to the condition "*of a log on the water*," and would most assuredly, have made a prize of her, if her consorts had not been so near. A little while longer, and this vessel, sent out expressly to capture one of our frigates, would have mounted in the air, as the *Guerriere* and *Java* had done before her. Admiral *Hotham* has admitted our vessel was captured by a "*detachment of his majesty's ships*," and if the tower guns are fired, the world will laugh at the occasion.

We have rather doubted the policy of, at present, sending out our frigates. By small vessels, from 10 to 20 guns, we can make the best impression on the enemy. Our naval glory is established, and we

should contend on the ocean only as may most fit the interests of the enemy, and induce him to peace.

The *Yankee* privateer, of Bristol, R. I. owned by J. D'Wolf, esq. is about 168 tons, carries one long 12, and 14 carronades, 12, 9 and 6 pounders. It has been estimated that this vessel, (to say nothing of her present cruise, in which among others she captured the late India ship General Wellesley) has captured and destroyed British property to the amount of three millions of dollars, of which about one half has arrived in the United States, paying duties to the amount of \$200,000.

New privateers are daily pushing out from our several ports. There will be a precious tale told at *Lloyd's* before three months. Many valuable merchant vessels with rich cargoes arrive from the West Indies, with colonial produce, dry goods, &c. &c. Among the privateers that have recently sailed we notice the *Avon*, the *Champlain*, the *Ludlow* and the *Tomahawk*, strong and powerful vessels, full manned.

The late U. S. frigate *Chesapeake* has been put in commission by the British—rated as a 38, George Burdett, captain.

*The Sylph*.—We have the dreadful particulars of the shipwreck of this vessel off Long Island. Only the purser and 5 seamen were saved, and they by the great humanity and exertions of the people of *Southampton*. They have since arrived at New-York. The rest of her officers and crew, 111 in number, perished in the sea! Many of their bodies have been cast on the shore, and decently interred. The kindness of the people of *Southampton* has been very handsomely acknowledged by admiral *Hotham*, who has promised to make the best return for it in his power; and has commended his shew of gratitude by releasing the crew of a vessel that belonged there. There is something pleasing in this. Though, one after another, we have no manner of objection to every British vessel coming ashore like the *Sylph*; yet we have no wish for such destruction of their crews, and would have those (even if each were a *Cockburn*) who reached us in this manner, treated with all tenderness and charity. The *Sylph* was a ship of 390 tons, carrying 20 guns, viz. 16 24lb. carronades, 2 12lb. ditto, and 2 long 12's.

## Proceedings of Congress.

IN SENATE.

*Saturday, January 28.*—A bill was passed requiring a colonel to every regiment of militia in the United States. The bill to prohibit intercourse with the enemy was ordered to a third reading.

*Monday, January 30.*—The bill in addition to the act for laying out and making a road from Cumberland in Md. to the state of Ohio, being on its third reading—

Mr. Smith of Md. moved to fill the blank for the amount of additional appropriation to be made, with the words "one hundred thousand dollars." This motion was decided as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Barbour, Bibb, Brown, Chace, Condit, Frontin, Gaillard, Goldsborough, Horsey, Kerr, Morrow, Smith, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Vannum, Walker, Wharton—19.

NAYS—Messrs. King, Lambert, Mason, Robinson, Thompson, Wells—6.

The bill was then passed and sent to the house. The bill from the house to prohibit intercourse with the enemy, was read a third time, and passed, with amendments, which were sent to the house for their concurrence therein.

*Monday, January 30.* Mr. Coles, the president's secretary, returned the bill "to incorporate the subscribers to the Bank of the United States of America," with the following message:

To the senate of the United States.

Having bestowed on the bill, entitled "An act to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America," that full consideration which is due to the great importance of the subject, and dictated by the respect which I feel for the two houses of congress, I am constrained, by a deep and solemn conviction, that the bill ought not to become a law, to return it to the senate, in which it originated, with my objections to the same.

Waving the question of the constitutional authority of the legislature to establish an incorporated bank, as being precluded, in my judgment, by repeated recognitions, under varied circumstances, of the validity of such an institution, in acts of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the government, accompanied by indications, in different modes, of a concurrence of the general will of the nation; the proposed bank does not appear to be calculated to answer the purposes of reviving the public credit, of providing a national medium of circulation, and of aiding the treasury by facilitating the indispensable anticipations of the revenue, and by affording to the public more durable loans.

1. The capital of the bank is to be compounded of specie, of public stock, and of treasury notes convertible into stock, with a certain proportion of each of which every subscriber is to furnish himself.

The amount of the stock to be subscribed will not, it is believed, be sufficient to produce, in favor of the public credit, any considerable or lasting elevation of the market price, whilst this may be occasionally depressed by the bank itself, if it should carry into the market the allowed proportion of its capital consisting of public stock, in order to procure specie, which it may find its account in procuring, with some sacrifice on that part of its capital.

Nor will any adequate advantage arise to the public credit from the subscription of treasury notes. The actual issue of these notes nearly equals, at present, and will soon exceed the amount to be subscribed to the bank. The direct effect of this operation is simply to convert fifteen millions of treasury notes, into fifteen millions of six per cent. stock, with the collateral effect of promoting an additional demand for treasury notes, beyond what might otherwise be negotiable.

Public credit might indeed be expected to derive advantage from the establishment of a national bank, without regard to the formation of its capital, if the full aid and co-operation of the institution were secured to the government during the war, and during the period of its fiscal embarrassments. But the bank proposed will be free from all obligations to co-operate with the public measures; and whatever might be the patriotic disposition of its directors to contribute to the removal of those embarrassments, and to invigorate the prosecution of the war, fidelity to the pecuniary and general interests of the institution, according to their estimate of it, might oblige them to decline a connection of their operations with those of the national treasury, during the continuance of the war and the difficulties incident to it. Temporary sacrifices of interest, though over-balanced by the future and permanent profits of the charter, not being requirable of right in behalf of the public, might not be gratuitously made; and the bank would reap the full benefit of the grant, whilst the public would lose the equivalent expected from it. For it must be kept in view, that the sole inducement to such a grant, on the part of the public, would be the prospect of substantial aids to its pecuniary means at the present crisis, and during the sequel of the war. It is evident that the stock of the bank will, on the return of peace, if not sooner, rise in the



market to a value which, if the bank were established in a period of peace, would authorize and obtain for the public a bonus to a very large amount. In lieu of such a bonus the government is fairly entitled to, and ought not to relinquish or risk, the needful services of the bank, under the pressing circumstances of war.

2. The bank, as proposed to be constituted, cannot be relied on during the war, to provide a circulating medium, nor to furnish loans, or anticipations of the public revenue.

Without a medium, the taxes cannot be collected; and in the absence of specie, the medium understood to be the best substitute, is that of notes issued by a national bank. The proposed bank will commence and conduct its operations, under an obligation to pay its notes in specie, or be subject to the loss of its charter. Without such an obligation, the notes of the bank, though not exchangeable for specie, yet resting on good pledges, and performing the uses of specie, in the payment of taxes, and in other public transactions, would, as experience has ascertained, qualify the bank to supply at once a circulating medium, and pecuniary aids to the government. Under the fetters imposed by the bill, it is manifest, that during the actual state of things and probably during the war, the period particularly requiring such a medium and such a resource for loans and advances to the government, notes for which the bank would be compellable to give specie in exchange could not be kept in circulation. The most the bank could effect, and the most it could be expected to aim at, would be to keep the institution alive by limited and local transactions, which, with the interest on the public stock in the bank, might yield a dividend sufficient for the purpose, until a change from war to peace should enable it, by a flow of specie into its vaults, and a removal of the external demand for it, to derive its contemplated emoluments from a safe and full extension of its operations.

On the whole, when it is considered that the proposed establishment will enjoy a monopoly of the profits of a national bank, for a period of twenty years; that the monopolized profits will be continually growing with the progress of the national population and wealth; that the nation will during the same period, be dependent on the notes of the bank for that species of circulating medium, whenever the precious metals may be wanted, and at all times for so much thereof as may be an eligible substitute for a specie medium; and that the extensive employment of the notes in the collection of the augmented taxes, will, moreover, enable the bank greatly to extend its profitable issues of them, without the expense of specie capital to support their circulation; it is reasonable as it is requisite, that the government, in return for these extraordinary concessions to the bank, should have a greater security for attaining the public objects of the institution, than is presented in the bill, and particularly for every practicable accommodation both in the temporary advances necessary to anticipate the taxes, and in those more durable loans which are equally necessary to diminish the resort to taxes.

In discharging this painful duty of stating objections to a measure which has undergone the deliberations and received the sanction of the two houses of the national legislature, I console myself with the reflection, that if they have not the weight which I attach to them, they can be constitutionally overruled; and with a confidence that, in a contrary event, the wisdom of congress will hasten to substitute a more commensurate and certain provision for the public exigencies.

JAMES MADISON.

*Tuesday, January 31.*—On proceeding to reconsider the bill, returned by the president "to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America," the said bill and the objections of the president thereto were read; when, after some debate, the further consideration thereof was, on motion of Mr. Barbour, postponed to Thursday next, by the following vote:

For the postponement	16
Against it	13

The bill giving further time to the purchasers of public lands to complete the payments therefor, was read a third time and passed.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Thursday, Jan. 26.*—Mr. Pleasants from the committee of naval affairs, to whom was referred the bill from the senate to authorize the president of the United States to cause to be built, equipped and employed, one or more floating batteries for the defence of the waters of the United States, reported the same without amendment, and the bill was twice read and committed.

On motion of Mr. Taylor, the committee of military affairs was instructed to enquire into the expediency of repealing or amending so much of the act for establishing rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States, as relates to the infliction of corporal punishment.

On motion of the same gentleman, the committee of ways and means were instructed to enquire into the expediency of imposing a duty on silver plate and jewelry manufactured for sale, in the hands of the manufacturer.

The house proceeded to the consideration of the bill from the senate authorizing the purchase of the library of Thomas Jefferson.

A motion was made to postpone the bill indefinitely—lost: ayes 66, nays 73. A motion was then made to postpone it until the 4th of March—lost: ayes 68, nays 74. The bill being then stated on its passage, Mr. King made a proposition for a new section providing for a selection of the books—lost: ayes 56. Many motions and speeches were made, not worth the room it would take to record them, and the bill finally passed—ayes 81, nays 71.

*Friday, Jan. 27.*—Many private petitions were presented and disposed of, and some minor business was done; but the house was chiefly employed on the bill to authorize payment for property lost, captured or destroyed by the enemy whilst in the military service of the United States, which passed through a committee of the whole and was reported to the house.

*Saturday, Jan. 28.*—This day was principally spent in discussing the bill for paying for property lost or destroyed in the service of the United States. The clerk of the house, Patrick Magruder, in a letter to the speaker, assigned his reasons therefor, and resigned his office.

*Monday, January 30.*—A variety of business of little general interest was done this day. Thomas Dougherty was elected clerk of the house.

*Tuesday, Jan. 31.* The amendments of the senate to the bill for preventing intercourse with the enemy were concurred in—so that it wants only the signature of the president to become a law.

The house then took up the bill for the support of government for the year 1815—(civil list) and considerable time was spent thereon.

*Wednesday, Feb. 1.* Mr. Moore of Md. presented a memorial of the committee of vigilance and safety of the city and precincts of Baltimore, representing the defenceless situation of that city, and praying that a force may be provided adequate to their

defence during the next campaign—Referred to the committee on military affairs.

Mr. Eppes, from the same committee, reported a bill to provide additional revenue for defraying the expenses of government and maintaining the public credit, by laying a duty on gold, silver and plated ware, and jewelry and paste work, manufactured within the United States; which was twice read and committed.

The house resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of the whole, on the bill making appropriations for the support of government for the year 1815; and on the question to concur in the amendment to strike out the two items for the support of the office of superintendent general of military supplies, after much debate, the vote stood as follows, by yeas and nays:

For the amendment	61
Against it	85

So the house refused to concur in this amendment. And the bill was, after being further amended, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading—

And then the house adjourned.

☞ The senate, on Thursday refused its assent to the passage of the bill to establish a national bank, as returned by the president. Yeas 15, nays 19.

Nothing important occurred in the house.

#### *Sale of the French ships at Antwerp.*

ANTWERP, Aug. 13.—The subjoined 11 French ships of war, not having been finished within the time (6 weeks after the signing of peace) limited by the treaty of Paris, were put to sale by auction, this morning, as they stood on the stocks in our dock yard. It is singular that very little publicity was given to the intended sale. The conditions were not printed but written. They consisted of eleven articles. All the timber, copper, iron, or other materials lying round the ships were included in the same lot with the vessel. Five months allowed them from the 1st inst. to break up. Half of the purchase money to be paid within two days in hard cash, the remainder within one month; but marine bonds issued for the pay of the navy, were to be taken in payment for one moiety of the sum.—The sale to be definitive only 24 hours afterwards. The lots to be knocked down to-morrow (the day after the sale) to the highest bidder of this day, unless an advance be made on the last bidding, or the offer made altogether declined by the vendors. The ships were put up in the following order; but without a single bidding being made by those present:—*Morarque*, of 120 guns, 3-4ths completed, put up at 230,000 francs, and bought in at 120,000, or about 6,000*l*. *Neptune*, 119 guns, 10-24ths completed, bought in at 110,000 francs. *Fougux*, 80 guns, 6-24ths completed, bought in at 100,000 francs. *Belliqueux*, 74 guns, 17-24ths completed, bought in at 100,000 francs. *Alcide*, 74 guns, 6-24ths completed, bought in at 80,000 francs. *Aigle*, 74 guns, 6-34ths completed, bought in at 80,000 frs. *Impeteux*, 74 guns, 6-24ths completed, bought in at 80,000 francs. *L'Inconstant*, 74 guns, 9-21ths completed, put up at 80,000, and bought in at 60,000 francs. *Ruppel*, (number of guns not stated) 2-24ths completed, put up at 80,000 and bought in at 50,000 francs. It is expected that the sale to-morrow will pass without a bidding, in which case all the timber will go to France.

NEW-ORLEANS.—Another letter from Mr. *Fremont* contains the following particulars abstracted from several letters addressed to him.

January 1, by way of a "new-year's gift" the enemy, from his new battery, commenced a heavy discharge of cannon—the compliment was amply returned, and he was soon silenced. A 32 p under from a battery commanded by commodore *Patterson* killed 15 of them at one shot. The Louisiana this day fired 700 shot. British loss stated at 200—ours 10 killed and 20 wounded. The enemy's *sailors* appear to be landed to serve his guns.

The British are reported to be commanded by sir *Thomas Picton*, who has arrived since they first landed, and it is said that reinforcements are expected. But Hopkins and Adair had arrived, and the 3d reg. of regulars, 900 strong, were momentarily expected from *Mobile*. We have yet the command of lake *Ponchartrain*. In the garrison of fort Coquille, 100 of *Lafitte's* men are on duty. ☞ The *Kentuckians* have been furnished with the arms of the exempts of *New Orleans*.

Alas patriotism. The very *nuns* have thrown open their doors to receive and take care of the wounded; and every convenience that the city can furnish is afforded to its defenders.

☞ This letter, at length, may be inserted in our next.

We have advices from Savannah to the 24th. It was expected they would evacuate St. Mary's on the 20th, having got all the plunder on board. They are said to have received a good many "albes" there. The barbarians have not *disgraced* themselves—this is impossible—they have only added fresh causes for us to *hate* and *detest* them.

☞ There is a report, by way of *Amelia*, that a war between France and England, was immediately expected, on account of the former insisting on a possession of the *Netherlands*.

An attack on Savannah was still expected—but the due preparation appears to have been made to repel it.

#### TERMS OF THE REGISTER.

Subscriptions are received as follows:

If a complete copy be desired, they must pay 22 dollars—that is, 20 dollars for four years subscription up to September, 1815, and two dollars for two extra supplements (of twelve sheets each) one already published for the 5th, and the other in the press for the 7th volume.

The 2nd volume began with March, 1812; the 3d with Sept.; the 4th with March, 1813; the 5th with Sept.; the 6th with March, 1814; and the 7th with Sept. last; if desired to begin with either of these, (the 7th excepted) the subscriber must pay for the volumes required at the rate of two dollars and fifty cents each, and also five dollars in advance for the current year. If he begins with the first or second volume he *must*, likewise, pay the two dollars required for the supplements—but if he commences with any other than these volumes, or at the present or any future time, he may receive these supplements, or not, as he pleases.

The volumes are so carefully packed that they reach the most distant post-office safely—but the cash must be paid before the work can be forwarded. They are rated as *newspapers*, for postage, by order of the post-master-general.

Additional patronage is requested; the editor hopes to improve or add to the value of the work as his means are increased.

☞ All letters to the editor must be post-paid.

H. NILES,  
Editor of the Weekly Register.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 24 of VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1815.

[WHOLE NO. 180.]

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.—VERGIL.*

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann.

A narrative of the glorious events at *New Orleans* fills no small part of this number, and, though so much is said, a great deal yet remains to be told, which we shall delight to record—useful for the present, and abounding with inestimable excitements to future generations of *Freemen*.

## New-England Convention.

No. V.

The following article from the *Boston Patriot* of the 21st January, ult. so fully takes the ground, in one respect, that I myself intended to occupy, that I adopt it *totis verbis*, and publish it entire. As it regards the part that the New-England states have in the *power of government*, though this essay is, in some points more full, I do not know that it more clearly shows their *undue* preponderance than the article published in the *WEEKLY REGISTER*, on the 23d of December last. It is, however, a very curious paper, and well deserves a careful inspection.

### *The alleged commercial pre-eminence of New-England considered*

In my last I examined in part the boastful pretensions of New-England to an exclusive or a preponderating interest in commerce. It is of the highest importance that the people should be correctly informed on this subject at the present time. Every engine of faction is at work to produce a forcible separation of the states; a measure pregnant with such certain ruin to this part of the country, that the project is utterly inexplicable on any other principles than those which I have before stated. It would at a single blow prostrate at least two-thirds, perhaps three-fourths of our shipping interest; it would throw one-half of our commercial capital out of employment, which would immediately be transferred to the cities of the south, and the rich country to the west; it would ruin three-fourths of our manufacturing establishments, and diminish the permanent value of real estate throughout the country, while that on our seaboard, and especially in our most considerable trading towns, would sink to one-half of its common peace price. It would entail on New-England either with a nominal independence the permanent charge of a large and expensive national civil list, with an army and navy, or leave her in a state of colonial vassalage to some power which could afford to protect her. These are some of the certain consequences of a dissolution of the union. It is impossible that these projects should spring from patriotism. They can only originate in views of personal aggrandizement. The aristocratic faction of Boston have lost all hope of dictating to the union, and they prefer a secure dominion in New-England, shorn, as she will be, of half her strength and all her glory, to continuing longer a despised and suspected minority under the general government. In the true spirit of the arch fiend, they say,

Better to reign in hell than serve in Heaven; and well may they emblazon on their banners the words of the Prince of Discord—

Have, and spoil, and ruin are my gain.

The incessant labors of this desperate and unprincipled faction have for years been devoted to

complete this work of treason and desolation. Under color of defending the rights of New-England, they have been pursuing plans of personal aggrandizement, and have incessantly sought to establish their own power upon the ruins of their country. I will now proceed to examine further their lofty claims of commercial pre-eminence. With these claims it will be recollected that the complaint that the interests of New-England have not been fully represented in the government of the union, has been constantly associated. The reader will therefore doubtless be gratified to see the commercial representation of the different sections of the country brought into comparison. This is done in the following calculation:

Exports of the State of Maryland, Virginia, North, and South Carolina, and Georgia—the southern section of the union—for ten years, beginning 1793, and ending 1800, were in value	Dolls. 175,038,000
The exports of the New-England states including articles both of foreign and domestic growth and manufacture for the same term	97,021,000
Diff-rence in favor of southern states,	Dolls. 82,017,000

During the whole of this period, New-England had 29 members in the house of representatives, and 10 in the senate, making an aggregate of 39 in both houses. This is one member for \$261,594 of exports annually. The southern states had 35 representatives and 10 senators—45 in both houses; which is one member for \$388,975 of annual exports. In these exports it is to be recollected there are included productions of foreign growth and manufacture, first imported into the United States and then re-exported. New-England had vastly the greatest share in this trade. If these were deducted, the comparison would be much more to her disadvantage.

Exports of native produce from Maryland, Virginia, &c. between the years 1808 and 1811,	Dolls. 75,262,000
Exports of native produce from the New-England states, during the same term,	62,234,000

Diff-rence in favor of the southern states

Dolls. 63,028,000

During this term the eastern states had 35 representatives and 10 senators—45 members in both houses; which is one for \$197,468 of annual native exports. The southern states had 55 representatives and 10 senators, in both houses 65—which is one member for \$275,301 of native exports annually. Exports from Maryland, Virginia, &c. for three years, 1811—12 and 13.

Exports of productions of domestic manufacture from New-England for the same term,	Dolls. 42,114,000
	16,415,600

Diff-rence in favor of the southern states

Dolls. 25,699,000

New-England has at present 41 members in the house of representatives and 10 in the senate, to watch over the interests of her trade—51 in both houses. This allows her one member for 107,243 dollars of annual exports. The southern states have 69 representatives and 10 senators, 79 in both houses—which is one member for 200,542 dollars.

Suppose then that the representation instead of being fixed as at present, had been established on principles purely commercial. Our exports may fairly be assumed a true representation of our permanent and substantial interests in commerce.—Thus allowing the representation of the southern states to remain as heretofore, and we should have the following results as far as New-England is affected, in the periods above considered. From 1791

to 1800, both years included, our representation will appear from the following proportion:

As \$175,038,000 exports of southern states is to 45, the number of members in both houses of congress; so is 92,021,000 exports of New-England to 23 members, instead of 39, the number we actually sent—then we should have lost 16 members.

2. Term from 1803 to 1810—

As 125,252,000 : 65 :: 62,254,000 : 32 instead of 45, which we had. In this instance we should have lost 13 members.

3. Term from 1811 to 1813—

As 42,114,000 : 70 :: 16,415,000 : 27 instead of 51, our present number. Here our loss would have been 24. The haughty and supercilious Bostonians complain that their great commercial interests are not represented, yet these calculations proceed on the principle that the basis of representation is wholly commercial. The amount of exports is the fairest basis that can be taken. This shews our interest in trade, because this is what we have to sell.

Let us now view the subject in relation to the whole United States, and see if New England commerce has been defrauded of its full weight in the national councils. The exports of the United States from 1791 to 1800 amounted to 475,726,000 dollars in value. The whole number of senators were 28, of representatives 103—aggregate 131.

As 475,726,000 : 131 :: 92,021,000 : 25.

Thus would New England on this plan have been entitled to but 25 members in both houses, instead of 39, the actual number. I answer, if these calumniated states of the south would not have gained something of what we lost. Their exports will be seen above.

As 475,726,000 : 131 :: 175,038,000 : 49.

Their real number was 45, a gain of 3 out of the 14 we should have lost. Enough, and more than enough has been said to silence, if not to satisfy, the most arrogant driver of faction.

The proper basis of representation, it is admitted, is population—free population, if you choose, to be distributed according to numbers. Let it be granted on this principle, that the slave representation is a real injury. Before we resort to a violent remedy it is at least prudent to ascertain the magnitude of the evil. To enable my reader to judge for himself, I lay before him the following data. If my calculations are inaccurate he can correct them.

By the census for 1790 the free population of the United States was 3,231,629; of this the New-England States had 1,005,636. The whole number of representatives was 103. The following proportion shews the number of members which New-England would have had in the lower house had the representation been distributed according to the numbers of free inhabitants.

As 3,231,629 : 103 :: 1,005,636 : 32.

She had in fact but 29—loss 3.

2d. 1800—Whole free population of the United States, 4,406,817. In New-England 1,231,672—whole number of representatives 141.

As 4,406,817 : 141 :: 1,231,672 : 39—The real number was 35—loss of 4.

3d. 1810—Free population of the United States, 6,048,530; of New-England 1,471,973. The whole number of representatives 181.

As 6,048,530 : 181 :: 1,471,973 : 44.

New-England has now but 41 members in the House. She has, therefore, three less than she would have, were there no representation for slaves. Now I appeal to any prudent man to say, whether this inequality, admitting the wrong in its full extent, is an evil that demands violent measures to redress it. If it shall be determined that it is, let me intreat the

good people of New-England for one moment to pause. We have heard that our constitution was framed in a spirit of compromise; that there were jarring prejudices to be conciliated, and discordant interests to be harmonized. Let us look a moment and see if we can find some compensation for their loss. If the reader will raise his eye to the difference of our exports as stated above, he will, perhaps, should his complex on be aristocratic, find something. If his notions are at all of the democratic, here let him go with me for satisfaction, to the senate. The inequality of representation in this branch of the government is incomparably greater than in the house. For instance, Rhode-Island with 76,931 free inhabitants, has two senators; and Pennsylvania with 810,091 has no more. Were she represented in proportion to Rhode-Island, she would have 23; so that she sustains a comparative loss of 21 in the senate. This inequality has never been a subject of complaint in New-England. The reason will appear from the following statements. New-England has constantly had 10 members in the senate, while, had the representation in this branch been proportioned to the free population, she would have had but 8 from 1790 to 1800, but 9 from 1800 to 1810, and but 8 from 1810 to 1820. In the proportions which follow, the first term expresses the whole free population of the United States, the second the whole number of the senators, the third the free population of New-England, and the fourth the number of senators to which her population would entitle her on the supposition that the number of senators were distributed according to the number of free inhabitants.

1st census of 1790, As 3,231,629 : 28 :: 1,005,636 : 8.677  
2d do. 1800, 4,806,817 : 34 :: 1,231,672 : 9.502  
3d do. 1810, 6,048,530 : 36 :: 1,471,973 : 8.769

The result is, 8, 9 and 8, with a fraction in each case.

The following table shews the loss in the house and the gain the senate under each census.

*Loss in the house:*

1790, 3 in 103, or 2 9-10 per cent.  
1800, 4 in 141, or 2 8-10 per cent.  
1810, 3 in 181, or 1 6-10 per cent.

*Gain in the senate:*

1790, 1 <sup>757</sup>/<sub>1070</sub> in 28, or 4 7-10 per cent.  
1800, 5-10 in 34, or 1 4-10 per cent.  
1810, 1 <sup>124</sup>/<sub>100</sub> in 36, or 4 00 per cent.

*Balance of*

Gain, in 1790, 1 8-10 per cent.  
Loss, 1302, 1 4-10 per cent.  
Gain, 1810, 2 4-10 per cent.

Deducting the balance of loss in the second term from the gain in the first and third, and it leaves to New-England a clear advantage of 2 8-10 PER CENT. IN THE REPRESENTATION IN BOTH HOUSES. It must be recollected that our gain is their loss. This then must be doubled to express the true amount of our advantage over the rest of the union in the present scheme of representation. Thus we find that THE REAL BALANCE IN OUR FAVOR IS 5 6-10 PER CENT. since the establishment of the government, and 4 8-10 PER CENT. IN THE PRESENT CONGRESS. Under these circumstances, it requires something more than an ordinary share of impudence to complain, that the principles upon which representation is fixed by our constitution, affect injuriously the rights of New-England.

I had proceeded thus far, before the doings of the Hartford convention were made public. They avail themselves, as might be expected, of the popular clamor respecting the representation for slaves. An amendment of the constitution is proposed, which alters the representation in the lower house, so that the number from each state shall be in proportion to the freemen. Not a word, however, is said of the

infinitely greater inequality that results from giving to each state an equal voice in the senate. They are not contented with the certain and solid advantages New England already possesses over the rest of the union. They must be grasping for more. If the representation in the lower house is changed, *that in the senate must and will be changed with it.* I cannot conceive a more flagrant instance of folly and impudence, than the Rhode-Island members of the convention of the convention were guilty of when they signed this report. She has now an advantage, over the rest of the union, of 100 per cent. in the national councils; for her free population would, if this amendment were adopted, entitle her to but two representatives, and if the principle were carried to the representation of the senate, SHE COULD NEVER HAVE A SINGLE MEMBER IN THAT HOUSE. Yet these modest gentlemen, Mr. Daniel Lyman, Mr. Samuel Ward, Mr. Edward Manton and Mr. Benjamin Hazard, recommended to the state "to persevere in its efforts till this amendment is effected." Let Rhode Island do it, and she puts the seal to an instrument that will perpetuate her own insignificance.

### The Olive Branch.

The author of this popular little volume has honored the editor of the WEEKLY REGISTER, by presenting to him a copy of the *second edition*, considerably enlarged and invaluably improved. There is, perhaps, no book extant that in so small a compass, contains so great a quantity of *momentous political truth*. Like the two edged sword, said to have been welded by the angel of light against "Satan and his legions," it dispels and puts to flight the army of *error* and of *falsehood* that jacobinism had collected to war against the constitution: and I trust that it, with the contemporaneous labors of others devoted to the same object, may bind the *deceiver* in "chains of adamant," and consign him forever to the "bottomless pit," where there is "weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth."

The compliments that the author has been pleased to pass upon the editor of the REGISTER, and his publication, has really and honestly restrained me from offering to him and his work that tribute of public admiration which I thought it deserved. But I cannot decline to recommend it to the earnest perusal of all my countrymen, desirous to know the truth and fearing it not—and especially to those of the eastern states. It may well serve as a *hand book* for the honest politician.

In two or three places, particularly in page 163, the author of the *Olive Branch* refers to a pamphlet I wrote several years ago, entitled "*Things as they are*;" or, as he has it in that page, "Things by their right names." As he makes certain quotations on my authority and *name*, it becomes me to say, that the extracts for that pamphlet were made by me from the *original papers* they import to have appeared in. I presume their correctness never will be denied.

We propose to enrich our numbers by liberal extracts from the "OLIVE BRANCH."

### Impressed Seamen.

In the more recent outrages of the enemy; that come nearer to our homes, the enormity of the conduct of *Great Britain* towards our seamen, is partially forgotten. The case inserted in our last is well calculated to call forth our indignation against the *menstealers*.

When war was declared by the United States, every *Englishman* had liberty to return to his home. We detained none, though they came to us *voluntarily*. This was right. It was worthy of that character of justice that has marked the government of our country from its first establishment.

I believe I have mentioned the case before; but it is worth a repetition—that, when war was made the *second* time with France, *Bonaparte* detained, as prisoners, certain Englishmen who happened to be in his empire, at the time, as *spies* or *visitors*. Who does not recollect the terrible outcry that this procedure excited against the "*tyrant*?" Whose ears were not stunned by the trumpeting of his baseness and crime? He was the grandest rascal and most finished villain that ever lived—the attributes of the devil himself were not diabolical enough to apply to his proceedings and conduct. So went on the British press in *England* and *America*.

Well—war between *England* and *America* takes place—We permit all her subjects to return home who wish it: we keep none against their consent, such as were made prisoners in the usual way excepted. But what does that *civilized, religious, liberty loving and moral* nation? She had in her feet 10,000 Americans, impressed and held against their consent—she had had them for years, compelling their services without pay or a prospect of release!—They refuse to fight against their country—they are flogged and starved, if bribery fails, to obedience—and if these sufferings and indignities will not do they are cast into *prison* as "incorrigible dogs," and there treated with double rancor and malignity. Hundreds have perished under the lash and for want of food, for their "obstinacy"—thousands, unable to bear the torture, have received the "thirty pieces of silver"—thousands have been cast into stinking dungeons—and thousands are yet denied that *favor*, being still held to "his majesty's service." Two are said to have perished in the *Sylph*, lately shipwrecked off *Long Island*. Every government vessel whose crew we have mustered since the war, was found to have had more or less of them. I do not believe there is a ship in the British service without impressed Americans on board, even at this day. If *Bonaparte* was such a terrible wretch, what is the government of *Great Britain*? He neither forced the *English* to made prisoners of, to come into his territory; much less attempted to make them *spies*!

against their country, by stripes, starvation and chains. I have never said *Napoleon Bonaparte* was any thing else than a tyrant—but I repeat what I have often said, that his deeds were *angelic* compared with those of our barbarian enemy.

The act of making *prisoners of war* of the persons spoken of, is full evidence that the British officers held them to service knowing them to be *impressed American seamen* who has refused the "king's bounty;"—for had they received that, they would have become "*liege subjects of his majesty*" in the space of two years. But Great Britain complains of our *naturalization laws!* The history of *Algers* furnishes nothing so abominable as the proceedings of Great Britain towards the seamen of the United States. Yet, even with us, she is held up as the model of virtue! O shame, shame, shame.

### Legislature of Massachusetts.

[In consequence of the resolutions attached to the following report, three persons have been appointed to proceed to *Washington city* for the purposes therein stated.]

January 24.—The hon. Mr. WHITE, from a committee on the subject, made the following report to the senate; which was read and ordered to be printed:

The committee of both houses to whom was referred the message of his excellency the governor, and the documents therewith transmitted, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report in part:

THAT the expediency of having invited a convention of delegates from the New-England States is fully proved by the result of their labors communicated with his excellency's message. In times of unprecedented embarrassment and distress, there can indeed be no better mode of discovering the means of relief, or of preparing for inevitable consequences, than to resort to the deliberate and united counsels of the wisest and most faithful men of the community; men who have an interest in common with all their fellow-citizens in the subjects of their deliberation, and who will act with a firm and enlightened regard to the good of the whole, and under the highest responsibility. However sensibly such men may feel the importance of timely resisting oppression, and averting impending calamities, their counsels will be tempered by an accurate understanding of past political transactions, by a sound perception of the nature of existing sources of complaint, and by a careful inquiry as to events which time may unfold.

The committee entertain a high sense of the wisdom and ability with which the convention of delegates have discharged their arduous trust. While they maintain the principle of state sovereignty, and of the duties which citizens owe to their respective state governments, they give the most satisfactory proofs of attachment to the constitution of the United States, and to the national union; and while with the undaunted freedom, which they inherit from their ancestors, they express their disapprobation of the measures which have produced our public calamities, and especially of the unnecessary and ruinous war in which we are involved, they manifest a determination, which the people will support, that

our country must be defended at every hazard against invasion and conquest. The people will thus find new reasons for approving the confidence reposed in their delegates, in discerning through their report the proper course to be pursued, in their relation to the federal constitution, in sustaining their allegiance to the state governments, and in defending themselves against the public enemy; but above all, in the recognition of duties, which they owe to their creator, to themselves, and to posterity, and which are founded in higher authority than any earthly government can claim.

As the exposition of the views and sentiments of that convention is clear and intelligible, the committee deem it unnecessary to enlarge upon the considerations which entitle them to the approbation and support of the legislature; or to repeat the arguments contained in the very able report of their proceedings for adopting the measures by them recommended.

The committee therefore respectfully submit the following resolves. D. A. WHITE, *per order*.

*Resolved*, That the legislature of Massachusetts, do highly approve the proceedings of the convention of delegates from the states of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, and the counties of Cheshire and Grafton, in the state of New-Hampshire, and the county of Windham, in the state of Vermont, convened at Hartford, on the 15th day of December, in the year 1814; and that the advice and recommendation therein given are entitled to, and shall receive the most respectful consideration of this legislature.

*Resolved*, That his excellency the governor be, and he hereby is authorised and empowered to appoint commissioners to proceed immediately to the seat of the national government, and in pursuance of such instructions as his excellency may think proper to give them, to make an earnest application to the government of the United States, requesting their consent to some arrangement, whereby the state of Massachusetts, separately, or in concert with neighbouring states, may be enabled to assume the defence of their territories against the enemy; and that to this end a reasonable portion of the taxes collected within said states may be paid into the respective treasuries thereof, and appropriated to the payment of the balance due to the said states, and to the future defence of the same: The amount, so paid into the said treasuries, to be credited, and the disbursements so made as aforesaid to be charged to the United States.

The legislature of *Connecticut* has also passed like resolutions, and appointed delegates to *Washington*. They have further adopted all the amendments to the constitution of the U. S. as recommended by the *Hartford convention*, and directed them to be transmitted to the several state legislatures, &c. as usual.

### Events of the War.

"Advance our waving colors on the walls,  
Rescued is Orleans from the English wolves."

SHAKESPEARE, HENRY VI.\*

GLORIOUS FROM NEW-ORLEANS.

The leading facts contained in the following letters, independent of the high character that some of them bear as being *official*, are supported by such

\*We are indebted for this happy quotation to a writer in the Democratic Press, who adds "Who then [when Shakespeare wrote them] imagined they were ever to be applied to the *New World* and *New Orleans!*"

a host of testimony that the most sceptical cannot refuse entire belief to them, however extraordinary some of the parts may appear. Glory be to God, that the barbarians have been defeated, and that at Orleans the intended plunderers have found the grave!—Glory to Jackson, Carroll and Coffee, and the hardy and gallant *Tennesseans, Kentuckians* and *Louisianians* who “seized opportunity by the forelock” to “demonstrate” what freemen can do in defence of their altars and firesides. Glory to the *militia*, that the “soldiers of *Wellington*,” the boastful conquerors of the legions of *France*, have shrunk from the *liberty-directed* bullets of the high-souled sons of the west! Sons of freedom—saviors of *Orleans*—benefactors of your country and avengers of its wrongs, all hail! Hail glorious people—worthy, thrice worthy, to enjoy the blessings which heaven in bounteous profusion has heaped on your country! Never may its luxuriant soil be trodden unrevenged by insolent foreigners in arms!

The mail which is expected *this evening* will probably give the *finish* of the attack.

Copy of a letter from major-general Jackson to the secretary of war, dated

Camp, 4 miles below Orleans, 9th Jan. 1815.

Str—During the days of the 6th and 7th, the enemy had been actively employed in making preparations for an attack on my lines. With infinite labor they had succeeded on the night of the 7th in getting their boats across from the lake to the river, by widening and deepening the canal on which they had effected their disembarkation. It had not been in my power to impede these operations by a general attack: added to other reasons, the nature of the troops under my command, mostly militia, rendered it too hazardous to attempt extensive *offensive* movements in an open country, against a numerous and well disciplined army. Although my forces, as to number, had been increased by the arrival of the Kentucky division, my strength had received very little addition; a small portion only of that detachment being provided with arms. Compelled thus to wait the attack of the enemy, I took every measure to repel it when it should be made, and to defeat the object he had in view. General Morgan, with the New Orleans contingent, the Louisiana militia and a strong detachment of the Kentucky troops, occupied an entrenched camp on the opposite side of the river, protected by strong batteries on the bank, erected and superintended by commodore Patterson.

In my encampment every thing was ready for action, when, early on the morning of the 8th, the enemy after throwing a heavy shower of bombs and Congreve rockets, advanced their columns on my right and left, to storm my entrenchments. I cannot speak sufficiently in praise of the firmness and deliberation with which my whole line received their approach—*more* could not have been expected from veterans inured to war. For an hour the fire of the small arms was as incessant and vigorous as can be imagined. The artillery, too, directed by officers who displayed equal skill and courage, did great execution. Yet the columns of the enemy continued to advance with a firmness which reflects upon them the greatest credit. Twice the column which approached me on my left, was repulsed by the troops of general Carroll, those of general Coffee, and a division of the Kentucky militia, and twice they formed again and renewed the assault. At length, however, cut to pieces, they fled in confusion from the field, leaving it covered with their dead and wounded. The loss which the enemy sustained on this occasion, cannot be estimated at less than 1500

in killed, wounded and prisoners. Upwards of three hundred have already been delivered over for burial; and my men are still engaged in picking them up within my lines and carrying them to the point where the enemy are to receive them. This is in addition to the dead and wounded whom the enemy have been enabled to carry from the field, during and since the action, and to those who have since died of the wounds they received. We have taken about 500 prisoners, upwards of 300 of whom are wounded, and a great part of them mortally. My loss has not exceeded, and I believe has not amounted to ten killed and as many wounded. The entire destruction of the enemy's army was now inevitable, had it not been for an unfortunate occurrence which at this moment took place on the other side of the river. Simultaneously with his advance, upon my lines, he had thrown over in his boats a considerable force to the other side of the river. *These* having landed were hardy enough to advance against the works of general Morgan; and what is strange and difficult to account for, at the very moment when their entire discomfiture was looked for with a confidence approaching to certainty, the Kentucky reinforcements, ingloriously fled, drawing after them, by their example, the remainder of the forces; and thus yielding to the enemy that most fortunate position. The batteries which had rendered me, for many days, the most important service, though bravely defended, were of course now abandoned; not however, until the guns had been spiked.

This unfortunate route had totally changed the aspect of affairs. The enemy now occupied a position from which they might annoy us without hazard, and by means of which they might have been enabled to defeat, in a great measure, the effects of our success on this side the river. It became therefore an object of the first consequence to dislodge him as soon as possible. For this object, all the means in my power, which I could with any safety use, were immediately put in preparation. Perhaps, however, it was somewhat owing to another cause that I succeeded beyond my expectations. In negotiating the terms of a temporary suspension of hostilities to enable the enemy to bury their dead and provide for their wounded, I had required certain propositions to be acceded to as a basis; among which this was one—that although hostilities should cease on *this* side the river until 12 o'clock of this day, yet it was not to be understood that they should cease on the *other* side; but that no reinforcements should be sent across by *either* army until the expiration of that day. His excellency major-general Lambert begged time to consider of those propositions until 10 o'clock of to-day, and in the meantime re-crossed his troops. I need not tell you with how much eagerness I immediately regained possession of the position he had thus hastily quitted.

The enemy having concentrated his forces, may again attempt to drive me from my position by storm. Whenever he *does*, I have no doubt my men will act with their usual firmness, and sustain a character now become dear to them.

I have the honor to be,

With great respect,

Your obedient servant,

ANDREW JACKSON.

Maj gen. com'dg.

Head-quarters, left bank of the Mississippi,

5 miles below New Orleans, January 10, 1815.

Str—I have the honor to make the following report of the killed, wounded and prisoners taken at the battle at Larond's plantation, on the left bank of the Mississippi, on the night of the 23d December, 1814, seven miles below New Orleans.

Killed, left on the field of battle, 100  
 Wounded, left on the field of battle, 230  
 Prisoners taken—1 major, 2 lieutenants, 1 mid-  
 shipman, 66 non-commissioned officers and privates,  
 making a grand total of 400.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your  
 obedient servant,

A. P. HAYNE, *Insp. gen.*

Major-general Andrew Jackson,  
 commanding the army of the Mississippi.  
*Copy of a letter from major-general Jackson, to the  
 secretary of war, dated head quarters, 7th military  
 district, camp, 4 miles below New-Orleans, Jan. 13.*  
 SIR—A such a crisis, I conceive it my duty to  
 keep you constantly advised of my situation.

On the 10th inst. I forwarded you an account of  
 the bold attempt made by the enemy on the morn-  
 ing of the 8th to take possession of my works by  
 storm, and of the severe repulse which he met with.  
 That report having been sent by the mail which  
 crosses the lake, may possibly have miscarried; for  
 which reason, I think it the more necessary briefly  
 to repeat the substance of it.

Early on the morning of the 8th, the enemy hav-  
 ing been actively employed the two preceding days  
 in making preparations for a storm, advanced in  
 two strong columns on my right and left. They  
 were received, however, with a firmness which, it  
 seems they little expected, and which defeated all  
 their hopes. My men, undisturbed by their approach,  
 which indeed they long anxiously wished for, opened  
 upon them a fire so deliberate and certain as ren-  
 dered their scaling ladders and facines, as well as  
 their more direct implements of warfare, perfectly  
 useless. For upwards of an hour it was continued  
 with a briskness of which there have been but few  
 instances, perhaps, in any country. In justice to  
 the enemy it must be said, they withstood it as long  
 as could be expected from the most determined  
 bravery. At length, however, when all prospect of  
 success became hopeless, they fled in confusion from  
 the field, leaving it covered with their dead and  
 wounded. Their loss was immense. I had at first  
 computed it as 1500; but it is since ascertained to  
 have been much greater. Upon information, which  
 is believed to be correct, col. Haynes, the inspec-  
 tor general, reports it to be in total 2600. His re-  
 port I enclose you. My loss was inconsiderable, be-  
 ing only 7\* killed and 6 wounded. Such a dispro-  
 portion in loss, when we consider the number and  
 the kind of troops engaged, must, I know, excite  
 astonishment, and may not every where be fully cre-  
 dited; yet I am perfectly satisfied that the account  
 is not exaggerated on the one part, nor underrated on  
 the other.

The enemy having hastily quitted a post which  
 they had gained possession of, on the other side of  
 the river, and we having immediately returned to  
 it; both armies at present, occupy their former po-  
 sitions. Whether after the severe losses he has sus-  
 tained, he is preparing to return to his shipping, or  
 to make still mightier efforts to attain his first ob-  
 ject, I do not pretend to determine. It becomes me  
 to act as though the latter were his intention. One  
 thing, however, seems certain, that if he still cal-  
 culates on effecting what he has hitherto been unable  
 to accomplish, he must expect considerable rein-  
 forcements; as the force with which he landed must  
 undoubtedly be diminished by at least 5000. Beside  
 the loss which he sustained on the night of the  
 23d ult. which is estimated at 400, he cannot have

\*This was in the action on the line—afterwards a  
 skirmishing was kept up in which a few more of our  
 men were lost.

suffered less between that period and the morning  
 of the 8th inst. than 3000—having, within that time,  
 been repulsed in two general attempts to drive us  
 from our position, and there having been continual  
 cannonading and skirmishing, during the whole of  
 it. Yet he is still able to shew a very formidable  
 force.

There is little doubt that the commanding gen-  
 eral, sir Edward Pakenham was killed in the action  
 of the 8th, and that major generals Keane and Gibbs  
 were badly wounded.

Whenever a more leisure moment shall occur, I  
 will take the liberty to make and forward you a more  
 circumstantial account of the several actions, and  
 particularly that of the 8th, in doing which my chief  
 motive will be to render justice to those brave men  
 I have the honor to command, and who have so re-  
 markably distinguished themselves.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your  
 obedient servant,

ANDREW JACKSON,

Maj. gen. commanding.

P. S. A correct list of my killed and wounded will  
 be forwarded you by the adjutant general.

Head-quarters, left bank of the Mississippi,  
 5 miles below New Orleans, 13th Jan. 1815.

SIR—I have the honor to make the following re-  
 port of the killed, wounded and prisoners, taken at  
 the battle of Mac Paradies plantation, on the left  
 bank of the Mississippi, on the morning of the 8th  
 January, 1815, and 5 miles below the city of New  
 Orleans.

Killed - - - - - 700  
 Wounded - - - - - 1400

Prisoners taken, 1 major, 4 captains, 11 lieuten-  
 ants, 1 ensign, 483 camp officers and privates, mak-  
 ing a grand total of 2600.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your  
 obedient servant,  
 A. P. HAYNE, *Insp. Gen.*  
 Major-general Andrew Jackson,  
 commanding the army of the Mississippi.

*Copy of a letter from a gentleman in New-Orleans to  
 a member of congress.*

New-Orleans, 13th January, 1815.

Dear Sir,—Knowing the interest you must feel  
 in the movements of the enemy in this quarter, I  
 will now continue my account up to this date. In  
 my last I mentioned a reinforcement daily expected  
 by the enemy, which I now understand was at that  
 time actually received by them at Cat Island, having  
 arrived in a fleet of twenty-one sail, said to be from  
 Portsmouth. This force is said to consist of 3000  
 men, and to be commanded by general Lambert, and  
 probably forms the first brigade of their present  
 army. On the 7th these troops were disembarked at  
 the bayou Bienvenu. The enemy had now remained  
 quiet for three or four days, keeping us in a state of  
 uneasy suspense and fearful uncertainty. During  
 this ominous interval, part of their forces was em-  
 ployed in preparing scaling ladders, and collecting  
 facines (made of sugar canes) for their intended  
 assault upon our lines; while others were digging  
 a canal, communicating with that through which  
 they entered, and extended to the levee, which, on  
 the evening of the 7th, was cut through to admit  
 the river. Through this canal they floated or drag-  
 ged twenty-four of their smaller boats, supposed to  
 contain twenty-five men each, and thus transported  
 about 600 men to the opposite side of the river,  
 some distance below the spot where we had con-  
 structed our batteries. These troops, under the  
 command of colonel Thornton, were intended to  
 make a dash at our batteries, and create a diversion  
 on that side of the river, while the main attack was  
 carried on on this side. Accordingly, before day-



light on the morning of the 8th, they silently drew out a large force to storm our lines, their columns advancing unperceived in the obscurity of the morning, to within about half a mile of our camp, where they met and drove in our piquet guard. About day-break they advanced with great vivacity to the entrenchments, led gallantly on by their officers up to the very muzzle of our guns. Some of their men penetrated into our lines, where they were immediately killed or taken prisoners; many fell mounting the breast-works; others upon the works themselves, and the ditch in front, was, in many places, literally filled with dead and wounded. The roar of artillery from our lines was incessant, while an unintermitted rolling fire was kept up from our muskets. The atmosphere was filled with sheets of fire and volumes of smoke. For an hour and a quarter the enemy obstinately continued the assault; fresh men constantly arriving to fill up their lines, thinned by our fire. Their determined perseverance and steady valor, were worthy a better cause; nor did their troops falter, until almost all the officers who led them on had fallen. They then retreated, leaving from 1500 to 2000 in killed, wounded and prisoners. In this number are included thirty-nine officers. On our side the loss was confined to about 20 men, 7 only of whom were killed. Though our extreme right was attacked with great vivacity, yet the principal assault was made on our left, where general Coffee's brigade of riflemen were stationed, and the carnage there was prodigious. Our men, covered by their breast-works, took steady and deliberate aim, and almost every shot told. The enemy drew out eight regiments to the attack, animated by the presence of their commander in chief, Pakenham, and led on by generals Gibbs and Keane.

In my former letter, I named to you six of these regiments, viz.—the 4th, 44th, 21st, 85th, 93d and 95th—to these were added the 7th regiment of Scotch fusileers, and the 43d, being part of their last reinforcement. Their 7th and 21st regiments are said to be completely ruined. Soon after the battle, they sent in a flag of truce, and twenty-four hours were allowed them to remove and bury their dead. In one small spot alone, on the left of our lines, they found three hundred and sixty-eight dead bodies. In the course of the day, forty carts and ten boats arrived in town loaded with wounded prisoners, who were put into the barracks, which were converted into a temporary hospital; about 150 unwounded prisoners were also brought to town and placed in prison. Their generals, Pakenham and Gibbs, are said to be killed, and Keane mortally wounded. Their communications are all signed by Lambert. The prisoners are all remarkably fine, well looking men; indeed these are picked troops, the flower of their army; men who have served with distinction in Spain, Italy and France. Is not this a brilliant affair? And if we consider the disparity of loss, almost unprecedented in military annals! Allow us to boast a little.

We are now disposed to think that the English are seriously inclined to relinquish their attempt. Of this I entertain no doubt if their vessels do not succeed in taking or passing the fort at Plaquemines. This fort is said by an express to have been attacked on the 9th, about noon, and that the attack still continued when he left there, on the morning of the 10th. Four of their vessels are said to have advanced towards the fort; to have put springs upon their cables, and opened a distant fire; more were coming up to support them—but we have above thirty pieces of cannon mounted upon that fort, and major Overton, who commands, is said to be a brave man.

Many of the English officers have brought their families with them, and it is said they have a collector aboard. Every thing proclaims their intention of permanent establishment and their confidence of ultimate success—a confidence still kept alive. Major Mitchell, one of the prisoners taken on the night of the 23d, when complimented by our colonel Piatt, with an offer of linen, *politely* declined it, upon the ground that *his own baggage would be up in a few days*. And many of the officers taken in the last engagement, seem, or affect to believe, that their troops will soon be up. *Mais nous verrons*.—The number of unwounded prisoners we have, at different times taken, amounts exactly to 289, exclusive of officers; of this number, 109 have been sent to Natchez, and the rest will soon follow. One of the officers taken prisoner, is a lieutenant Fanblaque, son of the barrister who wrote the treatise of equity. The amount of the total loss of the enemy, in men put *hors de combat*, is calculated, cannot fall much short of 3000 men.

Before I again write you, I think the affair must be finally decided. The die, if I may so say, is now turning, upon which our fate is staked. If we retain the command of the river, their army must necessarily and speedily retreat. Their provisions are falling short, and their troops growing discontented; they are disappointed in the supposed divisions and disaffection in this country; their loss has been severe, including in it their commander in chief; near Baltimore the death alone of gen. Ross broke up the enterprise; the reception too they have met with at our lines, will not tempt them to repeat their visit, unaccompanied by their fleet; and yet, it is evident, from the tardiness of its movements, and from their separately risking so serious an assault, as that of the 8th, that they did not *originally* calculate upon its co-operation. The firing at Plaquemines has now continued to be heard, at intervals, since the 9th at noon; unfortunate fort Bourbon opposite, which in the beginning of December was begun, remains still incomplete and useless. Our fort however at English Turn is growing formidable. We are all impatiently waiting news from Plaquemine. To Jackson every credit is due, for inspiring general confidence, uniting our scattered efforts, and calling forth our dormant strength. Many men distinguish themselves at our batteries, whose names until lately were unknown; the privateering class, formerly yeelp *Baratarians*, have produced a corps of skilful artilleryists. Behind our entrenchments, the discipline of the English troops is not feared, nor our own want of it felt; the more regular they are in their approaches and attacks, the greater is the loss they sustain, and perhaps the very irregularity of our fire makes it more destructive.

To the inhabitants of the town much credit also is due for their generosity and humanity. Independently of their subscription for the relief of our own militia, &c. amounting to above \$7,000, when a call was made for mattresses, the day after the battle, for the use of the wounded prisoners, four hundred and forty odd were voluntarily furnished.

P. S. Having left my letter unsealed, until the evening, I can now add, that it is said, that an express has arrived from Plaquemines, who states, that the fire of the enemy had made no impression upon our works.

New-Orleans, January 12, 1814.

I wrote you fully by last mail, giving you as correct as I could, the account of the assault by the British upon the entrenchments of our army. Never was there an action which on one side suffered so much and the other so little; we have lost but six men killed, and nine wounded, and the British lost at least 1500 killed, wounded and prisoners, for, after the engagement, they asked a truce to bury their dead, and there was a line marked out for them to come

within one-third of a mile of our works, and we delivered to them  
of their arms, that fell within that line  
We have of wounded prisoners  
Unwounded prisoners, about  
Officers prisoners

482  
460  
200  
20

1162

Add to which, those who fell and were taken up by them, the slight-  
wounded, which got off, and those who were wounded in the first  
of the engagement, will make up the full 1500 loss on their side;  
and so severe was our fire, that very few of the wounded have as  
few as one wound, but some have seven, and one man who killed re-  
ceived 17 wounds. It is ascertained to a certainty that general  
Packenham, first in command, is killed, and general Keane, second  
in command, is wounded, supposed mortally; general Gibbs, third  
in command, killed; so said their adjutant general, during the  
truce, and admiral Cochrane signed it as commander in chief of the  
land and naval forces, which I think puts it beyond doubt. They  
got possession of our right bastion of three guns, but our fire upon  
them was so severe, that they had not time to spike the guns before  
they retreated. There never was a more gallant attack made upon  
any works, than was that of the British upon ours. Nor was there  
ever a more gallant repulse; for there was one continued roar of  
musketry, from right to left, and those who fell of the British re-  
ceiving so many wounds is a proof that our fire was superior. I  
think, to that of any army that was ever brought into action; for  
the proportion of riflemen in our army is very great; and those  
Tennessee fellows in Coffey's brigade, tore them literally to pieces,  
and did not give the enemy time to charge them. The British  
colonel Rainey, who led the men that carried our right bastion, had  
the calf of one of his legs carried away before he mounted the  
works, notwithstanding which he pushed on; and it is said, killed  
a sergeant and corporal of our regulars with his two pistols, and  
was then shot by one of our New-Orleans riflemen, who were posted  
on the right, and who drove them out of their works, and thereby  
saved New-Orleans. Indeed, after the engagement, general Jack-  
son told them they had done themselves immortal honor.

The British have received such a lesson in Louisiana from mi-  
litia, as they never had before in any part of the world; and they  
were beaten by sheer superiority in firing; and they are no doubt  
2,500 men less in killed, wounded and prisoners, than when they  
landed. Jackson, during the action, was running along the line, cry-  
ing out, "give it to them, my boys, let's finish the business to day." He is  
a noble fellow, and the men adore him. It is expected the  
British have attacked Plaquemine, with about seven vessels, say  
gun-boats, and bomb and rocket-ships. What the result is, I cannot  
say; but there are two strong forts down there, and I trust they  
have been repulsed; and if they have, their army will soon go off;  
for they must know they can do nothing, for in the last attack,  
they picked the best men from all the regiments, and officers vol-  
unteered, and never was there a finer set of officers and men com-  
posing an army, than made the assault.

On the other side of the river, however, we were completely  
disgraced by some of the militia, who scarcely waited to fire a gun  
at them, but turned immediately about, although they were  
stronger than the enemy, and could have taken or killed every  
man of them, had they stood as they ought to have done.

#### Journal from the Aurora.

FROM NEW-ORLEANS.—January 1st.—At day-light  
the enemy had opened upon us a battery of two 18  
pounders constantly pouring upon our lines, prin-  
cipally upon our left, towards the cypress woods.  
The affair has been pretty hot. The British have  
considerably suffered from the fire of our batteries  
all along the line. We have lost 12 men killed and  
wounded. This day arrived general Thomas with  
660 men from Baton Rouge.

2d.—Gen. Jackson having (by the means of his tele-  
scope) observed, last evening, a good deal of con-  
fusion in the enemy's camp, and also this morning  
again, ordered a sortie of 400 men, 200 of them  
mounted, to go and reconnoitre their camp; by  
them it was ascertained, that a part of their artille-  
ry had been dismounted by our guns; that they had  
been carried off; that they had razed the redoubts,  
and had retreated on their first lines, towards lake  
Bienville. General Adair has arrived this evening  
with 4000 men, who encamped about three miles  
from the city. The general, accompanied by his  
aids, went to gen. Jackson's quarters, and to-mor-  
row his corps will march to the place assigned to it.

3d.—Nothing extraordinary—all the prisoners and  
deserters will soon be conducted into the interior.

4th.—In consequence of the great number of men  
arriving with their arms in bad order, and of the  
scarcity of good muskets with bayonets, the four  
companies of veterans have given up theirs, amount-  
ing to about 500, to arm the men at the camp, and  
they have armed themselves with fowling pieces and  
pikes.

5th and 6th.—To-day all the prisoners and desert-  
ers have gone for Natchez, under escort. Yester-  
day arrived 10 British sailors, captured from a Bri-  
tish brig from Jamaica, loaded with rum, bread,  
and other munitions for the English army; the brig  
grounded near the post, (Chief-Monsieur) the  
commanding officer of which, captain Johnson, finding  
it impossible to land the cargo of said brig, ordered  
her to be fired; we are informed by these prisoners  
that the infamous Cochrane had received a reinforce-  
ment of 2000 men. On the evening of the same  
day arrived 660 men from Natchez; they inform that  
all the volunteers and militia from the states of  
Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Mississippi terri-  
tory, are burning with the desire of coming to as-  
sist us, and were ready to march at the first call from  
general Jackson, who, it is said, has orders from  
the president to call them into the field whenever  
he may think proper.

8th.—Sunday, at 6 1-2 o'clock A. M. the enemy  
began a very heavy cannonade upon our lines from  
his batteries of 18 and 12 pounders erected since  
the 3d, supported by the musketry of 2,500 men,  
who marched in close columns, and advanced near-  
er than musket shot distance to our entrenchments,  
armed with rockets, obuses, and facines, to storm  
our batteries; they directed their principal attack  
against the head of the-line, flanked by the river,  
and upon the left resting upon the cypress swamp,  
as well as against the tirailleurs and riflemen placed  
above the said swamp; the roaring of the guns and  
firing of the musketry lasted two hours and a quar-  
ter, the enemy's mortars, although directed against  
our centre, have done no harm to our troops, the  
bursting of their bombs in our works has been of  
no effect. Two British officers and one French en-  
gineer of the name of Rennie, who had gained the  
summit of our parapet, have been killed or wound-  
ed and made prisoners, (the engineer and one colo-  
nel was killed); after this terrible affair, the field  
in front of our works was strewn with British  
wounded and killed. The English have lost more  
than 1600 men, of whom 600 killed, at least 800  
wounded and more than 200 prisoners or deserters,  
amongst them 25 officers of every rank. Our loss is  
trifling, 4 killed, whites and men of color, and 7  
slightly wounded, we don't know exactly the num-  
ber of the British wounded in their camp.

From the 2d to the 7th, the British had made the  
negroes of the sugar plantations in their possession,  
cut and continue the canal from Villare near lake  
Borgne into the river, on the night of the 7th they  
passed in their barges about 600 men on the Missis-  
sippi, chiefly sailors, with orders to attack our two  
batteries of 4 guns of 24 pounders, on the right  
side, at the same time that they would attack us on  
the left; they effectively opened their fire before  
day light upon about 500 of our men that our good  
general had sent there in the afternoon of the 7th;  
our men, surprised by an enemy that they could not  
see, and exposed to the fire of such gallant troops,  
retreated; the commanding officers of the batteries,  
so unsupported, spiked their pieces, and made their  
retreat. On the morning of the 9th, the British  
having found all the guns spiked, re-crossed the  
river in their barges, two of them were lost. Our  
barracks and hospitals are full of the enemy's wound-  
ed, and some of our own; the British die at every  
moment of their wounds, more than 30 were buried  
yesterday. On the 6th, in consequence of a truce  
agreed upon, the enemy sent sixty of his men un-  
armed, who were busy all the morning in carrying  
off their dead; our city is at present a true *ville de*  
*guerre*—our cruel enemy is only five miles distant

from our gates. This day the prisoners have been sent on horseback to Natches and Fort Adams.

Among the officers that have been killed or wounded, are lieutenant-general commander in chief, *Packenham*, major-general *Keane*, the French engineer *Rammie*, and also a colonel—all carried to their camp. We learned that the three last are dead, and that the general in chief, at his request, has been carried on board of admiral *Cochrane*, said to be always in a tented gig on the border of lake *Borgne*.

This day, 11th, we are informed by two deserters that general *Gibbs* died of his wounds in their camp, and that *Packenham* died also on board of *Cochrane*: that on the 10th, the enemy had begun to re-embark his artillery and munitions, and appeared to be preparing for a retreat; and that major-general *Lambert* had the command of the army since the death of the three first chiefs.

12th—This day our artillery on the right side of the river have been unspiked, and mounted upon new carriages; the general sent 2000 men thither; two lines are formed there two miles distant, one at each battery; 250 of our good friends from the other side of *Ponchartrain* have just arrived.

The two last English deserters arrived on the 11th, agree, that before their departure from their camp, and on the night of the 10th, it was a general rumor that the British loss in the terrible affair of the 8th had been stated at 3000 men, *hors de combat*, killed, prisoners and deserters, and of about 4,500 since their arrival at *Ship Island* on the 14th December to the 8th instant.

13th—Three hundred men of the 44th regiment of regulars have just arrived; we are about 15,000 strong, distributed in five or six posts, including general *Jackson's* camp in front of the enemy, of about 9000.

Extract of a letter, dated—*New-Orleans, Jan. 9.*

"A few moments only are at my disposal, and in that time, I can give no detail—the enemy have been defeated with great loss on their side, and but little on ours—except the local militia, who were placed under general *Morgan*. All the troops here have behaved admirably; the *Bawatarians*, who were relieved from prison on condition of service, have been of infinite use, they manned several guns which were most faithfully and skilfully served, and did great execution. The enemy behaved like soldiers on this occasion, and their example had much effect upon many of our people, who had not been before in any action. If we fought well before, we shall fight better next time, such is the confidence prevailing."

Camp, 4 miles from *New-Orleans*, January 13.

We have had another and most glorious battle. On Sunday mornig, the 8th inst. at day light the enemy advanced in regular columns with nearly their whole force, and commenced a most vigorous and gallant attack, within twenty paces of our lines, at the same time keeping up a constant cannonading from two batteries, and throwing *Congreve* rockets to cover their light troops; but we, expecting an attack, were ready to receive them, and gave them such another reception as they have not experienced since the war; in fact, the annals of history scarce bear testimony of such another. The enemy left on the field of battle better than five hundred killed, seven hundred wounded, (mostly dangerous, being generally from our cannon) and three hundred prisoners. Nearly all the killed and three hundred and fifty of the wounded fell into our hands, besides the three hundred officers and men prisoners, unhurt, and astonishing as it may appear to you, but not more so than true, our loss on that ever memorable day, was but six privates killed and twelve wounded.

The enemy's loss in officers was immense, from 50 to 60 in killed, wounded and prisoners, and those the best in their army. Lieutenant general *Packenham*, their commander in chief, was killed early in the action, by a cannon ball. Generals *Keane* and *Gibbs*, were both wounded, and said to be dangerously so. Colonel *Raney* and several other field officers that paid you a visit at *Washington*, were killed on our breast works; the enemy took possession of one of our batteries on the right, but were soon killed or taken prisoners and the battery regained; the battle lasted about an hour and a half, and while glory covered our arms on this side of the river, we had a party of militia that disgraced themselves on the other. The enemy sent over a party of 600 men, making an attack at the same time that they engaged us at this, when the militia made a shameful retreat after their first fire. The enemy advanced a mile or two towards *Orleans* on that side, took three batteries, burnt several valuable sugar plantations, spiked three or four guns that were there, burnt their carriages and retreated down the river opposite their main force and recrossed, before we could get a reinforcement across. Had our militia over the river done their duty, they would have taken the whole force opposed to them. In the afternoon after the battle, the enemy sent in a flag of truce, for the purpose of burying their dead; general *Jackson* gave them until 12 o'clock next day, but that not being enough for them to bury them, they were allowed until 4 o'clock.

Since Sunday, both armies have remained perfectly quiet; the British army is commanded by general *Lambert*. It is the general opinion in camp, that the enemy are about to leave us; but I think it will depend upon their fleet getting past fort *St. Philip*.

General *Jackson* received an express from that place to-day, which left it on the 9th. There were two bomb vessels, and five others anchored two miles from the fort; they had at that time thrown 25 shells in the fort; without injuring any thing. For the last three days, we have heard a constant bombardment in that direction. Should the enemy get by them we shall be in a bad way here. Should they not succeed, as I believe they will not, *Orleans* is safe.

P. S. You will perceive by my calculation the enemy's loss to be 1500; but I believe I have underrated it—two deserters that have just come in, say it was two thousand on Sunday last, and it is supposed by some of our officers to be nearly 3000.

A letter dated *January 2*, says—"Our troops are in great spirits and have universally beat the picket guards in their skirmishes. General *Coffe's* rifle corps are dressed in long coats, something like a full trim quaker, and the British did not know what to make of them upon our first attack—they said they had heard of and seen quakers in other parts of the United States, but that the Louisiana quakers were the d—st fighting fellows they had ever seen. We have numerous anecdotes of these fellows, but one thing is very certain, that they fight equal to the old veterans of *Rome*—general *Jackson* is their God—he is as cool as the duke of *Abrantes*, and upon a similar occasion displayed something of the same presence of mind—a ball passed near him on the night of the battle—he bowed his head and smiled, and observed to Mr. *Livingston*, one of his aids, that it was not customary with him to salute the balls *en passant*, but that the one which had just gone by, was the first British ball he had noticed, and he could not do less than pay his respects to it."

Another of the 7th says—"We have become so used to the sound of cannon within these two weeks past that no one appears to attach any importance to it, and even women who never heard of a camp before,

will enter it in the heat of battle without fear. I think now, all that I have read of wars and battles is mere stuff—that its terrors are more horrid in imagination than in reality. Some of our most cowardly fellows are among our first rate warriors, and have achieved deeds equal in valor to some of Bonaparte's great feats of bravery—but practice makes every thing familiar to the human mind, and I do really believe that our troops are now so familiarized to scenes of blood, that they would not hesitate, if commanded, to march in column up to the mouth of a cannon. I cannot conceive how the men at Washington allowed the same cowardly Englishmen to alarm them when they attacked at Bladensburg, but they \* \* \* \* \*. You will laugh at my calling the British soldiers *cowardly*. I don't know how if the epithet may be applicable to the whole army, but to the division we have seen, it appertains with great justice. On the first assault the enemy made upon our entrenchments, on the 28th ult. they came on in three columns, first on the right, second to the centre, and third to the extreme left; they marched up in solid mass, until they came within about 400 yards, they then halted and displayed; we then saluted them with grape and canister shot; they immediately formed solid column again, but with all the thrashing that the officers could give them, not a man would advance another inch—in this situation they stood until we gave them another round of canister and grape, when down they fell upon their bellies and laid there until dark, and then sneaked off under cover of the night, as Drummond says, "that the fashion of *ducking* may have answered in Spain," but among the Yankees it is disgraceful, and our Tennessee men go out now, and fire upon the picket guards and beckon them to come up and not to fall down in the weeds and lay there like snipes!"

A letter from Mr. A. Henderson, says—"The enemy made a most desperate charge—they came in solid columns—one in the centre and the other on the right of our battery. Each man had a bundle of brush or sugar cane on his shoulders for the purpose of filling up our ditch. They were so warmly met that they were thrown into confusion, and retreated, formed and returned a third time to the charge.—They succeeded in getting possession of the bastion with three pieces of cannon in it, but they were soon dislodged, and the most of them taken prisoners. So intent were they in getting over our work that they pulled off their shoes for the purpose of climbing it. There were a number of officers of distinction killed, and it has been ascertained that their commanding general officer was mortally wounded. In the pocket of one of the officers who was killed, was found a journal, in which is mentioned that on the night of the 23d they lost 224 killed and an immense number wounded; and on the 28th they lost 15 officers killed, and mentions only that they had a great number of privates killed."

Another letter has the following paragraph—"The sight was a terrible one to see a field covered with dead and wounded laying in heaps, the field was completely red. It was a very pleasing sight to see how kind our men were to the wounded—would take them upon their backs and carry them to the hospital."

One letter says that col. Brooke who led the attack upon Baltimore after the death of Ross, is wounded. The enemy came to the charge on our works with a shout like that of their red allies, the indians. "The killed and wounded on our part were chiefly of the New-Orleans colored regiment, who were so anxious for glory that they could not be prevented from advancing over our breast works and exposing them-

selves. They fought like desperadoes and deserve distinguished praise."

"A captain, one of our prisoners, told me for the time the action lasted, it was the hottest he ever witnessed in Spain or France, he led 60 grenadiers to the charge, and but 5 escaped."

It appears to have been the design of the enemy, in crossing the river, to have turned the cannon on our line. They were spiked, however, before our people retired and the English burnt the carriages; but they were made useful again the next day.

When we noticed the arrival of the Dictator, 64, at Havana from the neighborhood of New-Orleans, in our last number, we were at a loss to discover her errand: but it now appears, that she brought there about four hundred passengers, soldiers wives, and sick and wounded or disabled soldiers, to relieve the enemy's camp of its ineffectives, and also to obtain a supply of provisions for those that remained. The captain of the Dictator immediately contracted for, and began to take on board, with all haste, 4000 barrels of flour, at 23 dollars *per barrel*. This may corroborate the intelligence received direct from New-Orleans, that the enemy was short of provisions, having doubtless believed that in the city there was enough and to spare, and that he had little else to do than to march in and eat! However there is this in his favor: the affair of the 8th ult. will much reduce the quantity of rations required!

It is also said, that a brig from New-Providence had been permitted to take from the "royal" arsenal at Havana, 18 pieces of brass cannon for the use of the enemy at New-Orleans, and that they were carried thence in the night to save appearances.

Letters from New-Orleans say, on the information of deserters and prisoners, that lieutenant-general Packenham had with him a special commission as governor of Louisiana, and a whole regiment of magistrates, custom-house officers, merchants and dealers!—little thinking that his title it would be so warmly disputed by the *cannon law*.

A British colonel mounted our works and shot one of our soldiers with his pistol—but in one instant he was pierced by twelve balls.

There are good reasons to believe that the whole three, Packenham, Keane and Gibbs, were killed, or died immediately of their wounds; and that the whole loss of the enemy, including his fight with the gun-boats, in killed, wounded and missing up to the 9th ult. was at least 4,500 men. This estimate is made from a journal that was found in the pocket of a dead officer.

The British appear to have received a reinforcement of about 5000 under general Lambert since their first landing at Orleans; and before the battle of the 8th their entire force may have been about 12,000 men.

It was the very flower of the enemy that attacked our lines, and they were cut down as the grass falls before the mower's scythe!

We have a report that two of the enemy's vessels have been blown up at Fort Plaquemine, or St. Philip. Two explosions were heard in that direction, which, possibly may have given rise to it. The fort was under charge of an able officer, with a garrison well supplied with all things needful for defence. But if even that fort should be reduced, there are, we trust, other insuperable obstacles to his progress to the city.

It is worth observation, that the moment the enemy obtained an advantage on the right bank of the river, he began to shew his vandal spirit in burning and destroying private property, in the mere wantonness of barbarity.

There is a manifest superiority in the manage-

ment of our artillery over that of the enemy at Orleans; as, indeed, appears to have been the case every where, at land or at sea. This is an extraordinary fact.

A letter of Jan. 13, says—"We are in possession of papers by which we know their original force, was, including sailors and marines about 11,000 men; that we have killed disabled and made prisoners upwards of 3000, and we are informed that the dysentery is prevailing to a great extent amongst them; that I think their force is not exceeding 6000 effective men; and ours in high health and spirits, and confident of success, at least 15,000 effective. In case they should carry our first intrenchment, we fall back to our next fortified camp two miles nearer the city, and in case of being again beaten, we fall back to our next, a mile from the latter, both having strong batteries fronting the river.

Last evening by a scouting party it was found that in one of their principal batteries they had spiked 8 pieces of cannon, and since my leaving camp there is said to be an express from Plaquemine to general Jackson, stating they had beaten the enemy having blown up a gun barge and two bomb ketches. It is highly probable, as Jackson considered the fort so strong that he would not block up the mouth of the river. The fort has 44 cannon, is bomb proof, 500 men and commanded by major Overton an excellent officer, and having under him several experienced artillery officers. If Plaquemine is safe, you may be assured we are safe; as if they could not beat us the 8th, they never can do it afterwards; as their force is daily decreasing by desertion, &c. and ours is daily receiving reinforcements. It is the opinion of the whole camp, that they will retreat if they are not now doing so, unless their fleet get up the river, which I have no idea of. To give an idea of the security we feel, cotton was sold this day at 10 cents, notes at 6 months, and no more could be had at that." Extract of a letter from a very respectable gentleman in New-Orleans, to his friend in Philadelphia, dated.

NEW-ORLEANS, JAN. 13, 1815.

On Sunday, the 8th inst. at 6 o'clock in the morning, the enemy attacked us with such fury, that we have very few examples of. They were formed in two solid columns. Their left marched alongside the river, composed of two thousand picked men, grenadiers, flank companies, &c. Their right column, consisting of 3500 fusiliers. Our left was defeated by the brave Tennesseans, commanded by Coffee, Carroll, &c. Our centre and right was defeated by the New-Orleans militia, and the colored men of St. Domingo, commanded by the brave col. Savary, and a detachment of the 7th and 44th, U. S. troops. The whole of our artillery was served by the Baratarians and other Frenchmen. The enemy developed his columns, and the carnage began. Our artillery was served with the greatest skill and bravery, and carried destruction into the ranks of the enemy, who nevertheless did reach our entrenchments, from which they were driven at the point of the bayonet. The slaughter lasted one hour and a quarter. What you will hardly believe, is, that in that ever memorable day, enormous as the loss of the enemy has been, ours has not proved beyond three men killed and thirty wounded. You will think the following statement of the loss of the enemy exaggerated, but you may depend upon its veracity, viz.

Sir Edward Pakenham, general and commander in chief, cut asunder by a cannon ball.  
Major general Gibbs, killed.  
Major Pringle, do.  
Colonel Reynor, do.

Major Whitaker, do.  
Brigade major Wilkinson, do.  
482 men killed in the American lines and delivered to the English to be buried.  
460 wounded, which remain in our power,  
250 prisoners,  
20 officers prisoners,  
500 killed or wounded, carried off by the British.

1712 total.

The enemy requested a truce of three days, to bury his dead; but our indefatigable general would only grant them 24 hours. And it was during that interval, that the enemy's sentries and ours have had intercourse, by which means we have been able to ascertain the loss of the enemy, independent of the above statement, is about 600 men *hors de combat*.—It is our opinion the loss of the enemy in that memorable day, is not less than two thousand men *hors de combat*.

Their losses in the former engagements has been ascertained to be no less than 1500 men *hors de combat*; besides the two black regiments in their service have been found unfit for duty, and not able to stand the severity of the climate. These two regiments have been re-embarked and sent back.

The English have destroyed the plantations below their camp, and carried away the slaves and behaved generally like vandals.

There is a strong indication that the enemy are re-embarking, and it is even said that their heavy pieces of ordnance have been dismounted and sent on board their ships, as also their sick and wounded.

Our capital resembles a *Place de Guerre*.—The greatest union prevails among all classes, and every military post is well secured.

Louisville, Ky. Jan. 12.—Passed the falls, January 6th, a keel boat, commanded by John Pollard, loaded with public stores consisting of

750	stand of arms
300	bags of catridges,
100	barrels of powder,
500	18 pound balls,
500	12 do. do.
1000	4 do. do.

#### MANDATE

Of the Apostolical administrator of the Diocess of Louisiana, to the clergy and faithful of the city of New-Orleans, to order public prayers.

*Dear beloved brethren—*

Whilst our brave warriors, led on by the hero of the Floridas, prepare to defend our altars and firesides against foreign invasion, it behoves us, ministers of the most High, and all you, christians, whom the weakness of your sex or whose age prevents your taking an active part in this important struggle, to unite under the banners of religion, and implore the Divine Protection on the arms of our defenders.—Just and holy as is our cause; well founded as is our confidence in the intrepidity of our soldiers, and in the experience of the chief who commands them—we must not however, forget, that victory as well as defeat, is in the hands of the Supreme Arbitrer of human destinies, and that if he does not watch over our interests, in vain are thousands of arms raised to protect them. What cause was ever more holy, more adequate to inspire perfect confidence in its defenders, than that of the Israelites? God himself had promised to deliver their enemies into their hands, and yet Moses, whilst looking from the top of the mountain on the host of Israel, engaged with that of Amalec on the plain, did not cease to keep his suppliant hands raised to Heaven, as long as the combat remained undecided; and victory was de-

clared to be the reward of the prayers of the just, rather than the valor of the combatants.

I have said of the just, dearly beloved brethren, because our prayers, in order to be efficacious, ought to proceed from a pure heart. "The prayer of the impious, (says the Lord) is an abomination in my eyes." Alas! dare we flatter ourselves, that the scourge which is at our doors, is not the punishment of our iniquities? Let us then put an end to the cause of our evils, if we wish to see those evils terminate. Ah! how irritated soever Heaven may be, we know how much a contrite and humble heart may contribute to disarm its vengeance. It was that which procured for the guilty Ninevah the revocation of that fatal decree which seemed to deprive her of every hope. Like her, dearly beloved brethren, "let us humble ourselves under the powerful hand of God, so that he may raise us up on the day of his visitation;" let us enter with a firm step into the ways of justice. We may then hope every thing from the clemency of this God of goodness, who even in height of his anger, desires only to shew mercy.

To enter into these views, and to offer, by the union of our petitions, a holy violence to Heaven, we order, that on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week, public prayers shall be said in the two churches of this city. The blessed Sacrament shall be exposed in each church from the beginning of the first Mass to the end of the last, when the psalm *Miserere* shall be sung, and Benediction given. In the afternoon, the blessed Sacrament shall be again exposed from 4 o'clock until 5; during which time the same psalm will be sung, together with the Litany of the blessed Virgin, and any other prayers may be said, that the Pastor may think proper; the whole to be terminated, as in the morning, by the solemn Benediction of the blessed Sacrament.

And this our present mandate shall be read in the two churches of this city, at the morning and evening offices of this day.

Given at New-Orleans the 18th day of December, 1814. WM. DUBOURG, *Adm. Apost.*

*Extract of a note from the adjutant-general.*

Major-general Jackson directs me, sir, to express to you his high approbation of the mandate you have submitted to his inspection, and requests you cause it to be printed and circulated.

(Signed) THOMAS L. BUTLER, *Lieut-de-camp.*

GENERAL ORDER,

Adjutant-general's office, head-quarters, 4th and 10th Military district, Baltimore, February 5, 1815.

Lieut. colonel ARMISTEAD, commanding at fort M'Henry, will cause a national salute to be fired tomorrow morning at ten o'clock, from the guns of the fort, in honor of the splendid victory obtained by the arms of the United States under major-general JACKSON, over the enemy in the attack made by the latter on the defences of New-Orleans, on the 8th ult. in which attack the enemy lost, besides his commander-in-chief, who was killed, 2600 men in killed, wounded and prisoners.

The whole line of troops will turn out under arms at the hour at which the salute is to be fired.

By command, FRANCIS W. BELTON, *Assistant adjutant-general.*

The city of Washington was illuminated on the 4th inst. in consequence of the following proclamation of the mayor:

Whereas, it has pleased the Almighty Disposer of events, to signalize our arms, under the command of the gallant general Jackson, at Orleans, by a victory over the invading foe, unparalleled in the annals of nations.

And whereas, it becomes a people relying on the favor of Heaven for support; to rejoice in every manifestation of divine goodness; and a number of the citizens of this corporation having expressed to me a wish to celebrate our brilliant triumph by an illumination of this city, in which I most heartily accord; I do, therefore, hereby recommend to the citizens of this corporation to illuminate their houses this evening at 7 o'clock, and to continue until 10 o'clock. And I do enjoin upon all the officers of the police to be vigilant in preserving order and preventing mischief.

General Jackson, in his official account of the above glorious battle, states the killed left on the field 700; wounded left on the field, 1,400; prisoners 500; total 2,600; our loss, only seven killed and six wounded.

Given under my hand at the city of Washington, this 4th day of February, 1815.

JAMES H. BLAKE, *mayor.*

At twelve o'clock, on Monday last, at Philadelphia, a national salute, in honor of the victory at NEW-ORLEANS, was fired from the United States' frigate *Guerriere*, commodore Rodgers, now lying in that harbor.

*By the president of the United States of America.*

A PROCLAMATION.—Among the many evils produced by the wars, which, with little intermission, have afflicted Europe, and extended their ravages into other quarters of the globe, for a period exceeding twenty years, the dispersion of a considerable portion of the inhabitants of different countries, in sorrow and in want, has not been the least injurious to human happiness, nor the least severe in the trial of human virtue.

It had been long ascertained, that many foreigners flying from the dangers of their home, and that some citizens, forgetful of their duty, had co-operated in forming an establishment on the island of Barrataria near the mouth of the river Mississippi, for the purpose of a clandestine and lawless trade. The government of the United States caused the establishment to be broken up and destroyed: and, having obtained the means of designating the offenders of every description, it only remained to answer the demands of justice, by inflicting an exemplary punishment.

But it has since been represented, that the offenders have manifested a sincere penitence; that they have abandoned the prosecution of the worst cause for the support of the best; and particularly, that they have exhibited, in the defence of New-Orleans, unequivocal traits of courage and fidelity. Offenders, who have refused to become the associates of the enemy in the war, upon the most seducing terms of invitation; and who have aided to repel his hostile invasion of the territory of the United States; can no longer be considered as objects of punishment, but as objects of a generous forgiveness.

It has, therefore, been seen with great satisfaction, that the general assembly of the state of Louisiana earnestly recommend those offenders to the benefit of a full pardon: And in compliance with that recommendation, as well as in consideration of all the other extraordinary circumstances of the case, I James Madison, president of the United States of America, do issue this proclamation, hereby granting, publishing and declaring, a free and full pardon of all offences committed in violation of any act or acts of the congress of the said United States, touching the revenue, trade and navigation thereof, or touching the intercourse and commerce of the United States with foreign nations, at any time before the eighth day of January, in the present year one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, by any person or persons whatsoever, being inhabitants of New Orleans and the adjacent country, or being inhabitants

of the said island of Barrataria, and the places adjacent: *Provided*, That every person claiming the benefit of this full pardon, in order to entitle himself thereto, shall produce a certificate in writing from the governor of the state of Louisiana, stating that such person has aided in the defence of New-Orleans, and the adjacent country, during the invasion thereof as aforesaid.

And I do hereby further authorise and direct all suits, indictments, and prosecutions, for fines, penalties, and forfeitures, against any person, or persons, who shall be entitled to the benefit of this full pardon forthwith to be stayed, discontinued and released: And all civil officers are hereby required, according to the duties of their respective stations, to carry this proclamation into immediate and faithful execution.

DONE at the city of Washington, the sixth day of February, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, and of the independence of the United States the thirty-ninth.

JAMES MADISON.

By the president,  
JAS. MONROE, *Acting secretary of state.*

Previous to the army under general Carroll leaving Nashville, for the lower Mississippi, the troops were formed and the following address delivered.

*Fellow citizens,*  
This address will be handed to you by colonel Hynes, adjutant general of the militia of Tennessee.

The degree of satisfaction felt by the executive of the state at the promptitude and equipment on their part of the militia, in attending the call to arms, upon the present occasion, ready to act, commands an expression to them, to be given of his grateful sense of their patriotism and zeal—his gratification is great indeed; and their promptitude is duly appreciated—it is a sure pledge of future good conduct—no evidence, short of good conduct in battle, could be a stronger one of true love of country.

Go forth, meet, vanquish the enemy to your peace, and at the end of your service, return crowned with laurels, well entitled to the plaudits of your countrymen, whose good opinion, with the liberality and justice of government in your favor, together with self approbation for good conduct, constitutes a full reward for any services.

To be useful to our country should be the motto of each man. Your pride will be, in all you do, to realize the high expectations entertained of your valor. Each should bear in mind, at all times, that he goes into the service of his country as a patriot, as a distinguished citizen, and a good soldier, to contend with his enemy, in a just war, declared by his government, in support of all that is dear to freemen, who deserve to be free. More need not be said to meritorious men who are determined to do their duty. Your general, seconded by the brave, will lead you to the post of honor, and will maintain it to the last.

The elevated rank held by the citizens of Tennessee throughout the union, founded not less on their promptitude and regard for subordination, than their warlike achievements, is a sure pledge that it will be preserved by the present army, and it will be their pleasure to afford to the world, an additional evidence, that the people of Tennessee will surrender their liberties and independence but with their lives.

Wherever the war may require the march of this army, it will have my most ardent and anxious wishes to Heaven for its success, and for the honorable and safe return in due time, of all attached to it.

WILLIE BLOUNT.

Nashville, Nov. 20, 1814.

HONORABLE.—*Marshal's office, New-York, February 6, 1815.*—In consequence of the following letter from the commissary general of prisoners, the marshal liberated the five seamen lately saved from the wreck of the British sloop of war Sylph; and such of them as are disposed to go to Halifax will be sent there by the cartel Jane and Martha, which will depart for that place in the course of a few days.

(CONT.)  
Office of Commissary General of Prisoners,  
Washington, February 1st, 1815.

SIR—I have seen in the National Intelligencer of this date, under the New-York head, (to which I beg leave to refer you) an account of the shipwreck of the British sloop of war Sylph, on the east end of Long Island, under circumstances afflicting to humanity, by which the greater part of the crew were lost, and that a purser and some few men were saved by the benevolent and spirited exertions of the inhabitants.

In war, as in peace, calamities like this give a claim to the survivors on the hospitality and protection of the country on whose shores they may be cast. It is not the desire of this government to consider as prisoners of war unfortunate men who thus come into its power.

If the facts be stated correctly you will be pleased to provide the seamen with what may be necessary for their subsistence and comfort, and to liberate them without exchange as soon as possible. The purser being a non-combatant, under any circumstances, is entitled to be returned that way.

If this reaches you in time to send them to Halifax by the British cartel now at New York, you are requested to do so, otherwise to convey them, as soon as can conveniently be done, by a flag to one of the ships off your harbor.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
J. MASON.

General John Smith,  
Marshal of the state of New-York.

ENEMY IN THE CHESAPEAKE.—On Sunday, the 29th ult. some barges of the enemy came into Hampton roads, and captured five small craft, one laden with tobacco. Captain Gordon sent out his barges, but they were too late to check the depredations of the enemy. On the 31st the whole of the enemy's vessels left Lynnhaven bay, and put to sea, supposed on account of the weather.

MILITARY.

A complete regiment of North Carolinians have been called out on the requisition of gen. *Pinckney*, for the defence of the southern coast.

Old soldiers.—The following list of old soldiers who now hold commissions in the army of the United States, is given in an eastern paper.

Names.	Years of service.	Age.
General Wilkinson . . . . .	32 . . . . .	63
General Burbeck . . . . .	30 . . . . .	62
General Cushing . . . . .	32 . . . . .	56
General M. Porter . . . . .	35 . . . . .	57
General Bissel . . . . .	27 . . . . .	59
Colonel Freeman . . . . .	27 . . . . .	63
Colonel Kingsbury . . . . .	38 . . . . .	57
Colonel Sparks . . . . .	27 . . . . .	53
Major Pike, father of the late gen. Z. M. Pike, . . . . .	32 . . . . .	64
Major Whistler . . . . .	26 . . . . .	58
Major Beall . . . . .	25 . . . . .	59

Many of these officers entered the revolutionary army as privates,—most of them were subaltern officers at the close of the war.

Capt. *John A. Burt*, of the United States cavalry, has been brevetted a major, for his gallant charge on the enemy, at Herring bay, on the 31st Oct. 1814, to take rank from that time.

The legislature of Maryland has passed the bill for raising 5,000 state troops.

The legislature of Ohio has loaned to the general government 30,000 dollars, for the purpose of defraying the expense of transporting provisions for the supply of the frontier posts.

The bill for the organization of a body of state troops in Pennsylvania, has failed in the house of representatives.

*Savannah, Jan. 28.* An official despatch reached town this morning to gen. Floyd, which states that the enemy evacuated St. Mary's and Point Petre on Tuesday last, after burning the barracks and blowing up the fort at the latter place; and that there is no doubt Savannah is ultimately their object.

A private letter to a gentleman in this place, from Amelia, states that the enemy evacuated St. Mary's on Tuesday last, after plundering every thing they could lay their hands on—that they intended occupying Cumberland island as their head-quarters—that the incendiary Cockburn commands them—and that they say Savannah is the only place worth holding or taking care of. The writer adds he is assured the impression that the enemy will pay our city a visit is not confined to the ignorant and unthinking. Be vigilant, be watchful.

We will merely observe that for the last four or five days, hundreds of our up country brethren have arrived in this place to aid in its defence. Our city is now garrisoned with numerous troops—our works are completing with spirit and our means increasing daily, which will enable us to defend our rights, and fire sides, our holy sanctuaries, and all that is dear to us.

Major general Pinckney and suite reached our city yesterday morning.

The amount of the enemy's force on the southern coast, appears to have been greatly exaggerated. Major-general Pinckney discharged, on the 29th ult. the whole of the militia this afternoon, by a general order on parade. A draft is to take place of 200 men from the militia of the city, and of 200 more of the country militia in camp—all the rest to go home. This looks well.

*Charleston, Jan. 31.* We learn that a gentleman has arrived from Edisto island, who states that the detachment from maj. Robertson's battalion on John's island, consisting of fifty men, and twenty of the island militia, having joined the militia of Edisto, attacked and succeeded in capturing the whole of the marauders, to the number of seventy, who were on that island "sinking wells and killing cattle."

#### NAVAL.

*Copy of a letter from commodore Dent to the secretary of the navy, dated*

Charleston, S. C. January 31st, 1815.

SIR—I had the honor in my letter of the 28th, to inform you, that from the information received by the commanding general of the situation of the enemy near North Edisto, and the great alarm of the inhabitants, I had decided to visit that place.—On my arrival at the camp on John's island, I sent an express to lieut. Kearney, commanding the flotilla, (then on his way with the army transport to Savannah) to meet me with the flotilla in North Edisto river.

From light winds and contrary tides, lieut. Kearney did not arrive there until half past 2, P. M. on Sunday, when I was informed the enemy were watering with their barges and about 80 men on the opposite island. I immediately directed the three barges to be manned with volunteers, and ordered lieut. Kearney to proceed outside and endeavor to cut them off; while a body of volunteers and militia,

by order of the general, were landed on the island. A little after three of the barges moved on and on turning the point were discovered by the frigate, (laying to an anchor about 4 miles from the land) when she fired several guns and made the signal of recall to her boats, and immediately got under way and opened a heavy fire on our barges.—

The wind about this time changed from the westward to the east, and very light, enabled our barges to cut off the tender, which was discovered working out of a small bay with two barges. The enemy's barges, after putting men on board the tender, moved directly to windward and ahead of our barges, to the frigate. After a close running fight of one hour and a half, and in the act of boarding, I had the satisfaction to see the tender surrender. The exertions of the frigate to save the tender were great; and when she saw her two boats leave her, she opened a heavy fire on them, and obliged them to pursue our barges, with a third that left the ship about the same time. After the surrender of the tender the frigate recalled her boats and soon after ceased firing. Lieut. Kearney, the officers and men engaged in this enterprize, behaved themselves in a manner that does honor to their country and themselves.—Although they had to continue so long under the fire of the frigate, nothing could divert them from their object. As the frigate had cut off their retreat to North Edisto, lieut. Kearney was obliged to proceed to South Edisto with his prize, since which I have not heard any thing from him.—The detachment of militia proceeded to the place where the enemy were watering, and found their launch aground and abandoned, the crew having gone on board the tender. She was filled with water casks, and had mounted a carronade, six brass swivels, with muskets, pistols, &c. She was got off at high water, and I expect her round with the prize.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
J. H. DENT.  
The hon. Benjamin W. Crowninshield,  
Secretary of the Navy.

## Proceedings of Congress.

IN SENATE.

*Wednesday, Feb. 1.*—A motion was made, virtually, to reject the bill for repairing or rebuilding the public edifices in the city of Washington and lost, as follows:

For it—Messrs. Dana, German, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason Wells—7.

Against it—Messrs. Barbour, Bibb, Brown, Chase, Condit, Daggett, Fromentin, Gaillard, Giles, Goldsborough, Morse, Kerr Laock, Morrow, Roberts, Smith, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Varnum Walker, Wharton—72.

*Thursday, Feb. 2.*—The senate resumed the consideration of the bill returned by the president of the United States "to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States," together with his objections thereto; and, after some debate, the question was again put—"Shall the bill pass?" and decided as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Brown, Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, German, Giles, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason, Tait, Thompson—15.

NAYS—Messrs. Anderson, Barbour, Bibb, Barry, Chase, Condit, Gaillard, Kerr, Laock, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Smith, Talbot, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Wells, Wharton—19.

So the senate refused to pass the bill, (to do which, after the refusal of the president to sanction it, would have required the votes of two-thirds of all the members present) and the bill is therefore lost.

*Friday, Feb. 3.*—The bill for repairing the public buildings, &c. was ordered to be engrossed for third reading.

*Saturday, Feb. 4.*—Mr. Barbour of Va. gave notice that on Monday he should ask leave to introduce



a bill to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America.

The bill for the repairing or rebuilding the public buildings in the city of Washington, was read a third time, and the blank therein for the amount of appropriation having been filled with *five hundred thousand dollars*, was passed and sent to the house for concurrence.

The bill from the house to amend the act to establish a navy department, by adding thereto a board of commissioners, was read a third time as amended, and passed by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Barbour, Chase, Daggett, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Giles, Gore, Hursey, Kerr, Mason, Morrow, Tait, Taylor, Thompson, Wharton—16.

NAYS—Messrs. Bibb, Condit, Lacey, Lambert, Roberts, Smith, Turner, Varium—8.

The amendments yet require the concurrence of the house.

The bill for the better regulation of the ordnance department, was read a third time as amended, and passed.

*Monday, Feb. 6.*—The bill from the house to amend the act laying a duty on licences to retailers, was read a third time and passed.

Agreeably to notice, Mr. Barbour, leave being given, introduced a bill "to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America;" which was read and passed to a second reading.

[The principal features of this bill are as follows: the capital to consist of fifty millions of dollars, payable, twenty millions in treasury notes, fundable at the pleasure of the government in stock to bear an interest of 6 per cent.; fifteen millions in any public stock bearing 6 per cent. interest; five millions in specie; and ten millions to be subscribed by the government in stock bearing an interest of 4 per cent. per annum; the government to have the capacity to borrow thirty millions of the bank at 6 per cent. interest; the directors not to be obliged to pay specie until the last payment on the stock shall be completed; and, upon the petition of the directors, the government may introduce any regulation which shall be thought proper in regard to the specie payments of the bank; the subscriptions to be opened on the first Monday in April, at which time the first payment of one-fifth of the whole amount of subscription shall be payable, and the remaining four-fifths in four quarter-yearly instalments; the bank to go into operation as soon as twenty millions are thus paid in. The directors for the first year are named in the bill.]

The president laid before the senate the annual report of the commissioners of the sinking fund.

*Tuesday, February 7.* The bill to authorize the purchase for the use of the United States, of a tract of land near Plattsburg, was read a third time and passed.

*Wednesday, February 8.* The senate was accupied this day on the bill to establish a national bank.

Mr. Giles moved an amendment, the object of which was to confine the stock (payable on account of subscriptions to the capital of the bank) to such stock as should be hereafter created.

After an animated and interesting debate, this motion was negatived—

For the motion	15
Against it	18

And the senate adjourned at sun-down.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Thursday, February 2.*—Mr. Kilbourn submitted for consideration the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the committee of claims be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the paying to the mounted volunteers and drafted militia, who have served in the south-western

army under the command of generals Jackson and Floyd, against the Creek Indians, or to their heirs or assigns, the value of the horses by them lost in said service, in consequence of the men being dismounted and separated from their horses, by order of their respective commanding officers, on any expedition, or in consequence of the riders being killed, or wounded in battle, deducting from the original value of such horses respectively, as received into the service, the amount of which may have been paid for the use thereof in any of the cases, prior to the loss of the same as aforesaid."

The resolution was amended, on motion of Mr. Hall of Geo. by inserting after the words "wounded in battle," the words—"or who have lost their horse or horses whilst in the service of the United States, by any unavoidable accident;" and

On the adoption of the resolution as amended, the vote, after debate, stood as follows:

For the resolve	67
Against it	49

So the resolve was passed.

The engrossed bill making appropriations for the support of government for the year 1815; the engrossed bill concerning the courts of justice in the Indiana territory; and the engrossed bill authorizing the president of the United States to receive into the service certain volunteer corps, which may be raised and organized by any state, in lieu of the detachments of the militia thereof, were severally read a third time, passed and sent to the senate for their concurrence.

The bill supplementary to the act confirming certain claims to land in the Illinois territory, and the bill for taxing lotteries, passed through committees of the whole, were severally amended, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

*Friday, Feb. 3.* The bill for laying a duty or tax on lotteries was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, as was also the bill for laying a duty on gold and silver plate, jewelry and paste work.

*Saturday, Feb. 4.* The engrossed bills for taxing lotteries, and for laying a duty on gold, silver and plated ware and jewelry, were each read a third time and passed, and sent to the senate for concurrence.

The order of the day on the report of the committee of investigation (usually so named) having been called over, it was, on motion, ordered that the further consideration thereof be postponed indefinitely.

The bill for the relief of [Amey Dardin] the representative of David Dardin, deceased, passed through a committee of the whole, was widely debated, and at last (perhaps for the *twentieth* time in one or other branch of the legislature) ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, by the following vote:

For the bill	69
Against it	59

The amendments of the senate to the bill, to amend the act, establishing the navy department, by adding thereto a board of commissioners, were read and concurred in.

The amendments of the same body, to the bill for the better regulation of the ordnance department, were also read and committed.

The bill from the senate, making appropriations for repairing or re-building the public buildings, in the city of Washington, was twice read and committed.

*Monday, Feb. 6.* Mr. Troup from the committee on military affairs, made a report recommending the adoption of the following resolve:

*Resolved, by the senate and house of representatives*

of the United States of America in congress assembled. That the thanks of congress be and they are hereby presented to major general Jackson, and through him to the officers and men under his command, for their gallantry and good conduct, in defeating the enemy before the city of New-Orleans, in successive battles fought on the 23d of December, 1814, and 1st and 8th of January, 1815; in which a British veteran army, formidable in number as in discipline, commanded by renowned generals, was thrice beaten and driven back with great loss, and in the battle of the 8th of Jan. with immense slaughter, by a militia force hastily collected to the defence of that city, aided by a small body of regular troops; thus illustrating the patriotic defence of the country with brilliant achievement, and signaling the Americans by steady perseverance, incessant vigilance, patient suffering, undaunted firmness, and in victory moderation and clemency: And that the president of the United States be requested to cause a gold medal to be struck with suitable emblems and devices, and presented to major-general Jackson, in testimony of the high sense entertained by congress of events so memorable, and of services so eminent.

The resolves were twice read and referred to a committee of the whole.

Mr. Rich, of Vermont, after a handsome address, introduced the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the committee on military affairs, be instructed to enquire into the expediency of providing by law, for arranging the citizens subject to the direct tax, into classes in such manner that each shall, as far as may be practicable, consist of persons residing contiguous to each other, and from which together — hundred dollars shall be due; and of permitting each class to furnish one man for the regular army, within a given number of days, in lieu of the said tax.

*Resolved*, That the said committee be instructed to enquire into the expediency of augmenting the direct tax for the present year, so that it may be sufficient to procure — thousand men at — hundred dollars each.

The house having agreed to consider the resolutions, Mr. R. supported their general propositions in a speech of considerable length and pungency. Mr. Webster opposed the resolves generally. Mr. Goldsborough wished the subject referred to a committee of the whole. Mr. Wright was sorry that the resolutions were introduced, as they would consume time, and produce no good, intimating that a supply of money would be more useful for the recruiting service. Mr. Grosvenor was opposed to the resolution in principle, and thought it was also impracticable. Mr. Gholson, without offering an opinion on the resolutions, thought the subject required serious attention. Mr. Fisk of Vt. opposed a postponement of the resolutions; he thought they were susceptible of modifications that might make them efficient. Mr. Lowndes objected to the plan of making the direct tax a means of raising men. Mr. Troup, the chairman of the military committee, spoke at length. He expressed no opinion on these resolutions, but said the committee were prepared to report measures provided they saw a disposition in the house to support them, to answer the purposes of these resolves—or words to this effect: and he hoped that the house would so decide on them as to shew its real views. At length the resolves were ordered to be printed 53 to 59.

The engrossed bill for the relief of the Anacosta bridge company, and the engrossed bill for the relief of the heirs of David Dardin, deceased, were read a third time, passed and sent to the senate.

*Tuesday, Feb. 7.*—Mr. Shipherd, of N. Y. submitted a motion with a view to raise the pay of the members of congress—in explanation he alledged as one of his reasons that the money in which they received their compensation had greatly depreciated.—Among other remarks, Mr. Hall, of Geo. said that the doings of congress had depreciated at least as much as the paper with which they were paid. The motion was lost—for it 8, against it 99.

[Those who voted in the affirmative were Messrs. Boyd, Davis of Mass. Fisk of Vt. Grosvenor, Hopkins of Ky. Shipherd, Sturges, Thompson.]

The engrossed bill making provision for subsisting the armies of the United States by authorising the appointment of commissioners of subsistence, was read a third time and passed.

The house then, in committee of the whole, took up the bill from the senate appropriating \$ 500,000 for the repair of the public buildings—after considerable debate the committee rose and reported progress, &c. [The money for this purpose has been offered at 6 per cent. by certain banks and individuals.]

*Wednesday, Feb. 8.*—Mr. Troup, from the military committee, offered certain resolutions [which we have not room for at present] in honor of the memory of generals Pike and Covington, honorable to gen. Harrison, lieu. col. Beaty, lieu. col. Croghan, generals Jackson, Floyd and Coffee, lieu. col. Armistead, and major Lawrence, which were twice read and referred to a committee of the whole. Several reports were received and a good deal of business forwarded. The bill to repair the public edifices (on the present scites) was ordered to a third reading, by yeas and nays: yeas 67, nays 55.

*Thursday, Feb. 9.* The bill for rebuilding the public edifices was passed by yeas and nays—yeas 78—nays 63.

## POSTSCRIPT.

*New York, Feb. 8.* Extract of a letter from Boston, dated Feb. 6.—“The privateer Harpy, arrived at Salem this morning, having captured seven vessels—has a full cargo of dry goods, and brings London dates to the 2d, and verbal accounts to the 25th December.—The negotiations were still going on, and peace was expected immediately. Petitions from upwards of sixty manufacturing towns in England had been sent to parliament for a peace with America—that the prince regent mentioned in his speech to Parliament that there was every prospect of a peace with the United States, highly honorable to the British crown, &c. &c. The mail is closing.

[It will be recollected, that parliament was to meet on the 10th November, and that our former dates were only to the 5th of Nov.]

☞ We give the above for just as much as it is worth. *It may be true.*

☞ We have a report of a complete revolution in Spain. That gen. Mina had entered Madrid at the head of 140,000 men. That Ferdinand the fool and the ungrateful, had fled—that old Charles was “restored.”

*From the Savannah Republican, Jan. 31.*  
NEW ORLEANS.

Richard Richardson, esq. of this place, arrived here, a few minutes since, from Darien, at which place he saw and conversed with captain Edward F. Tatnall, of the United States' army, who informed him that a British bomb-ship arrived at St. Mary's, on Friday last, (27th) from the squadron off New-Orleans, in a passage of six or seven days, the officers of which stated, that a general engagement had taken place [meaning no doubt that of the 8th ult.] between the American and British armies, in which the latter was totally defeated—the destruction of the British officers was so great that there were scarcely any left to conduct the balance of the British army off the field; that the expedition against New-Orleans had been abandoned, and that the remainder of it would be turned against Savannah.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 25 of VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1815.

[WHOLE NO. 181.]

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann.



## Glorious News!

### Orleans saved and peace concluded.

"The star spangled banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

The matters detailed and recorded in the present number of the REGISTER, are of incalculable importance. The enemy has retired in disgrace from New-Orleans, and peace was signed at Ghent on the 24th December, on honorable terms: At least, so we believe from the *dolefuls* of the British ministerialists. For particulars, see the several heads.

In our next paper, as we hope by that time to be a little more composed under those joyful tidings, we shall endeavor to arrange a great mass of interesting matter that lies over for insertion.

*Who would not be an American? Long live the republic! All hail! last asylum of oppressed humanity! Peace is signed in the arms of victory!*

✂ The present number was held back on the hope of obtaining a copy of the TREATY. See page 397.

## New Orleans preserved.

Copy of a letter from major-general Jackson to the secretary of war, dated

Head-quarters, 7th military district,  
Camp 4 miles below New-Orleans, 19th Jan. 1815.

Last night at 12 o'clock, the enemy precipitately decamped and returned to their boats, leaving behind him, under medical attendance, eighty of his wounded including two officers, 14 pieces of his heavy artillery, and a quantity of shot, having destroyed much of his powder. Such was the situation of the ground which he abandoned, and of that through which he retired, protected by canals, redoubts, entrenchments and swamps on his right, and the river on his left, that I could not without encountering a risk, which true policy did not seem to require, or to authorize, attempt to annoy him much on his retreat. We took only eight prisoners.

Whether it is the purpose of the enemy to abandon the expedition altogether, or renew his efforts at some other point, I do not pretend to determine with positiveness. In my own mind, however, there is but little doubt that his last exertions have been made in this quarter, at any rate for the present season, and by the next I hope we shall be fully prepared for him. In this belief I am strengthened not only by the prodigious loss he has sustained at the position he had just quitted, but by the failure of his fleet to pass fort St. Philip.

VOL. VII.

His loss on this ground, since the debarkation of his troops, as stated by the last prisoners and deserters, and as confirmed by many additional circumstances, must have exceeded four thousand; and was greater in the action of the 8th than was estimated, from the most correct data then in his possession, by the inspector-general, whose report has been forwarded to you. We succeeded, on the 8th, in getting from the enemy about 1000 stand of arms of various descriptions.

Since the action of the 8th, the enemy have been allowed very little respite—my artillery from both sides of the river being constantly employed, till the night, and indeed until the hour of their retreat, in annoying them. No doubt they thought it quite time to quit a position in which so little rest could be found.

I am advised by major Overton, who commands at fort St. Philip, in a letter of the 18th, that the enemy having bombarded his fort for 8 or 9 days from 13 inch mortars without effect, had, on the morning of that day, retired. I have little doubt that he would have been able to have sunk their vessels had they attempted to run by.

Giving the proper weight to all these considerations, I believe you will not think me too sanguine in the belief that Louisiana is now clear of its enemy. I hope, however, I need not assure you, that wherever I command, such a belief shall never occasion any relaxation in the measures for resistance. I am but too sensible that the moment when the enemy is opposing us, is not the most proper to provide for them.

I have the honor to be, &c.

ANDREW JACKSON,  
Maj. gen. com'd'g.

P. S. On the 18th our prisoners on shore were delivered us, an exchange having been previously agreed to. Those who are on board the fleet will be delivered at Petit Coquille—after which I shall still have in my hands an excess of several hundred.

20th—Mr. Shields,\* purser in the navy, has to-day taken 54 prisoners; among them are four officers.

A. J.

\*I have the honor to claim the gallant Shields as one of my most respected friends. I have letters from him of the 16th and 17th ult. He says, "the day after the gun-boats were taken I was sent down under a flag of truce to ascertain the fate of our officers and men, with power to negotiate an exchange, especially for the wounded. But the enemy would make no terms—they treated the flag with contempt, and myself and the surgeon, who was with me, as prisoners, until the 17th inst. He has now lowered his tone, and begs the exchange that we offered. Defeat has humbled the arrogance of the enemy, WHO HAD PROMISED HIS SOLDIERS FORTY-EIGHT HOURS PILLAGE AND RAPINE OF THE CITY OF NEW-ORLEANS!"

"Our beloved Jackson deserves immortality. He was always in the hottest and thickest of the fight; and although his health is much impaired he still sticks to his post. We pray the Almighty to spare him."

"Every movement of the enemy indicates a retreat. I am just starting on a secret business to avenge myself. If I succeed, the affair will be creditable to me—if I fail, the world, at least, shall say "there lived a man."

"We have not yet the particulars of Mr. Shields' successful enterprize; but, I flatter myself, if when they come to hand, they will redound no little to the honor of my generous high-minded friend, and perhaps add a ray of glory to the blaze that encircles the American navy. Mr. S. was a volunteer."

He states that our five gun-boats had a complement of 200 men—they were attacked by forty-five boats carrying 1200 men. The fight against such fearful odds lasted one hour and fifty minutes—we had only five killed and thirty wounded; the enemy acknowledge a loss of 100; but Mr. Shields adds "we may with perfect safety double that number."

[Ed. Reg.]

Z

Head-quarters, 7th military district  
Adjutant-general's office, Jackson's, lines,  
below Orleans, January 16th 1815.

Sir—I have the honor herewith to enclose for the information of the war department, a report of the killed, wounded and missing of the army under the command of major general Jackson in the different actions with the enemy since their landing.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT BUTLER, Adj. gen.

Brigadier general D. PARKER,  
Adj. and Insp. general, Washington.

Report of the killed, wounded and missing of the army under the command of major-general Andrew Jackson in the actions of the 23d and 24th December, 1814, and the 1st and 4th January, 1815, with the enemy.

Action of December 23d, 1814.

Killed.—Artilleryman 1; 7th U. S. infantry, 1 lieutenant, (M. Chalmers); 1 sergeant, 1 corporal, 3 privates; 44th do. 7 privates; general Coffee's brigade volunteer mounted gun men, 1 lieutenant colonel, (Lauderdale); 1 captain (Pave); 1 lieutenant (Samuel Brooks); 2 sergeants, 4 privates.—Total killed 24.

Wounded.—General staff, 1 colonel (colonel Piat); 7th U. S. infantry, 1 captain (A. A. Whit), 1 ensign, 1 sergeant, 2 corporals; 23 privates; 44th do. 2 lieutenants, 3 sergeants, 2 corporals, 49 privates; general Coffee's brigade, 1 colonel, 2 lieutenant-colonels, 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 1 quarter-master, 1 sergeant, 3 sergeants, 2 corporals, 1 musician, 30 privates; N. w. Orleans volunteer corps, 1 captain, 7 sergeants, 7 privates; volunteers of color, 1 adjutant and 6 privates.—Total wounded, 117.

Missing.—General Coffee's brigade, 1 major, 2 captains, 3 lieutenants, 1 quarter-master, 3 ensigns or cornets, 4 sergeants, 1 corporal, 2 musicians, 57 privates.—Total missing, 74.

Total killed, wounded and missing on the 23d—213.

Action of December 24, 1814.

Filled.—General Coffee's brigade, 1 private; New-Orleans volunteer company, 1 private; general Carroll's division of Tennessee militia, 1 colonel (Henderson), 1 sergeant, 5 privates.—Total 7.

Wounded.—Marines, 1 major (Caranick), N. w. Orleans volunteer company, 3 privates; general Carroll's division, 1 lieutenant, 3 privates.—Total wounded 8.

Missing.—None.

Total killed, wounded and missing on this day, 15.

Action of the 1st January, 1815.

Killed.—Artillery, navy and volunteers at batteries, 8 privates; 44th do. 1 private; general Coffee's brigade, 1 sergeant; general Carroll's division, 1 private.—Total 11.

Wounded.—Artillery, navy and volunteers at batteries 8; 7th U. S. infantry, 1 private; 44th do. 3; Coffee's brigade—2; New-Orleans volunteers, 3 privates; Carroll's division, 1 sergeant, 2 privates; volunteers of color, 1 lieutenant, 1 sergeant, 1 private.—Total 23.

Missing.—None.

Total of killed, wounded and missing this day, 34.

**ACTION ON BOTH SIDES THE RIVER.**

8th January 1815.

KILLED.—Artillery, navy and volunteers at batteries, 3 privates; 7th U. S. infantry, 1 sergeant, 1 corporal; Coffee's brigade, 1 private; Carroll's division, 1 sergeant, 3 privates; Kentucky militia, 1 private; majors Laneste's and Daquin's volunteers of color, 1 private; gen. Morgan's militia, 1 private—total killed—13.

WOUNDED.—Artillery, &c. 1 private; 7th U. S. infantry, 1 private; gen. Carroll's division, 1 ensign, 1 sergeant, 6 privates; Kentucky militia, 1 adjutant, 1 corporal, and 10 privates; volunteers of color, 1 ensign, 3 sergeants, 1 corporal, 8 privates; gen. Morgan's militia, 2 sergeants, 2 privates—total wounded, 39.

MISSING.—Kentucky militia, 4 privates; Morgan's militia, 15 privates—total 19; total killed, wounded and missing this day 71.

NOTE.—Of the killed, wounded and missing on this day, but 6 killed and 7 wounded in the action on the east bank of the river, the residue in a sortie after the action, and in the action on the west bank.

RECAPITULATION.	
Total killed	55
Total wounded	185
Total missing	93

Grand total 333

Truly reported from those on file in this office.

ROBERT BUTLER,  
Adjutant-general.

Adjutant-general's office,  
New-Orleans, January 16, 1815.

Copy of a letter from an officer in the U. S. army to his friend in this city, dated

Camp, near New-Orleans, January 20, 1815.

The enemy have at length taken their departure, after having remained on the banks of the Mississippi for four weeks, within five miles of New-Orleans. They left their encampment on the night of the 18th instant, in the most secret and precipitate manner; they left on the field 16 pieces of cannon, their equipments and an immense number of ball; their dead were left in the most shameful manner,

not half buried. They left 70 of their wounded in their camp, and two surgeons, with a request from general Lambert to general Jackson to consider them as prisoners of war; they being mangled in such a manner on the morning of the 8th by our cannon, that they found it impossible to take them off.—Among the number are several officers. We had an exchange of prisoners a day or two before they left here, those taken in the gun-boats and about 40 we lost on the night of the 23d ult.—We also received an express from fort St. Philip yesterday.—The British fleet left there and returned down the river on the morning of the 17th inst. after a bombardment of nine days, during which time they threw better than 1000 shells in and about the fort; we have ascertained the enemy's loss to be better than two thousand on the 8th, and by their own accounts since the evening of the 23d they have lost 3,600 men, while ours does not amount to 100 in killed and wounded; we are also perfectly acquainted with their regiments and strength, they had landed 9,400. General Gibbs is also dead.

From the Mississippi Republican—Extra.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 20, 1815.

Messrs. Isler and McCurdy—Gentlemen—Immediately after the repulse of the British forces, on the 8th inst. they commenced active preparations for a re-embarkation of the troops. All the sick and wounded were sent on board, together with such baggage and munitions of war as could be safely spared. During these operations, the enemy kept up a menacing attitude—frequent indications were given of an intention to renew the attack on our lines, and vigorous works of defence were thrown up in front of our camp. The rear of their army retired first, while they displayed a numerous body of men to our view, and at night their fires seemed rather to increase than diminish. They had erected batteries to cover their retreat, in advantageous positions, from their original encampment, to the bayou through which they entered lake Bourgne. The cannon placed on these batteries could have raked a pursuing army in every direction, and any attempt to storm them would have been attended with great slaughter indeed. Having made the necessary arrangements, on the night of the 18th inst. the whole army precipitately retreated to their boats, which were prepared to receive them, leaving behind about 20 pieces of artillery, which were spiked, and from 120 to 130 prisoners, including the wounded who could not be conveniently removed. On the morning of the 19th, the cavalry, commanded by maj. Hinds, were ordered to pursue the enemy, and make prisoners of such as could be overtaken, and ascertain whether the enemy had re-embarked his whole force or not. This duty was performed by that valuable officer with his usual vigilance and promptitude. I joined in the pursuit, and had the pleasure of receiving the surrender of about ninety prisoners, including the wounded who had been left by the British commander to the mercy of general Jackson. I accompanied the surgeon who remained with those sent to the head-quarters of the general, who confirmed the assurances I had previously given that the unfortunate wounded prisoners, who had thus fallen into our hands, should be treated with the utmost humanity. The watch-word and counter-sign of the enemy on the morning of the 8th was, BEAUTY and BOOTY. Comment is unnecessary on these significant allusions held out to a licentious soldiery. Had victory declared on their side, the scenes of Havre de Grace, of Hampton, of Alexandria, and of St. Sebastians, would without doubt have been re-acted at New Orleans, with all the misfeeling and brutal inhumanity of the savage foe with whom we

are contending. But Heaven be praised, we are relieved from all apprehension; our arms have been crowned with triumphant success; the enemy is driven in disgrace from our soil, and I trust ere long our shores will be redeemed from the desolating visits of *his majesty's army and navy*.

Information has this moment arrived, that Thomas Shields, who was lately confined on board the British fleet, has made an attack on some of the boats of the enemy, and taken fifty-four prisoners.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,  
GEO. POINDEXTER.

*Copy of a letter from captain Henley, commanding late United States' schooner Carolina, to commodore Patterson, dated*

New-Orleans, December 23th, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to inform you, that after you left here on the 26th instant, in pursuance to your order, every possible exertion was made to move the schooner Carolina higher up the river and near general Jackson's camp, without success; the wind being at N. N. W. and blowing fresh and too scant to get under way, and the current too rapid to move her by warping, which I had endeavored to do with my crew.

At day-light on the morning of the 27th, the enemy opened upon the Carolina a battery of five guns from which they threw shells and hot shot; returned their fire with the long 12-pounder, the only gun on board which could reach across the river, the remainder of her battery being light 12 pound carronades.

The air being light and at north, rendered it impossible to get under way; the second shot fired by the enemy lodged in the schooner's main hold under her cables, and in such a situation as not to come at, and fired her, which rapidly progressed; finding that hot shot were passing through her cabin and filling room, which contained a considerable quantity of powder; her bulwarks all knocked down by the enemy's shot, the vessel in a sinking situation, and the fire increasing, and expecting every moment that she would blow up, at a little after sunrise I reluctantly gave orders for the crew to abandon her, which was effected, with the loss of one killed and six wounded; a short time after I had succeeded in getting the crew on shore, I had the extreme mortification of seeing her blow up.

It affords me great pleasure to acknowledge the able assistance I received from lieutenants Norris and Crowley, and sailing-master Hatter, and to say that my officers and crew behaved on this occasion, as well as on the 23d when under your own eye, in a most gallant manner.

Almost every article of clothing belonging to the officers and crew, from the rapid progress of the fire, was involved in the destruction of the vessel.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JOHN D. HENLEY.

P. S. I have not made out a detailed account of the action on the night of the 23d, as you were on board during the whole action.

Captain Daniel T. Patterson, commanding United States' naval forces on the New-Orleans station.

*Copies of letters from commodore Patterson, commanding our naval force on the Orleans station, to the secretary of the navy, dated*

U. S. ship Louisiana, 4 miles below New-Orleans,  
29th December, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to inform you, that on the morning of the 23d instant, at about half past seven, perceived our advanced guard retreating towards our lines—the enemy pursuing; fired shot, shells, and rockets, from field artillery, with which they

advanced on the road behind the levee; sprung the ship to bring the starboard guns to bear upon the enemy; at 25 minutes past 8 A. M. the enemy opened their fire upon the ship; with shells, hot shot, and rockets, which was instantly returned with great spirit and much apparent effect, and continued without intermission till 1 P. M. when the enemy slackened their fire, and retreated with a part of their artillery from each of their batteries, evidently with great loss. Two attempts were made to screen one heavy piece of ordnance mounted behind the levee, with which they threw hot shot at the ship, and which had been a long time abandoned before they succeeded in recovering it, and then it must have been with very great loss, as I distinctly saw, with the aid of my glass, several shot strike in the midst of the men (seamen) who were employed dragging it away. At 3 P. M. the enemy were silenced; at 4 P. M. ceased firing from the ship, the enemy having retired beyond the range of her guns. Many of their shot passed over the slip, and their shells burst over her decks, which were strewn with their fragments; yet, after an incessant cannonading of upwards of seven hours, during which time eight hundred shot were fired from the ship, one man only was wounded slightly, by the piece of a shell, and one shot passed between the bowsprit and heel of the jib-boom.

The enemy drew up his whole force, evidently with an intention of assailing gen. Jackson's lines, under cover of his heavy cannon, but his cannonading being so warmly returned from the lines and ship Louisiana, caused him, I presume, to abandon his project, as he retired without making the attempt. You will have learned by my former letters, that the crew of the Louisiana is composed of men of all nations, (English excepted) taken from the streets of New-Orleans not a fortnight before the battle; yet I never knew guns better served, or a more animated fire, than was supported from her. Lieut. C. C. B. Thompson deserves great credit for the discipline to which in so short a time he had brought such men, two-thirds of whom do not understand English.

General Jackson having applied for officers and seamen to work the heavy cannon on his lines furnished by me, lieutenants Norris and Crowley, of his late schooner Carolina, instantly volunteered, and with the greater part of her crew were sent to those cannon, which they served during the action herein detailed. The enemy must have suffered a great loss in that day's action, by the heavy fire from this ship and gen. Jackson's lines, where the cannon was of heavy calibre, and served with great spirit.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration and respect, your obedient servant,

DANL. T. PATTERSON.

*The hon. secretary of the Navy, Washington city.*

*Marine battery, five miles below New Orleans,  
15th January, 1815.*

SIR—I have the honor to inform you, that during the 2d and 3d inst. I landed from the ship and mounted, as the former ones, on the banks of the river, four more 12 pounders, and erected a barricade for heating shot, to destroy a number of buildings which intervened between gen. Jackson's lines and the camp of the enemy, and occupied by him. On the evening of the 3d, I succeeded in firing a number of them, and some nice shots by my first shot which the enemy attempted to extinguish, notwithstanding the heavy fire I kept up, but which at length compelled them to desist. On the 6th and 7th I erected another barricade, and mounted on the banks of the river two more 24 pounders, which had been brought up from the English Camp, by the 28-

ertions of colonel Caldwell, of the drafted militia of this state, and brought within and mounted on the entrenchments on this side of the river, one 12 pounder; in addition to which, gen. Morgan, commanding the militia on this side, planted two brass six pound field pieces in his lines, which were incomplete, having been commenced only on the 4th; these three pieces were the only cannon on the lines, all the others being mounted on the bank of the river, with a view to aid the right of gen. Jackson's lines on the opposite shore, and to flank the enemy should they attempt to march up the road leading along the levee, or erect batteries on the same, of course could render no aid in defence of general Morgan's lines. My battery was manned in part from the crew of the ship, and in part by militia detailed for that service by general Morgan, as I had not seamen enough to fully man them.

During greater part of the 7th, reconnoitered the enemy at Villere's plantation, whose canal, I was informed, they were deepening and opening to the river, for the purpose of getting their launches in, which upon examination with my glass I found to be true, and informed general Jackson of my observations by letters, copies of which I enclose herewith; a reinforcement to general Morgan's militia was made in consequence, consisting of about 400 militia from Kentucky, very badly armed or equipped, the general not having arms to furnish them, who arrived on this site on the morning of the 8th, much fatigued. At 1 A. M. finding that the enemy had succeeded in launching their barges into the river, I despatched my aide-de-camp, Mr. R. D. Shepperd, to inform general Jackson of the circumstance, and that a very uncommon stir was observed in the enemy's camp and batteries on the banks of the river, and stating again the extreme weakness of this side of the river, and urging a reinforcement. I would have immediately dropped down with the Louisiana upon their barges, but to do so I must have withdrawn all the men from the battery on shore, which I deemed of the greatest importance, and exposed to fire by hot shot from the enemy's batteries, mounting 6 long 18 pounders, which protected their barges; and at this time she had on board a large quantity of powder, for the supply of her own guns, and those on shore, most of which was above the surface of the water, consequently exposed to their hot shot.

General Morgan despatched the Kentuckians immediately on their arrival, about 5 A. M. to reinforce a party which had been sent out early on the night of the 7th, to watch and oppose the landing of the enemy, but who retreated after a few shot from the enemy within the lines, where they were immediately posted in their station, on the extreme right. At day light, the enemy opened a heavy cannonade upon general Jackson's lines, and my battery, leading their troops under cover of their cannon to the assault of the lines, which they attempted on the right and left, but principally on the latter wing; they were met by a most tremendous and incessant fire of artillery and musketry, which compelled them to retreat with precipitation, leaving the ditch filled, and the field strewed with their dead and wounded. My battery was opened upon them simultaneously with those from our lines, flanking the enemy both in his advance and retreat, with round, grape and canister, which must have proved extremely destructive, as in their haste and confusion to retreat they crowded the top of the levee, affording us a most advantageous opportunity for the use of grape and canister, which I used to the greatest advantage. While thus engaged with the enemy on the opposite shore, I was informed they had effected their land-

ing on this side, and were advancing to general Morgan's breast work. I immediately ordered the officers in command of my guns to turn them in their embrasures, and point them to protect general Morgan's right wing, whose lines, not extending to the swamp, and those weakly manned, I apprehended the enemy's out-flanking him on that wing, which order was promptly executed by captain Henley and the officers stationed at the battery under a heavy and well directed fire of shot and shells from the enemy on the opposite bank of the river; at this time the enemy's force had approached general Morgan's lines, under the cover of a shower of rockets, and charged in despite of the fire from a 12 pounder and field pieces mounted on the lines as before stated, when, in a few minutes, I had the extreme mortification and chagrin to observe general Morgan's right wing, composed as here-mentioned of the Kentucky militia, commanded by major Davis, abandon their breast work and flying in a most shameful and dastardly manner, almost without a shot; which disgraceful example, after firing a few rounds, was soon followed by the whole of general Morgan's command, notwithstanding every exertion was made by him, his staff and several officers of the city militia, to keep them in their posts; by the great exertions of those officers a short stand was effected on the field, when a discharge of rockets from the enemy caused them again to retreat in such a manner that no efforts could stop them. Finding myself thus abandoned by the force I relied upon to protect my battery, I was most reluctantly and with inexpressible pain, after destroying my powder and spiking my cannon, compelled to abandon them, having only thirty officers and seamen with me. A part of the militia were rallied at a saw mill canal, about two miles above the lines from which they had fled and there encamped. I ordered the Louisiana to be warped up, for the purpose of procuring a supply of ammunition, and mounting other cannon, remaining myself to aid general Morgan. A larger reinforcement of militia having been immediately despatched by general Jackson to this side, every arrangement was made by general Morgan to dislodge the enemy from his position, when he precipitately retreated, carrying with him the two field pieces and a brass howitz, after having first set fire to the platform and gun carriages on my battery, two saw mills, and all the bridges between him and general Morgan's troops, and re-crossed the river, and secured his boats, by hauling them into his canal. On the 9th, we re-occupied our former ground, and recovered all the cannon in my battery, which I immediately commenced drilling and re-mounting. And on the evening of the 10th, had two 24 pounders mounted and ready for service, on the left flank of a new and more advantageous position. From the 10th to the present date, I have been much engaged in mounting my 12 pounders, along the breast work erected by general Morgan on this new position, having three 24 pounders (with a furnace) to front the river, and flank general Jackson's lines on the opposite bank, from which we fired upon the enemy wherever he appeared; our present position is now so strong, that there is nothing to apprehend should the enemy make another attempt on this side.

To captain Henley, who has been with me since the destruction of his schooner, and who was wounded on the 8th, I am much indebted for his aid on every occasion, and to the officers commanding the different guns in my battery, for their great exertions at all times, but particularly on the trying event of the 8th. The exertions of general Morgan, his staff and several of the officers of the city militia, excited my highest respect; and I deem it my

duty to say that had the drafted and city militia been alone on that day, that I believe they would have done much better; but the flight of the Kentuckians, paralyzed their exertions and produced a retreat, which could not be checked. The two brass field pieces, manned entirely by militia of the city, were admirably served, nor were they abandoned till deserted by their comrades, one of which was commanded by Mr. Hosmer, of captain Sampson's company, the other by a Frenchman, whose name I know not. The 12 pounder under the direction of acting midshipman Philibert, was served till the last moment, did great execution, and is highly extolled by general Morgan. The force of the enemy on this side amounted to 1,000 men, and from the best authority I can obtain, their loss on this side, I have since learned, was 97 killed and wounded; among the latter is colonel Thornton who commanded; of the former five or six have been discovered buried, and lying upon the field; our loss was one man killed and several wounded.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration and respect, your obedient servant,

DANIEL T. PATTERSON.

*The hon. Secretary of the navy, Washington city.*

Marine Battery, 5 miles below New-Orleans, 29th Jan. 1815.

Sir—I have great satisfaction in informing you, that the enemy, after having been several days sending off his sick, wounded and baggage, retreated with his whole force on the night of the 18th, and, as I learn, completed the embarkation of his troops about midnight yesterday; leaving in his hospital 88 wounded, who could not be removed, with a surgeon and surgeon's mate to attend to them. He has also left fourteen pieces of cannon, 10 long eighteen pound ship guns, and four 24 pound carronades.—Six of the eighteen pounders are only spiked, and can easily be rendered fit for service; the other four, with the carronades, cannot be made serviceable—the former having their trunnions broken off, the latter the promillions. A great number of shot have also been left, which can easily be collected. I have every reason to believe, that they have also left behind the brass pieces taken from this side the river. From the date of my last to the retreat, I have fired from my battery on the enemy whenever opportunity offered, and with a 9 pound brass field piece, which I sent two miles below my battery to rake their camp, continuing my fire till eleven o'clock at night on the 18th, directly into their camp, from which they suffered much.

By a letter received last evening from acting lieutenant Cunningham, commanding gun vessel No. 65, stationed at Plaquemine to aid fort St. Phillip, who had drawn his crew on shore and manned two 32 pounders, I learn that the enemy's vessels, viz. three ships, one brig and schooner, two of which were bomb vessels, had departed after bombarding the fort from the sixth, during which time they threw one thousand shells, without injury to the fort, killing only one man, and wounding seven in the fort. He states his vessel's spars and rigging to be much cut to pieces but none of his men hurt. He had sent his boat to watch their movements; and should I learn by her that they have not left the river, I shall immediately proceed with five vessels and endeavor to destroy them.

In a few days I will have the pleasure of stating to you the names of my officers who have distinguished themselves, and merit the notice of the department.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration and respect, your obedient servant,

DANIEL T. PATTERSON.

*The hon. secretary of the navy, Washington city.*

FROM THE KENTUCKY PALLADIUM.

*Extract of a letter from gen. John Adair to governor Shelby dated,*

Head-Quarters, 5 miles below Orleans,  
January 13th, 1815.

DEAR SIR—When we arrived at this camp on the 5th inst. only a part of our men could be armed.—Major general Thomas was unwell. I was ordered by maj. gen. Carroll's command, who defended the centre of our works, which was the most vulnerable. This detachment consisted of col. Slaughter's regiment and major Harrison's battalion. Lieut. col. Davis, who commanded the 13th regiment, was soon after ordered to cross the river with 400 men to reinforce gen. Morgan. In this situation we continued until the morning of the 8th, when the enemy attacked us in our lines. His main column was led against our centre, as we expected; a column was led at the same time against our right. Their columns were formed and led on with a degree of bravery that, at least, commanded our respect—three times they were repulsed. On their second charge they entered our ditch—our men, both Kentuckians and Tennesseans, sustained the attack, and repelled them with a bravery never surpassed, and when the enemy entered our ditch, many of our men jumped on the breast work to meet them and killed them one on another. It would not be proper for me to distinguish any by name—the detachment under my command, both officers and men, have done their duty faithfully, and honorably sustained the character of the state to which they belong. The detachment on the other side of the river, under lieut. col. Davis, were obliged to retreat before a superior force. They have been culminated by those who ought to have fought with them, but did not—some of them have perhaps behaved improperly, but I have no doubt col. Davis did his duty as far as was in his power—an investigation is about to take place when I trust the blame will fall where it ought.

*Desert to the news from New Orleans.*

ENGLISH extracts and sayings with a few remarks—and also some interesting scraps.

From the Democratic Press. The following circumstance has been this day communicated to me, accompanied with such evidence as commands my implicit belief; and the government of the United States may be furnished with a statement of the fact, on such testimony as shall command their credence.

The day after the news of the burning of Washington city reached Paris, a member of the French government expressed to lord Castlereagh his doubts as to the fact; to which his lordship (who to the American minister talked of his "friends in congress") replied—"Sir, it is true beyond all doubt, and I expect that at this time most of the large sea port towns in America are laid in ashes—that we are in possession of New Orleans, and have command of all the waters of the Mississippi and the lakes, so that the Americans are now little better than prisoners at large, in their own country."

["Our towns in ashes"—here is the "religion" of the British government! who ever heard of such a war, except in the history of barbarians, that of the British in India excepted? "Our towns in ashes"—here is the "magnanimity" of "high souled" England, the nation that is held up to us as the pattern of all that is virtuous and good. "Our towns in ashes!!"—What more would Goths and Vandals do? I believe lord Castlereagh may have said this—for admiral Cochrane officially proclaimed it as the intention of his government "to destroy all places found assailable." Well—Baltimore and New Orleans were not "assailable!"

If I could dare to put upon paper the things I have heard, from gentlemen of unquestioned truth, of the *Fanaticism* of the British soldiery, especially those who boast of being *Wellington's* "invincibles," the sober thinking people of the United States would be horror-struck with their depravity. So long accustomed to scenes of horror, they appear to have lost every thing that belongs to *civilization*; their manners are *bestial*, and their language shocking.—I wish I knew how to describe their conduct, without *horrifying* my readers. I cannot do it—yet the facts ought to be known. It may be added that the officers encouraged the men in *brutalizing* themselves; indeed, that many of them are little better than the common soldiers. Take the following in evidence—an elderly gentleman, taken prisoner at *North Point*, surrendered to a British officer, (with two epaulets) on horse back. "Deliver your watch!" cried the officer, "or I'll cut off your head, you d—d old villain." "I have no watch, sir," returned the prisoner. "Out with your money, you d—d rascal," at the same time striking him a very severe blow with the back of his sword. The money was "delivered," and by this time others came up who took charge of him. He was soon stripped nearly naked, and so remained for a considerable time. I am satisfied that this statement is entirely correct.

To proceed to another subject—

I apprehend that every man, whose blood is not as cold as a serpent's, is inclined to believe what he wishes. It may be there are some of such lugubrious minds, as never to anticipate good. But good and evil are mere comparative terms; and what is evil to the United States is good to Great Britain and her faction here; and that the latter wished the fall of Orleans, I have no more doubt of than that I myself live, and move, and have being. "Their party rises as their country sinks," observes the author of the *Olive Branch*. This is a truth that applies with singular force to the jacobins of the United States. We might select a hundred articles like the following:

From the *Federal Republican* of Jan. 14, 1815.—"Mr. Madison has scarcely raised his little finger to preserve New Orleans." "New Orleans—The suspicion gains ground that the government is in possession of the OFFICIAL account of the capture of this important city."

From the same of January 17.—"That Mr. Madison will find it convenient, and will determine finally to abandon the state of Louisiana, we entertain no doubt. Let the issue decide whether we do the man injustice. An enquiry by congress into the cause of the fall of New Orleans or of Mobile, WHEN THE INTELLIGENCE TRANSPIRES, will fix the blame upon the executive."

From the same of January 20.—"A few African and West India regiments, accustomed to such a climate, will be sufficient to garrison New Orleans, while the Wellington troops will return to the Chesapeake, and those in Canada, like another horde, rush into New York, and overrun the north-west."

On Friday evening, the 3d of Feb. instant, a member of congress said, absolutely, that government was in possession of information that the British had taken New Orleans.

A correspondent of the *New York Evening Post*, under date of Washington, Jan. 30, after dilating on the terrible management of government in permitting the Kentuckians to arrive without arms, &c. says "It is the general opinion here that the city (Orleans) must fall."

Again—

In the year 1781, admiral Rodney captured the island of St. *Lusitana*—he made prize of the proper-

ty of individuals to an immense amount. All the world cried out *shame*—and Rodney, who had gained one of the greatest and most important naval victories that Englishmen had ever achieved, was completely disgraced for it. He died miserably, and so poor that he did not leave behind him enough to bury himself, and no man pitied his fate.

But things are strangely altered. Gordon made prize of what he pleased at *Alexandria*, and it was universally supposed that all the cotton, sugar, &c. &c. at *New Orleans*, the property of private persons, would be plundered and carried off by the British, if they got possession of the place. The *London Courier*, a little while since, consoled the English manufacturers with an assurance that they would soon receive a supply of cotton, it being the design of the government to take a certain district where it abounded—and a fellow at *Jamaica* placed large funds at *Bermuda*, in readiness to speculate on the spoils of Orleans!

And a writer in the *New York Evening Post*, taking it for granted, also, that such goods would be plundered, made the following calculation of the value of the "booty":

Correction.—In our paper of Friday last, we made a rough and hasty estimation of the amount of property at New Orleans. Since then, a friend, who has long resided at that place in the capacity of a merchant, informs us, that our estimate was egregiously incorrect. He says—"The quantity of cotton you mention as being stored at New Orleans, is not far from correct—say 100,000 bales, averaging 320 pounds each bale, at least; which is 32,000,000 pounds of cotton, all paid for at from eight up to fourteen cents a pound, and belonging chiefly to the merchants of the Atlantic states. Therefore, if we put the average price at ten cents a pound, it will be about right, and this will amount to 3,200,000 dollars—Say that cotton is worth in England two shillings per pound—32,000,000 pounds, at two shillings sterling, is *forteen millions two hundred and twenty thousand two hundred and twenty-two dollars*. Independent of the above 100,000 bales, there must be added this last year's crop, which remains mostly in the hands of the planters. I should say 40,000 bales at least. Also this last year's crop of sugar, say 10,000 hogsheads, averaging 1400 pounds each hogshead, at nine cents a pound, (at which rate it ought, I think, to be valued) would be 1,260,000 dollars. The shipping might be valued at from 300 to 500,000 dollars. The Kentucky produce at that market, such as whiskey, flour, pork, cordage, hempen yarn, cotton bagging, &c. &c. must be very considerable. Of tobacco there is but very little. There are a variety of other articles, such as pig lead, copper, mahogany and logwood, which will serve to ballast the vessels that will take the cotton away if they capture the place; which God forbid."

From a *Montreal paper* of Jan. 14. "An evening paper of the 3d, from New-York adds, that an express had arrived from the southward stating the British force to have passed the Balize, to the number of 150 sail of vessels of all descriptions; the master of the schooner affirms that he actually saw 70 of them from his vessel.—It may be concluded in consequence, that hot work would soon follow, or that the place would be an easy conquest. We may calculate upon the latter, as it is well known that the bulk of the population is averse to the tyranny which has been exercised by the American government in that quarter. In fine, the occupation of New Orleans will be the means of securing the friendship and commerce of the states west of the *Apalichia* mountains, which contain more than a million of inhabitants, whose ruling passion is inter-



est. *They will be loyal to the nation which can best protect them and secure to them the most gain. We see an example of this in the late acquisition east of the Penobscot river there the people are already (to appearance at least) become loyal through interest.*—Castine is the key of protection to them, as New Orleans is to the country above it. The western states according to a law now pending in congress, will be saddled with war taxes to the amount of 823,000 dollars annually, which they may elude by declaring neutrality. There cannot be much doubt of their disposition to resist taxes as much as they would the British arms. We might enlarge on this subject, but shall for the present close our speculations, and wait another period when things will be better developed.”

*Another paper of the same date, printed at the same place, says*—“The taking of New-Orleans may not be accomplished as soon or so easy as is expected by many, but that it will be taken before there is any treaty formed at Ghent, is confidently believed.”

*Barbadoes, Nov. 7.* On Friday last, arrived at this port in 48 days from Plymouth, [having taken a route for secrecy, different from that usually followed by vessels from Europe,] his majesty's ships Bedford, Norge, Alceste, Bucephali, Belle Poule, Dover, Hydra, Gorgon, (a store ship,) and Norfolk, [a transport, with 230 troops, and military stores—under the command of major general Keene.] Dr. Thompson, formerly deputy inspector of Hospitals on this station, is attached to the division as inspector of Hospitals.

The expedition, it is supposed, will leave this in the course of the present week. At this place they take on board about 1200 troops, and then proceed to collect those at Martinique, Guadalupe, St. Thomas and Santa Cruz; comprising in total about 6000 men.—They then proceed direct to Jamaica, and take in munitions, and stores for their final destination.

As this is only the van of a grand expedition which must ere this have left England, consisting of 300 sail of men of war and transports, it develops an extensive and magnificent system of operations, highly creditable and consistent with the grandeur of the British empire. And as there is no other point in these latitudes, to afford an ample field for the exercise of so large an armament, their destination is undoubtedly for New Orleans, the capital of Louisiana; and it is but fair to conjecture that it is the purpose of our ministers to extend the line of military operations *along up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers till they meet and communicate with our forces contiguous to lakes Michigan, Erie and Ontario, on Upper Canada—and thus completely encircle the U. States.*”

Since a knowledge of events at Orleans have disappointed the hopes of our factionists—they who would have ascribed all the dishonor to the government, if the place had fallen—give all the credit to the people for its preservation—on which the Columbian happily observes—“They [the Jacobins] say that government has done nothing and deserve no credit for the defence of New-Orleans—to the people all is due. They say also that government has done nothing for the defence of Castine and our eastern frontier—to the people, then, in that quarter what is due, or rather not due?”

## British Parliament.

### PRINCE REGENT'S SPEECH.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Tuesday, November 8.—This day, at 2 o'clock, the prince regent went in the usual state to the house of

peers, and being seated on the throne, pronounced the following most gracious speech to Parliament.

*My lords and gentlemen,*

It is with deep regret that I am again obliged to announce the continuance of his majesty's lamented and position.

It would have given me great satisfaction to have been enabled to communicate to you the termination of the war between this country and the United States of America.

Although this war originated in the most unprovoked aggression on the part of the government of the United States, and was calculated to promote the designs of the common enemy, against the rights and independence of all other nations, I never have ceased to entertain a sincere desire to bring it to a conclusion on just and honorable terms.

I am still engaged in negotiations for this purpose; the success of them, must, however, depend on my disposition being met with corresponding sentiments on the part of the enemy.

The operations of his majesty's forces by sea and land in the Chesapeake in the course of the present year, have been attended with the most brilliant and successful results.

The flotilla of the enemy in the Patuxent has been destroyed. The signal defeat of their land forces enabled a detachment of his majesty's army to take possession of the city of Washington; and the spirit of enterprize which has characterized all the movements in that quarter has produced on the inhabitants a deep and sensible impression of the calamities of a war in which they have been so wantonly involved.

The expedition directed from Halifax to the northern coast of the United States has terminated in a manner not less satisfactory. The successful course of this operation has been followed by the immediate submission of the extensive and important district, east of the Penobscot river, to his majesty's arms.

In adverting to these events, I am confident you will be disposed to render full justice to the valor and discipline which have distinguished his majesty's land and sea forces; and you will regret with me the severe loss the country has sustained by the fall of the gallant commander of his majesty's troops in the advance upon Baltimore.

I availed myself of the earliest opportunity afforded by the state of affairs in Europe, to detach a considerable military force to the river Saint Lawrence; but its arrival could not possibly take place till an advanced period of the campaign.

Notwithstanding the reverse which appears to have occurred on lake Champlain, I entertain the most confident expectation, as well from the amount as from the description of the British force now serving in Canada, that the ascendancy of his majesty's arms throughout that part of North America will be effectually established.

The opening of the congress at Vienna has been retarded from unavoidable causes, to a later period than had been expected.

It will be my earnest endeavor, in the negotiations which are now in progress, to promote such arrangements as may tend to consolidate that peace which, in conjunction with his majesty's allies, I have had the happiness of concluding; and to re-establish that just equilibrium amongst the different powers, which will afford the best prospect of permanent tranquility to Europe.

*Gentlemen of the house of Commons,*

I regret the necessity of the large expenditure which we must be prepared to meet in the course of the ensuing year; but the circumstances under which the long and arduous contest in Europe has

been carried on and concluded, have unavoidably led to large arrears, for which you will see the necessity of providing; and the war still subsisting with America renders the continuance of great exertions indispensable.

His royal highness having finished the reading of the speech, and retired, the earl of Abingdon, after a variety of observations, concluded by moving the address, which, as is usual, was a mere echo of the regent's speech.

Lord Darnley could not approve of the terms used in the speech with respect to America. He conceived that the naval administration of the country had been badly conducted, and gave notice that he should feel it his duty to bring the subject forward as early as possible.

Lord Melville replied.

The duke of Norfolk reprobated the glowing terms in which the American war was spoken of in the regent's speech, which war he considered as truly disastrous.

Lord Grenville, in a speech of considerable length, opposed the address, and condemned the measures pursued in America. He said, the war with that country had assumed a new character, and described the burning of the civil buildings at Washington as an act of barbarous warfare, inconsistent with European manners.

Lord Liverpool replied to Lord G. and the address was carried without amendment.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

In the debate on the address to the regent, Mr. Whitbread said,

"It might not be useless to ask, what was the ground of difference between the two countries—for what England was fighting with America? Before they were called on to pay the price of the battle, he thought it would be wisdom to ascertain for what the battle was to be fought. Was it respecting boundary—the principle governing the impressment of seamen—or the general question of maritime rights? If they were fighting for the maritime rights of England—maritime rights, which, no doubt, would be defined by the congress at Vienna—it ought to be ascertained whether they did not wish to exact more from America than they desired from any other power. The effects resulting from the attack on Washington were very different from what it had been attempted to make this country believe; as it had enabled Mr. Madison to obtain those militias which were before withheld, and conciliated those parties which had been hostile to the war and the government. They heard nothing now of the separation of the states—of the increased spread of the spirit of disunion; for, since the attack on Washington, all had united to revenge this common wrong. The destruction which took place at Washington, the capital of a rising empire—conduct so unlike that of the Goths before the walls of Rome—whether or not there was any ground for retaliation, was quite unworthy of a great, dignified and powerful nation.

The chancellor of the Exchequer in reply, and in justification of the burning at Washington, said, "What did the Americans at York, the capital of Upper Canada? Why, they not only burnt the house of the governor, but also every house belonging to the meanest individual, even to a shell, and left the populace in a most wretched condition!"—[*A gross falsehood.*]

#### AMERICAN NEGOCIATION.

HOUSE OF LORDS, Nov. 19.—The marquis of Lansdown called the attention of the house to an official paper said to have been published by the Ame-

rican government, relative to the pretensions set up by the British government in the negotiations at Ghent, which, if authentic, called loudly for the interference of parliament; and required on the part of ministers, a justification of measures so new and extraordinary as were thus set forth in the American statement.

The earl of Liverpool had seen with much surprise the paper alluded to. With respect to the authority by which such a statement had appeared, he was ignorant. He believed it quite unprecedented in the history of negotiations to publish any separate articles of them until the whole were either agreed to or rejected. The negotiations were still pending, and he was sure the house would perceive the impropriety of entering into any discussion of the subject under such circumstances.

The marquis of Landsdown observed, that it not only charged the government of this country with setting up new and unheard-of claims but such as put an entirely different complexion on the quarrel, from that with which it commenced, and exposed every thing to doubt, uncertainty, and political distraction. The treaty with the Indians was a violation of all those former treaties by which this country had been connected with America.

The earl of Liverpool could assure the noble marquis and the house, that at the time at which the paper alluded to was dated, the negotiations between the governments were going forward; that they were still going forward, and at no intermediate time had ceased.

The earl of Donoughmore was by no means satisfied with the answer. The recent events on the other side of the atlantic were such as called loudly for explanation, and the British people never had so much season to demand it. They had been taught to think they were contending for a vital principle, their marine independence; and it turned out at length that it was for extended territory.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Nov. 19.

[*The following remarks respecting America were made in debate on the army estimates.*]

Mr. Whitbread remarked, that the news from America must naturally incline the house to ask, were the negotiations at Ghent still proceeding? (*hear, hear.*) Melancholy it was to reflect, that it now appeared on the authority of ministers themselves, that at the commencement of the contest, a large proportion of the American population were decidedly with us; but that we had so fought and so negotiated, that party had become extinct in the United States, and that but one common mind existed for directing the whole force of the republic against this country. (*hear, hear.*) Upon these points, he desired to be better informed before he gave his vote for going into the committee.

Mr. Vansittart said, it gave him great satisfaction to say, that the conferences at Ghent were not broken off; but he did not think it necessary to say any thing more at present.

Mr. Homer said, as to the subject of America, if the principle of war was entirely changed, and it was now wished to make conquests from America, he believed that the war would not meet with the same support from the feelings of the house or the public.

Mr. Ponsonby wished to ask the right hon. gentlemen, whether the papers purported to have been laid before the congress of America by Mr. Madison, were correct statements of what had passed at the negotiation at Ghent?

No reply was made from the treasury bench.

Mr. Baring conceived that the extraordinary measures they had pursued, and the extraordinary pre-

tensions they had set up as to America, were subjects which made it necessary that the house should have more information than they were now in possession of. He thought that no man in the country could have expected that America would ever have yielded to such pretensions, at a time that we had gained no advantages over her in the war.

Mr. Stephen insisted that America had departed from the usual conduct of civilized governments, in publishing papers before the negotiation was terminated.

HOUSE OF LORDS, Nov. 26.  
*Congress at Vienna.*

The earl of Donoughmore gave notice of his intention to bring under their lordship's consideration a subject, upon which it was of the utmost importance that the opinion of that house should be speedily and distinctly known. He wished the subject had fallen into hands better calculated to do it justice, and he had waited for a considerable time to see whether any one else was inclined to take it up before the recess; but not finding that it was the intention of any other person to call their lordships attention to the matter at so early a period, he felt it his duty to do so: and, therefore, gave notice that on Thursday next he should submit a resolution to this effect,—that it was the duty of that house promptly and decidedly to declare its opinion upon the system of SPOILATION AND AGGRANDISEMENT which appeared to be pursued at the congress at Vienna: and he moved that the lords be summoned for that day; which was ordered accordingly.

In the house of commons, Nov. 14, the chancellor of the exchequer, after a high eulogium upon the late general Ross, moved that the prince regent be humbly requested to give directions for the erection of a monument to his memory. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

In the course of his remarks, the chancellor of the exchequer said,

"He could not help expressing a hope, that this vengeance, thus signally inflicted, [alluding to the capture of Washington] would be the last, and that no aggravation would render a recourse to similar measures necessary. He also would take that opportunity of stating, that instructions had been sent out to the coast of America, to abstain from further inflictions, unless rendered necessary by fresh enmities—an order which he was satisfied, gen. Ross, had he lived, would have felt sincere pleasure in promulgating."

[We (many in Baltimore) have also had an idea of erecting a monument to the memory of the destroyer of the capitol, on the spot where his crime was retributed. The editor has had a plan of it in MS for several months.]

## Important from Europe.

The British sloop of war Favorite arrived at New-York on Saturday evening last—passengers Mr. Carroll, one of the secretaries to our ministers at Ghent, and Mr. Baker, secretary to the British legation to the United States. The former with a copy of the TREATY OF PEACE concluded and signed by the British commissioners at Ghent on the 24th December, and the latter with the same ratified by the prince regent, and which being approved by the president and senate, is immediately to be communicated by him to the British fleets and armies in this quarter of the globe.

Copies and extracts from the papers brought by those gentlemen are inserted below—to which we have added a summary of things that room is not allowed to notice in detail.

*From the London "Times" of December 30.*

The state of the funds may be said to afford a most striking comment on the text of those who have the front to call the treaty of Ghent honorable to this country. What? An honorable peace, with the last of our adversaries, with a populous and commercial nation; and yet a depression in the public funds! the thing is impossible. There is a moral inconsistency in the facts. But the truth, unhappily, peeps out in the course of the eulogy bestowed on the famous specimen of diplomatic ingenuity. The peace is, like that of Amiens, a peace of necessity—and upon what grounds? "*Leaning to certain points*" it seems has been "*hinted*" at the congress of Vienna. Now, let us put this mysterious language into plain English! It can bear no other construction than this—that Russia, or Austria, or Prussia, has avowed an inclination to support the innovations on public law which Mr. Madison asserts. Might not this have been foretold; was it not foretold in this paper six months ago? Was it not the very argument we urged for pushing the war in America with the utmost vigor, whilst yet the field was open, and our adversary without allies? And is it not a motive for the same conduct, even at this late period? If any of the powers who have received our subsidies, or have been rescued from destruction by our courage and example, I have had the baseness to turn against us, it is morally certain, that the treaty of Ghent will confirm them in their resolution. They will reflect that we have attempted to force our principles on America, and have failed. Nay, that we have retired from the combat with the stripes yet bleeding on our backs—with the recent defeats at Plattsburgh, and on lake Champlain, unavenged. [*Miserable man!—what will he say when he hears of Orleans!*] To make peace at such a moment, they will think betrays a deadness to the feelings of honor, and shows a timidity of disposition, inviting further insult. If we could have pointed to America overthrown, we should surely have stood on much higher ground at Vienna, and every where else, than we possibly can do now—Even yet, however, if we could but close the war with some great naval triumph, the reputation of our maritime greatness might be partially restored; but to say, that it has not hitherto suffered in the estimation of all Europe, and what is worse, of America herself, is to belie common sense and universal experience. "Two or three of our ships have struck to a force vastly superior!"—*No, not two or three, but many, on the ocean, and whole squadrons on the lakes;* and the numbers are to be viewed with relation to the comparative magnitude of the two navies.

*Scarcely is there an American ship of war, which has not to boast a victory over the British flag; scarcely one British ship in thirty or forty, that has beaten an American. Our seamen, it is urged, have on all occasions fought bravely. Who denies it? Our complaint is, that with the bravest seamen and the most powerful navy in the world, we retire from the contest, when the balance of defeat is so heavy against us. Be it accident, or be it misconduct, we enquire not now into the cause; the certain, the inevitable consequences are what we look to, and these may be summed up in few words—the speedy growth of the American navy—and the recurrence of a new and much more formidable American war. From that fatal moment when the flag of the Guerriere was struck, there has been quite a rage for building ships of war in the United States. Their navy has been nearly doubled, and their vessels are of extraordinary magnitude. The people, naturally vain, boastful and insolent, have been filled with an abso-*

lute contempt of our maritime power, and furious eagerness to beat down our maritime pretensions. Those passions, which have been inflamed by success, could only have been cooled by what in vulgar but emphatic language has been termed "a sound flogging;" but, unfortunately, our christian meekness has induced us rather to kiss the rod, than to retaliate its exercise. Such false and feeble humanity is not calculated for the guidance of nations. War is, indeed, a tremendous engine of justice; but when justice wields the sword, she must be inflexible. Looking neither to the right nor to the left, she must pursue her blow, until the evil is rooted out. This is not blind rage or blinder revenge; but it is a discriminating, a calm and even a tender calculation of consequences. *Better is it, that we should grapple with the young lion, when he is first fleeced with the taste of our flocks, than wait until, in the maturity of his strength, he bears away at once both sheep and shepherd.*

The Chatham of 74 guns (built in memory of the Walcheren expedition) is ordered to be manned, and will, it is supposed, be sent to America to strengthen the preparations for that extended system of warfare, which must take place if the president should delay the ratification of the treaty. We are well convinced that every ship, and every soldier employed in maintaining the vital contest for our maritime ascendancy, far from diminishing, will add a proportional weight to our influence at Vienna; but in truth Vienna and all its fetes, and all its negotiations, are infinitely insignificant to us now compared with the growth of an American navy, and the probable loss of our transatlantic provinces. With respect to the latter point, it is certain that the present treaty will produce the most serious discontent among the Canadians, when they find that the great object of their wishes, a secure frontier communication, is referred to the decision of commissioners. They know, if the British public does not, what is the nonesty of American commissioners; but, indeed, we ought to know it too, for we cannot well have forgotten the conduct of those appointed under the treaty of 1794. By that treaty two boards were established—one in England, to judge of American claims. The other in America to judge of English claims. The former proceeded with all justice and regularity, and actually adjudged to various claimants above a million and a half of money, which was paid by this country. The latter met, and received British claims to the amount of five millions and a half, but never proceeded to a single award. At this board were two American commissioners, the presence of whom at least was necessary to form a quorum; but these despicable swindlers, for their conduct entitles them to no better name, no sooner perceived that justice required a decision in favor of a British claimant, than they withdrew; and of course put an entire stop to the business. After this experience, it does seem a little extraordinary, that we should commit the future safety of Canada to a board of commissioners.

*From the same, of Dec. 31.*

Whether Mr. Madison may or may not ratify the treaty of Ghent will, perhaps depend on the result of the expedition to New Orleans. The force from Falmouth and Cork, supposed to be destined on that expedition, appears from letters brought by the *Amphion*, not to have touched at Bermuda, but to have proceeded direct to the mouth of the Mississippi, whither admiral Cockburn followed them with such vessels as he could collect. *The permanent occupation of Orleans would be a fatal blow to the American views of aggrandizement on the side of Louisiana; but that blow Mr. Madison has it now in his power*

to parry by a mere stroke of the pen. [*Gen. Jackson, and his gullant companions, have done it by cannon and rifle balls.*] On the other hand, if the expedition should encounter any serious obstacles, he would probably delay, if not wholly refuse to ratify the treaty. We therefore trust that he is strictly limited to its immediate ratification or rejection; besides being required to retract the insolent and menacing expressions in Munroe's official letter. The more disgraceful the treaty is to us in its terms, the more careful must we be to repel any aggravations of our dishonor. It is in vain that we are still told of the great satisfaction every where produced, "not merely because peace has been made, but because it has been made on such terms?"—Look at the funds. Instead of rising 10 or 12 per cent, as might well have been expected from a secure and honorable peace, they keep a dead heavy level. Indeed, in the early part of yesterday, they drooped nearly one per cent, but recovered a little towards the close of the market. We learn from our correspondents, that the satisfaction expressed at the news was by no means so great or general in the country as has been asserted. At Birmingham, Manchester, and one or two other manufacturing places, the mails which brought intelligence of the peace were received, it is true, with many demonstrations of joy; but it is not true that the terms excited any satisfaction at Liverpool. The merchants of that place, most of whom are pretty well acquainted with the true complexion of American politics, indulged the gloomiest presages of the result; and the general opinion there was, that if Madison could by any means find resources to carry on the war, he would rejoice in adding to the indignities he has heaped on us, that of refusing to ratify the treaty.

*From the London Courier, of Dec 27.*

We have the great satisfaction to announce a peace with America. We announced it yesterday; but the intelligence did not arrive time enough to be inserted in the whole of our impression. Mr. BAKER, the bearer of the treaty, did not reach London till late in the day. At four o'clock nothing had transpired at the public offices. Soon afterwards, however, a letter was sent to the lord-mayor, and we procured a sketch of the terms upon which peace had been concluded, which was read to the audience at the Theatres. The fact (however it might be expected) was known in the city before government were in possession of it. It was about one o'clock that the rise in the funds began, and immense purchases were made.

The peace came probably very unexpectedly upon our readers; for the last American documents had assumed such a tone, and unfolded such pretensions, and held forth such menaces, that no one supposed that the same breath that blew the blast of war could have been playing to the American commissioners the dulcet notes of peace. Such, however appears to have been the case. The despatches carried out by the *John Adams*, containing the documents relative to the negotiation, which the American government thought proper to publish, led to an immediate change in their intentions, and, however they might bluster and talk big, and propose new taxes and conscriptions, they were determined to make peace upon those terms of which we have subjoined a sketch. And those terms, we do not hesitate to pronounce, to be most honorable for this country.

Now what are the terms upon which the treaty has been concluded?

"The Americans have waved any stipulation on the subject of maritime rights, as well as respecting compensation for captures under the orders in council, or on any other account.

"The interests of the indians, allies to Great Britain, in the war, are provided for in this treaty by a stipulation that they are to be restored to all their possessions, rights and privileges, which they enjoyed, or to which they were entitled antecedent to the year 1812.

"All the disputed questions of territory and the boundary are to be referred to commissioners, to be respectively appointed under the conditions named in the treaty, and until the differences respecting them are decided, the islands in the bay of Passamaquoddy, are to remain in the possession of Great Britain.

"All other conquests on both sides are to be restored.

"There is to be no renewal of the right of fishery on the Newfoundland coast and no trade to our India possessions."

If the commissioners disagree, a friendly power is to be the umpire.

It cannot be said that we were at all influenced by the threat of raising 100,000 men and driving us out of Canada, for that was not known at Ghent when our commissioners signed the treaty.

No one will suspect us of undue partiality for America, and considering the circumstances under which Mr. MADISON made his wanton aggression on this country, we certainly should not deplore any chastisement which he might receive.

In considering, however, the conditions of the peace, as we have been informed of them, we cannot but regard them as completely honorable to this country.

The American government began the war on account of the orders in council, and to enforce the relinquishment of impressment on board their merchant vessels.

The orders in council were repealed by our government before they knew the commencement of this war. The war was continued by America after she knew of the repeal of the orders in council, to compel us to relinquish the right of impressment.

It was America, and not Great Britain, which claimed a stipulation on this point.

The war is concluded by a peace in which no such stipulation is made.

#### OFFICIAL.

*Extract of a letter to the lord mayor.*

"It is my duty to acquaint your lordship, that a treaty of peace was signed at Ghent, 24th December instant. By the treaty hostilities will cease on its ratification by the president of the United States as well as by the prince regent.

(Signed)

BATHURST."

*From the same of December 30.*

We have been more anxious than usual to examine the different provincial papers in order that we might ascertain the effect of the peace with America. Wherever it has been made known, it has produced great satisfaction, not merely because peace has been made, but because it has been made upon such terms. The manner of its reception in Ireland and Scotland cannot, of course, be yet known. At Birmingham, an immense assemblage witnessed the arrival of the mail, and immediately took the horses out and drew the mail to the post-office with the loudest acclamations.

On the news arriving at Manchester, the greatest joy was expressed throughout the town.

The same feeling was exhibited at Liverpool, Bristol, and all other places from whence accounts have been brought either by the provincial papers by the private letters.

*From the Morning Chronicle of Dec. 30.*

The speculators of the American produce, and

bears in the *cul de sac* of the stock of exchange, are incessant in their croakings against the peace with America. Their attachment to the ministers, though strong, cannot reconcile them to this one step, though surely if they would look back with an impartial eye on the imbecility and error with which their idols conducted the war, they must acknowledge their prudence in putting an end to it. One of them very honestly said two days ago, that if they had not put an end to the war, the war would have put an end to their ministry. Instead then of exploring the peace, *The Times*, and its principles, ought to condemn the choice of the prince regent, in trusting the reins of government in hands so incapable of wielding the energies of the empire.

Certainly America might have been successfully attacked in many parts, if the force of Great Britain had been wisely directed. In a valuable sketch of the United States of North America, written by the late French consul general, and translated by WILLIAM WALTON, esq. we find this truth particularly acknowledged. "The United States," says the French consul, "are vulnerable on many points, but mortally so on three, viz. in the bay of Newport, or Rhode Island; in that of New-York, and also in the Chesapeake bay. Since the Americans have become possessed of Louisiana, they can no longer be invaded in the southern states; but they can be easily invaded in the northern states, situated on the east of the Hudson, by the European power that may be mistress of Canada, and have the command on the left bank of the river St. Lawrence." The author enters into detail, and explains the facility of the operations of a skillful soldier. But did our ministers avail themselves of the means in their hands to take advantage of this facility? Or, having so completely failed in every thing they undertook, would their friends desire that they should have gone on plunging themselves deeper in disgrace?

*The Times* is solicitous of drawing an argument against the popularity of the peace from the state of the public funds. The editor certainly forgets his former doctrine, that the stock exchange was no more to be relied on as a thermometer of public opinion than a tap-room. But certainly when it is recollected that the speculators anticipated this event; that purchases to an immense amount were made on the expectation of it; that there is the greatest bull account which has been known for years; and that this (though called the week of the feast of fools) is the week of the year when money is the scarcest, from its being the general week of balance, as well as the week of the payment into the bank of the collected revenue by the receivers—the operation on the funds is no criterion of public feeling on the peace.

The best means of ascertaining the fact of its being palatable, or the contrary, will be from the returns of the manufacturing districts throughout the empire, from the demand of hands, and the state of the custom-house books.

#### AMERICAN AFFAIRS.—SCRAPS.

Petitions signed by great multitudes of manufacturers, were presented to the prince regent in November, praying for peace with America. The publication of the despatches from Ghent had a most powerful effect on the honest part of the English people. Our demands were so reasonable, and the British so extravagant, that a change in our favor appears to have been made with electrical rapidity. Our ministers are to remain in Europe until spring. *Cockburn* whose memory will be infamous until history is lost in the "crush of matter and the wreck of worlds," is spoken of in England as a "second Nelson;" and it is said he will have the "red ribbon"—

that is, be made a knight of the Bath. American stocks advanced *fifteen per cent.* in Holland on the moment it was known that a treaty was signed.—The *Favorite* sloop of war it is stated was selected on account of her name as the bearer of the news of peace, though she was not fit for sea; but she was completely caulked, and had her sails beat and her provisions and water on board and was ready for the voyage in 17 hours!

The proclamation of captain Thomas Boyle, of the *Chasseur*, [see Weekly Register page 290] declaring the strict blockade of the ports and harbors, &c. of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, is published in the London Courier of the 24th December.

The London Gazette of Nov. 17, has a list of American vessels captured, burnt and destroyed by the squadron under rear admiral Hotham from 6th August to 9th October last, being *eighty three* vessels.—[These were chiefly small coasting vessels—the most of them wood-flats and fishing boats.]

The cargoes from *Amelia*, seized in England, have been restored. It is stated that permission to send cargoes from England to the United States had been refused until the ratification of the treaty by our government is known.

#### CONTINENTAL AFFAIRS.

A great many hints are thrown out that the congress at Vienna may not end harmoniously; but what they have done, (if any thing, conclusively) is unknown. If what is reported is to be believed, there will be great "cutting and carving" of Saxony, Poland, Italy, &c. It seems probable that something has been said about *maritime rights* that do not quite please the *English*; and *Hamburg* paper of December 28, says that "*discord* [at Vienna] *increased daily*." As we know nothing of a certainty, we shall not register reports, being pressed so much for room. But a full history of the proceedings of this congress may be expected shortly, which shall have place.

The Italian troops, in the possessions of the emperor of Austria in Italy, had been ordered to Germany—discontent and desertion to great extent was caused by the procedure; and seems if the emperor shall insist on its execution that he will be compelled to send another army to enforce it.

*Italy*, generally, is much disturbed and unsettled. It is thought that *Murat* will be invited to resign the throne of *Naples*.

*Switzerland* is all commotion. The king of *England* has added to his titles that of "*King of Hanover*." The *French* are recruiting their army by an additional force of 100,000 men. A London paper of *November 24*, says—"The general opinion of the public respecting the Duke of Wellington's embassy to Paris, will, we have reason to suppose, be verified by his Grace's recall. His life is even said to be exposed to some danger in the French capital, from the evil passions which his presence there has excited; and the most ordinary civilities or proposals are received with coolness and caution, only because they come from him." We hear nothing of *Bonaparte*, except that he was indisposed, and a report that his wife is to be married to the king of *Prussia*. It is stated that the British have 75,000 men in *Belgium*. The "sovereign prince of the Netherlands" is to assume the title of *King of Belgium*. *Malta* will probably become a great commercial depot, in the possession or dependence of *England*. It is said that the congress at Vienna, will not interfere with or take up the *slave trade*—France, Spain, and Portugal appear determined to pursue it. We have nothing particular of the affairs of *Spain*; but suppose the late report of a new revolution there is not correct. We have many instances of the dislike of

the French to the English—it is said that the populace drove out the British merchant vessels from the port of *St. Maloes*.

The coronation of Louis XVIII. is expected to take place in June next, at Rheims, where preparations are making for the ceremony.

The press on the river (says a London paper of December 26) continues very hot, and the service will, it is understood, be continued until 10,000 able bodied seamen have been obtained. [What for?]

*Talleyrand*, it appears, as *archbishop* of Rheims, has charge of the ecclesiastical affairs of France!

*Soult*, duke of Dalmatia, is dissatisfied, and has expressed his wish to return into private life. But another account adds that he has been charged with the management of the armies of France, and that his rigid enforcement of orders has caused no little confusion. The state of France is, certainly, unsettled. A *Madrid* paper of December 17, says, "it is certain that a good understanding does not subsist between the courts of Madrid and St. James." Persons who had purchased national property in Spain, have not only been deprived of it, but have been mulcted in heavy fines.

#### Treaty of Peace with England.

Adjutant-general's office, 3d Ward,  
New York, 11th February, 1815.

AFTER ORDERS.—The commanders of the several forts within the harbor of New-York, will permit his Britannic majesty's ship *Favorite*, commanded by the honorable James A. Mude, under a flag of truce, with Anthony St. John Baker, esquire, bearer of a treaty of peace between Great Britain and the United States, to pass up to the city to such anchorage as may be deemed desirable to the commander of said ship.

Mr. Baker and suite will be permitted to land at such place as he may deem proper, and pass to Washington city, the seat of government. The honorable captain Mude is requested to report his arrival in the harbor, to the commanding officer of the district.

By command of colonel B. Bogardus, commanding 3d military district.

(Signed)

THOS. CHRYSTIE,  
Assistant adjutant-general.

Head quarters, 4th and 10th Military District,  
Baltimore, February 15.

Sir—I have the honor to inform you, that I have this moment received a letter from the secretary for the department of war, advising me of the receipt of a treaty of peace with Great Britain, and of the probability of its being ratified by the proper authority.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,  
W. SCOTT.

The mayor of the city of Baltimore.

From the *New-York Gazette*.

A friend who has conversed with Mr. CARROLL has obligingly favored us with the following:  
Messrs. Lang, Turner & Co.

At such an important epoch, every word relating to the great subject seems to have consequence; I therefore hasten to give you a summary of the news I have collected from a hasty glance at the London papers of the 28th and 31st December, and in an interview with my friend Mr. C—, the welcome messenger.

Peace was concluded on the 24th of December and ratified on the 28th by the prince regent—the terms highly honorable to America. Affairs remain as they were before the war. Not an inch of territory ceded. The negotiations flagged until the great

victory of McDonough, which gave a spur to the ministers of England. *I may add, that the destruction of Washington was a happy event for this country.* It united the whole continent in expressing their abhorrence of such savage warfare; and a Paris paper goes so far as to say, each of their capitals had in turn been in possession of an enemy, but all therein was respected; and Paris was not burnt because England had not the sole control. [*Mark this.*]

The British papers give as a reason for making a peace, that as Russia and Prussia appear at the general congress to be sticklers for maritime rights, it would be advisable and prudent to detach America from joining the contest.

Ministers much abused for the manner of conducting the war—America is now respected by the world—Louis the XVIIIth sits insecurely on his throne; there was a conspiracy formed to assassinate him on entering the Thuilleries, which was discovered by Marmont, and the necessary steps taken to suppress it.

Bonaparte is restless, and desires much to go to England.

## Treaty of Peace.

JAMES MADISON,

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

To all and singular to whom these presents shall come,

GREETING:

WHEREAS a treaty of peace and amity between the United States of America, and his Britannic majesty was signed at Ghent, on the twenty-fourth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, by the plenipotentiaries respectively appointed for that purpose; and the said treaty having been, by and with the advice and consent of the senate of the United States, duly accepted, ratified, and confirmed, on the seventeenth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and fifteen; and ratified copies thereof having been exchanged agreeably to the tenor of the said treaty, which is in the words following, to wit:

*Treaty of peace and amity between his Britannic majesty and the United States of America.*

His Britannic majesty and the United States of America, desirous of terminating the war which has unhappily subsisted between the two countries, and of restoring, upon principles of perfect reciprocity, peace, friendship, and good understanding between them, have, for that purpose, appointed their respective plenipotentiaries, that is to say: his Britannic majesty, on his part, has appointed the right honorable James lord Gambier, late admiral of the white, now admiral of the red squadron of his majesty's fleet, Henry Goulburn, esquire, a member of the imperial parliament and under secretary of state, and William Adams, esquire, doctor of civil laws:—And the president of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the senate thereof, has appointed John Quincy Adams, James A. Bayard, Henry Clay, Jonathan Russell and Albert Gallatin, citizens of the United States, who, after a reciprocal communication of their respective full powers, have agreed upon the following articles:

### ARTICLE THE FIRST.

There shall be a firm and universal peace between his Britannic majesty and the United States, and between their respective countries, territories, cities, towns, and people, of every degree, without exception of places or persons. All hostilities, both by sea and land, shall cease as soon as this treaty shall have been ratified by both parties, as hereinafter mentioned. All territory, places, and possessions

whatsoever, taken from either party by the other, during the war, or which may be taken after the signing of this treaty, excepting only the islands hereinafter mentioned, shall be restored without delay, and without causing any destruction, or carrying away any of the artillery or other public property originally captured in the said forts or places, and which shall remain therein upon the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty, or any slaves or other private property. And all archives, records, deeds, and papers, either of a public nature, or belonging to private persons, which, in the course of the war, may have fallen into the hands of the officers of either party, shall be, as far as may be practicable, forthwith restored and delivered to the proper authorities and persons to whom they respectively belong. Such of the islands in the bay of Passamaquoddy as are claimed by both parties, shall remain in the possession of the party in whose occupation they may be at the time of the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty, until the decision respecting the title to the said islands shall have been made in conformity with the fourth article of this treaty. No disposition made by this treaty, as to such possession of the islands and territories claimed by both parties, shall, in any manner whatever, be construed to affect the right of either.

### ARTICLE THE SECOND.

Immediately after the ratifications of this treaty by both parties, as hereinafter mentioned, orders shall be sent to the armies, squadrons, officers, subjects and citizens, of the two powers to cease from all hostilities: And to prevent all causes of complaint which might arise on account of the prizes which may be taken at sea after the said ratifications of this treaty, it is reciprocally agreed, that all vessels and effects which may be taken after the space of twelve days from the said ratifications, upon all parts of the coast of North America, from the latitude of twenty-three degrees north, to the latitude of fifty degrees north, and as far eastward in the Atlantic ocean, as the thirty-sixth degree of west longitude from the meridian of Greenwich, shall be restored to each side: That the time shall be thirty days in all other parts of the Atlantic ocean, north of the equinoctial line or equator, and the same time for the British and Irish channels, for the Gulf of Mexico and all parts of the West Indies: forty days for the North seas, for the Baltic, and for all parts of the Mediterranean: sixty days for the Atlantic ocean south of the equator as far as the latitude of the Cape of Good Hope: ninety days for every part of the world south of the equator: and one hundred and twenty days for all other parts of the world, without exception.

### ARTICLE THE THIRD.

All prisoners of war taken on either side, as well by land as by sea, shall be restored as soon as practicable after the ratification of this treaty, as hereinafter mentioned, on their paying the debts which they may have contracted during their captivity. The two contracting parties respectively engage to discharge in specie, the advances which may have been made by the other, for the sustenance and maintenance of such prisoners.

### ARTICLE THE FOURTH.

Whereas it was stipulated by the second article in the treaty of peace, of one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, between his Britannic majesty and the United States of America, that the boundary of the United States should comprehend all islands within twenty leagues of any part of the shores of the United States, and lying between lines to be drawn due east from the points where the aforesaid boundaries, between Nova Scotia, on the one part,

and East Florida on the other, shall respectively touch the Bay of Fundy, and the Atlantic ocean, excepting such islands as now are, or heretofore have been, within the limits of Nova Scotia; and where as the several islands in the Bay of Passamaquoddy, which is part of the Bay of Fundy, and the island of Grand Menan in the said Bay of Fundy, are claimed by the United States as being comprehended within their aforesaid boundaries, which said islands are claimed as belonging to his Britannic majesty, as having been at the time of, and previous to, the aforesaid treaty of one thousand seven hundred and eighty three within the limits of the province of Nova Scotia: In order, therefore, finally to decide upon these claims, it is agreed that they shall be referred to two commissioners, to be appointed in the following manner, viz: one commissioner shall be appointed by his Britannic majesty, and one by the president of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the senate thereof, and the said two commissioners so appointed shall be sworn impartially to examine and decide upon the said claims according to such evidence as shall be laid before them on the part of his Britannic majesty and of the United States respectively. The said commissioners shall meet at St. Andrews, in the province of New Brunswick, and shall have power to adjourn to such other place or places as they shall think fit. The said commissioners shall, by a declaration or report under their hands and seals, decide to which of the two contracting parties the several islands aforesaid do respectively belong, in conformity with the true intent of the said treaty of peace of one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three. And if the said commissioners shall agree in their decision, both parties shall consider such decision as final and conclusive. It is further agreed, that in the event of the two commissioners differing upon all or any of the matters so referred to them, or in the event of both or either of the said commissioners refusing, or declining, or wilfully omitting, to act as such, they shall make, jointly or separately, a report or reports, as well to the government of his Britannic majesty as to that of the United States, stating in detail the points on which they differ, and the grounds upon which their respective opinions have been formed, or the grounds upon which they, or either of them, have so refused, declined, or omitted to act. And his Britannic majesty, and the government of the United States hereby agree to refer the report or reports of the said commissioners, to some friendly sovereign or state, to be then named for that purpose, and who shall be requested to decide on the differences which may be stated in the said report or reports, or upon the report of one commissioner, together with the grounds upon which the other commissioner shall have refused, declined, or omitted to act, as the case may be. And if the commissioner so refusing, declining, or omitting to act, shall also wilfully omit to state the grounds upon which he has so done, in such manner that the said statement may be referred to such friendly sovereign or state, together with the report of such other commissioner, then such sovereign or state shall decide ex parte upon the said report alone. And his Britannic majesty and the government of the United States engage to consider the decision of some friendly sovereign or state to be such and conclusive on all the matters so referred.

#### ARTICLE THE FIFTH.

Whereas neither that point of the high lands lying due north from the source of the river St. Croix, and designated in the former treaty of peace between the two powers as the northwest angle of Nova Scotia, nor the north-westernmost head of Con-

necticut river, has yet been ascertained; and where as that part of the boundary line between the dominion of the two powers which extends from the source of the river St. Croix directly north to the abovementioned north-west angle of Nova Scotia, thence along the said highlands which divide those rivers that empty themselves into the river St. Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic ocean to the north-westernmost head of Connecticut river, thence down along the middle of the river to the forty-fifth degree of north latitude; thence by a line due west on said latitude until it strikes the river Iroquois or Cataraguy, has not yet been surveyed:— It is agreed, that for these several purposes two commissioners shall be appointed, sworn, and authorized, to act exactly in the manner directed with respect to those mentioned in the next preceding article, unless otherwise specified in the present article. The said commissioners shall meet at St. Andrews, in the province of New Brunswick, and shall have power to adjourn to such other place or places as they shall think fit. The said commissioners shall have power to ascertain and determine the points abovementioned, in conformity with the provisions of the said treaty of peace of one thousand seven hundred and eighty three, and shall cause the boundary aforesaid, from the source of the river St. Croix to the river Iroquois or Cataraguy, to be surveyed and marked according to the said provisions. The said commissioners shall make a map of the said boundary, and annex to it a declaration under their hands and seals, certifying it to be the true map of the said boundary, and particularizing the latitude and longitude of the north-west angle of Nova Scotia, of the north-westernmost head of Connecticut river, and of such other points of the same boundary as they may deem proper. And both parties agree to consider such map and declaration as finally and conclusively fixing the said boundary. And in the event of the said two commissioners differing, or both, or either of them, refusing or declining, or wilfully omitting to act, such reports, declarations, or statements, shall be made by them, or either of them, and such reference to a friendly sovereign or state, shall be made, in all respects as in the latter part of the fourth article is contained, and in as full a manner as if the same was herein repeated.

#### ARTICLE THE SIXTH.

Whereas, by the former treaty of peace that portion of the boundary of the United States from the point where the forty-fifth degree of north latitude strikes the river Iroquois or Cataraguy to the lake Superior, was declared to be "along the middle of said river into lake Ontario, through the middle of said lake until it strikes the communication by water between that lake and lake Erie, thence along the middle of said communication into lake Erie, through the middle of said lake until it arrives at the water communication into the lake Huron, thence through the middle of said lake to the water communication between that lake and lake Superior." And whereas doubts have arisen what was the middle of said river, lakes and water communications, and whether certain islands lying in the same were within the dominions of his Britannic majesty or of the United States: In order, therefore, finally to decide these doubts, they shall be referred to two commissioners, to be appointed, sworn, and authorized to act exactly in the manner directed with respect to those mentioned in the next preceding article, unless otherwise specified in this present article. The said commissioners shall meet, in the first instance, at Albany, in the state of New-York, and shall have power to adjourn to



such other place or places as they shall think fit.—The said commissioners shall, by a report or declaration, under their hands and seals, designate the boundary through the said river, lakes, and water communications, and decide to which of the two contracting parties the several islands lying within the said river, lakes, and water communications, do respectively belong, in conformity with the true intent of the said treaty of one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three. And both parties agree to consider such designation and decision as final and conclusive. And in the event of the said two commissioners differing, or both, or either of them, refusing, declining, or wilfully omitting to act, such reports, declarations or statements, shall be made by them, or either of them, and such reference to a friendly sovereign or state shall be made in all respects as in the latter part of the fourth article is contained, and in as full a manner as if the same was herein repeated.

## ARTICLE THE SEVENTH.

It is further agreed that the said two last mentioned commissioners, after they shall have executed the duties assigned to them in the preceding article, shall be, and they are hereby authorized, upon their oaths impartially to fix and determine, according to the true intent of the said treaty of peace, of one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, that part of the boundary between the dominions of the two powers, which extends from the water communication between lake Huron, and lake Superior, to the most north-western point of the lake of the Woods, to decide to which of the two parties the several islands lying in the lakes, water communications, and rivers, forming the said boundary, do respectively belong, in conformity with the true intent of the said treaty of peace, of one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three; and to cause such parts of the said boundary, as require it, to be surveyed and marked. The said commissioners shall, by a report or declaration under their hands and seals, designate the boundary aforesaid, state their decision on the points thus referred to them, and particularize the latitude and longitude of the most north-western point of the lake of the Woods, and of such other parts of the said boundary as they may deem proper. And both parties agree to consider such designation and decision as final and conclusive.—And, in the event of the said two commissioners differing, or both, or either of them refusing, declining, or wilfully omitting to act, such reports, declarations, or statements, shall be made by them, or either of them, and such reference to a friendly sovereign or state, shall be made in all respects, as in the latter part of the fourth article is contained, and in as full a manner as if the same was herein repeated.

## ARTICLE THE EIGHTH.

The several boards of two commissioners mentioned in the four preceding articles, shall respectively have power to appoint a secretary, and to employ such surveyors or other persons as they shall judge necessary. Duplicates of all their respective reports, declarations, statements and decisions, and of their accounts, and of the journal of their proceedings, shall be delivered by them to the agents of his Britannic majesty, and to the agents of the United States, who may be respectively appointed and authorized to manage the business on behalf of their respective governments. The said commissioners shall be respectively paid in such manner as shall be agreed between the two contracting parties, such agreement being to be settled at the time of

the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty.—And all other expences attending the said commissioners shall be defrayed equally by the two parties. And in the case of death, sickness, resignation, or necessary absence, the place of every such commissioner respectively shall be supplied in the same manner as such commissioner was first appointed, and the new commissioner shall take the same oath or affirmation, and do the same duties. It is further agreed between the two contracting parties, that in case any of the islands mentioned in any of the preceding articles, which were in the possession of one of the parties prior to the commencement of the present war between the two countries, should, by the decision of any of the boards of commissioners aforesaid, or of the sovereign or state so referred to, as in the four next preceding articles contained, fall within the dominions of the other party, all grants of land made previous to the commencement of the war by the party having had such possession, shall be as valid as if such island or islands, had by such decision or decisions, been adjudged to be within the dominions of the party having had such possession.

## ARTICLE THE NINTH.

The United States of America engage to put an end immediately after the ratification of the present treaty to hostilities with all the tribes or nations of indians, with whom they may be at war at the time of such ratification; and forthwith to restore to such tribes or nations, respectively, all the possessions, rights and privileges, which they may have enjoyed or been entitled to in one thousand eight hundred and eleven, previous to such hostilities: *Provided always*, that such tribes or nations shall agree to desist from all hostilities, against the United States of America, their citizens and subjects, upon the ratification of the present treaty being notified to such tribes or nations, and shall so desist accordingly. And his Britannic majesty engages, on his part, to put an end immediately after the ratification of the present treaty, to hostilities with all the tribes or nations of indians with whom he may be at war at the time of such ratification, and forthwith to restore to such tribes or nations, respectively, all the possessions, rights, and privileges, which they may have enjoyed or been entitled to, in one thousand eight hundred and eleven, previous to such hostilities: *Provided always*, that such tribes or nations shall agree to desist from all hostilities against his Britannic majesty, and his subjects, upon the ratification of the present treaty being notified to such tribes or nations, and shall so desist accordingly.

## ARTICLE THE TENTH.

Whereas the traffic in slaves is irreconcilable with the principles of humanity and justice, and whereas both his majesty and the United States are desirous of continuing their efforts to promote its entire abolition, it is hereby agreed that both the contracting parties shall use their best endeavors to accomplish so desirable an object.

## ARTICLE THE ELEVENTH.

This treaty, when the same shall have been ratified on both sides, without alteration by either of the contracting parties, and the ratifications mutually exchanged, shall be binding on both parties, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington, in the space of four months from this day, or sooner if practicable.

In faith whereof, we the respective plenipotentiaries have signed this treaty, and hereunto affixed our seals.

Done, in triplicate, at Ghent, the twenty fourth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen.

(L. s.) GAMBIEB,  
(L. s.) HENRY GOULBURN,  
(L. s.) WILLIAM ADAMS,  
(T. s.) JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,  
(L. s.) J. A. BAYARD,  
(L. s.) H. CLAY,  
(L. s.) JONA. RUSSELL,  
(L. s.) ALBERT GALLATIN.

Now, therefore, to the end that the said treaty of peace and amity may be observed with good faith, on the part of the United States, I, James Madison, president as aforesaid, have caused the premises to be made public; and I do hereby enjoin all persons bearing office, civil or military, within the United States, and all others, citizens or inhabitants thereof, or being within the same, faithfully to observe and fulfil the said treaty and every clause and article thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents, and signed the same with my hand.

Done at the city of Washington, this eighteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, and of the sovereignty and independence of the United States the thirtieth.

JAMES MADISON.

By the president,

JAMES MONROE, *Acting secretary of state.*

THE REGENT'S SPEECH is miserably *maigre*. 'Hard was his royal highness put to it when he had to *impress* the destruction of our "flotilla in the *Patuxent*" into it, for something to boast of. The world should know that that flotilla, whose destruction was a matter of so great moment as to be announced from the throne—was not destroyed by the *English*, and carried, in the whole, only 14 or 16 guns. He also boasts about *Washington*. Posterity will hate him for it. He likewise talks about the country "east of the *Penobscot*." *That's* an affair between him and his friends.

ADVERTISEMENT EXTRAORDINARY.—From the *London Public Advertiser*.—

WANTED—The spirit which animated the conduct of *Elizabeth, Oliver and William*.

—————Better negotiators and more gun-powder.

LOST—All idea of national dignity and honor.

FOUND—That any insignificant state may insult that which used to call herself the mistress of the waves.

The news of peace with America has received a general rejoicing at Yarmouth. The bells have been rung for two days, and colors hoisted in various parts of the town; and there has been several convivial parties at the taverns to celebrate the event.

*American privateers in the East Indies.*

London, Nov. 26. The East India company ship *Adele*, has been captured by an American privateer off *Pontana*—other privateers were cruising off the coast of *Sumatra*.

Portsmouth, (Eng.) Nov. 21. On Wednesday the Regent, Sreatham, Lousdale, Kent and Caroline, valuably laden with spices from the Molucca Islands, and the *Bonetta*, from the South seas, went past for the Downs.—The *Steatham* left *Amboyna* about the 19th of May, arrived at *Batavia* on the 28th, and was detained there till the 26th of July, in

consequence of an embargo which the government had impressed, on account of some American privateers being in the quarter, and which had made one or two captures. One of the privateers, of 20 guns, and 200 men, had been lately captured by the *Owen Glendower* frigate, capt. Brian Hodgson. A prize to the *Hyder-Alley*, American privateer, had ran into *Saldeneia Bay*, (Cape of Good Hope) in distress, and was there taken possession of by the troops in garrison—she was captured on the coast of *Sumatra*.

The *Harpy* privateer, arrived at *Saleni*, after a great cruise, heard that the *Wasp* was off the *Canaries* carrying on a mighty business.

It is stated that the British have lately captured an American privateer (supposed to be the *Lyon*) in the *Tagus*, which she entered in distress, dismantled. The destruction of the *Gen. Armstrong* at *Fayal* had excited great sensibility at *Lisbon*. An account of it was speedily sent to *Brazil* by a frigate.

ILLUMINATION.—In consequence of the following proclamation, the city of *Baltimore* was, indeed, splendidly illuminated on Wednesday evening last: having some note of the chief things worthy of notice, an account of it may be published hereafter. The scene was delightful and enjoyed by the mildness of the evening, to its fullest extent. It went off with, perhaps, unprecedented order and harmony.

PROCLAMATION,

By the mayor of the city of *Baltimore*.

It is hereby respectfully recommended to the citizens of the city and precincts of *Baltimore*, to testify their high sense of the illustrious and unparalleled achievements of the arms of our country, under the command of major-general *Andrew Jackson*, at *New Orleans*, by an illumination. And that the same may be made in an orderly and peaceable manner, it is further respectfully recommended, that it commence precisely at the hour of 7 P. M. this evening, and be extinguished precisely at 9 o'clock thereafter. It is confidently expected, that in this manifestation of public joy, no inconsiderate dissatisfaction will occur, of those worthy citizens whose religious opinion do not permit them to join therein; and those whose indisposition or absence prevents them from a like avowal of their gladness.

All officers are enjoined vigilantly to discourage and prohibit any interruption of the public harmony.

EDWARD JOHNSON, mayor.

Mayor's office, *Baltimore*, Feb. 15, 1815.

A *Burlington*, Vt. paper says, that captain (commonly called commodore) *Macdonough*, is to take command of the steam frigate at *New York*. His late promotion entitles him to command a vessel of this class.

It is stated to be acknowledged by the officers of the *Majestic*, that the *President* silenced the *Endymion* before the other ships came up. The latter appears to have been terribly mauled; and, it is said, really struck her colors.

The famous privateer *True Blooded Yankee*, or, as the British papers call her, the *Bloody-minded Yankee*, has at length been captured and sent into *Gibraltar*.

CHARLESTON.—A letter from *Charleston* dated Feb. 1, says "We have 90 pieces of ordnance mounted on the lines in the rear of the city—32's, 24's, 18's and 12's."

The delay that has occurred in the usual receipt of the REGISTER will be compensated by its contents. See the treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain.

It is understood that the treaty of peace was unanimously (or nearly so) approved by the senate. A great deal of matter, in type, lies over.

# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

No. 26 of VOL. VII.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1815

[WHOLE NO. 182.]

*Hec olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIRGIL.

Printed and published by H. NILES, South-st. next door to the Merchants' Coffee House, at \$5 per ann.

## Files of the Register.

While laboring under the difficulties incident to the war, the editor was ever consoled with the prospect that at the restoration of peace, he would be able soon to dispose of the copies of the WEEKLY REGISTER that might then be on hand. The great demand for complete files within these walls, convinces him that hope will be realized much sooner than he expected.

But it is found that some are disposed to receive only those volumes which contain the documents, facts and incidents belonging to the period of the war (which are, certainly, the most precious and cost me more labor, than any I ever may publish)—and those being obtained, they will care nothing further for me or the REGISTER.

I do not value such patrons. I am morally certain that every complete copy I have will sell on fair terms, and thank no man to assure me that the demand will be greater than I can supply.

Every one has a right to fix the value on a commodity he has for sale—but he should not be unreasonable because he feels that he has the monopoly of it. I know that the WEEKLY REGISTER cannot be supplanted, or supplied, as to things that have past in the moral, civil and political world since its establishment—but the conditions on which it may be had shall not subject me to the charge of covetousness.

Let this fact be remarked—in consequence of being compelled to reprint the first and second volumes—they have cost (or will cost) me, at least one dollar more, for each, than those of the same volumes delivered to my old friends and subscribers. For this I should have some indemnification.

All I ask is this—that those who wish files shall pay 27 dollars for each—that is to say:

For the 3 years completed in September last	\$15
Supplement to Vol. V. (extra.)	1
Current year to September next, now payable, according to the conditions, by the original subscribers.	5
For the supplement to vol. VII. (extra.)	1
For the year in advance from Sept. 1815 to 1816.	5

\$27

Which is only to exact 5 dollars in advance for one year, to indemnify me for the extraordinary expense I have been at as aforesaid, and for lying so long out of the money which the stock of books cost me. No man will say that this is unreasonable.

These terms will be our guide until September next—after which, if any files remain to be disposed of, the advance will be increased.

## The close of the volume.

The present number completes the 7th volume, or half year, of the WEEKLY REGISTER. An index for it, on an enlarged and improved plan, will be delivered this day fortnight, and the SUPPLEMENT be sent to those who ordered it, in a few days thereafter.

It is a great pleasure and, he hopes, an honest pride, that the editor seizes this happy occasion to tender his thanks for the distinguished liberality

with which this favored work has been ever sustained and supported. It is now to be found in many of the public libraries, and is working its way into the private collections of our most illustrious citizens, with increasing rapidity—

*Mobilitate viget, et vires acquirit eundo.*

As has been heretofore observed, the prevailing idea (founded, indeed, on frequent experience) that works of this kind could not be supported or continued in the United States, has materially affected my interest. The repeated failure of periodical publications amongst us, some of them with much higher pretensions to patronage than my opinion of myself led me to aspire to, plead powerfully against the hope of our friends, that we could “weather the storm” with which negligence and procrastination is always ready to buffet the new beginner. This prevented many subscriptions, chiefly among that class of the people that would have been the most useful to us, because a calculation might have been made upon them as permanent and regular patrons. We trust, however, that our orical, like that of our beloved republic, is passed in triumph. If we have been assailed by open enemies without, and “blue-lights” within the pale of our subscription list, we have also had our Brown’s, Jackson’s and Scott’s—Games’, Coffee’s and Carroll’s; our Rodgers’, Decatur’s and Hull’s—and Perry’s, Macdonough’s and Blakeley’s to support and encourage us; and say, in the language of Lawrence, but with more fortunate effect, “Don’t give up the ship.” Thus sustained, we have persevered, and the REGISTER has now acquired a standing and value, that, in any reasonably-to-be-expected event, will insure its continuance on its present plan—which, I have the satisfaction to believe, has not essentially changed from the original prospectus, except that the political matter, by the “events of the war,” transcended the bounds we would have allotted it.

It shall be the constant care of the editor to guard a reputation that has been established by incessant labor and unwearied industry. Every effort shall still be made to ascertain the truth, and it shall be inserted with fairness and impartiality, affect whom it may. We shall be especially cautious against inattention, a sin by which we have suffered so much for others.

The return of peace will have a considerable effect on the general contents of this work; which, as a record of passing events, had assumed more of the nature of an ordinary news-paper than I wished—leading many to expect earlier intelligence than a weekly publication is capable of conveying, and to others giving large portions of what they considered stale articles; which, however, I hope, in general, they will read with pleasure and profit a little while hence. But a mighty mass of matter, honorable to our country or to individuals, or useful in a thousand different ways, relating to the war, yet remains to be noticed. We shall proceed with it regularly, as opportunity offers, until our valuable stock is exhausted. Of things past, we shall speak as they deserved; of things to come, as we think they merit; and, upon the whole, perhaps, be able to publish a more interesting work in peace than in war; as, relieved from the severe drudgery of collecting so literary fact from million-rumor, much time may be

spent in those *statistical* enquiries that have met the universal approbation. Among the things of this kind we have planned, is a very extensive *chronological table* or *general index* of the events of the war, with reference to the REGISTER for the matters stated at length; which, it is believed, will be very useful. It is also in contemplation to have written for this work, by a gentleman of fine talents, A HISTORY OF THE WAR.

The want of a *common index* begins to be felt. If the editor should live so long (and if he does not, he hereby enjoins it on his successor) he proposes, after the 10th volume is finished, to have made and to publish, a very minute and general index, in which every item in the preceding volumes shall be inserted under all the probable heads that it can be looked for, to collect together all the facts belonging to one thing. It will make several sheets, and shall be printed on a good large type and fine *strong* paper, to be bound by itself, for more easy reference.

While the editor thus pours out his gratitude and promises his friends to endeavor to deserve a continuance of their support, he has, for the last time, to many at least through *this* medium, to speak on a subject as mortifying as painful. Payment for the current year is now due from all who have not anticipated the time (and they, I thankfully acknowledge, are not a few) and no doubt it will be immediately made, with its accustomed promptitude. But there are *four* or *five hundred* persons who will receive no more papers from me until they pay up their arrears of *two, three* or *four years!* I have had the patronage of their *names* long enough; and, as entreaty has failed to convict them of the dishonesty of their conduct, means shall be taken to coerce them to a sense of justice. If in this purgation of my Augean stable, any mistake should arise, the editor bespeaks the liberality of the person injured, and promises the *amende honorable* when informed of his error. And, as frequent failures or delays of the mails take place, he would respectfully caution those who are conscious that they have dealt fairly with the *Register*, not to impute a mistake to him, until time shall be allowed to give assurance of the fact. The fault of non-payment I believe has, in some cases, been owing more to the negligence of agents whose ordinary business did not admit a due attention to mine; and a list of those who have *declined* the management of my affairs, or shall be "*dismissed the service,*" may be inserted for the information of our subscribers.

## President's Message.

To the senate and

House of representatives of the United States.

I lay before congress copies of the treaty of peace and amity between the United States and his Britannic majesty, which was signed by the commissioners of both parties at Ghent, on the 24th of December, 1814, and the ratifications of which have been duly exchanged.

While performing this act, I congratulate you, and our constituents, upon an event which is highly honorable to the nation, and terminates with peculiar felicity a campaign signalled by the most brilliant successes.

The late war, although reluctantly declared by congress, had become a necessary resort, to assert the rights and independence of the nation. It has been waged with success which is the natural result of the legislative counsels, of the patriotism of the people, of the public spirit of the militia, and of the valor of the military and naval forces of the

country. Peace, at all times a blessing, is peculiarly welcome, therefore, at a period when the causes for the war have ceased to operate; when the government has demonstrated the efficiency of its powers of defence; and when the nation can review its conduct without regret, and without reproach.

I recommend to your care and beneficence, the gallant men whose achievements, in every department of military service, on the land and on the water, have so essentially contributed to the honor of the American name, and to the restoration of peace. The feelings of conscious patriotism and worth will animate such men, under every change of fortune and pursuit; but their country performs a duty to itself, when it bestows those testimonials of approbation and applause, which are, at once, the reward, and the incentive, to great actions.

The reduction of the public expenditures to the demands of a peace establishment will doubtless, engage the immediate attention of congress. There are, however, important considerations which forbid a sudden and general revocation of the measures that have been produced by the war. Experience has taught us, that neither the pacific dispositions of the American people, nor the pacific character of their political institutions, can altogether exempt them from that strife which appears, beyond the ordinary lot of nations, to be incident to the actual period of the world; and the same faithful monitor demonstrates that a certain degree of preparation for war, is not only indispensable to avert disaster in the onset, but affords also the best security for the continuance of peace. The wisdom of congress will, therefore, I am confident, provide for the maintenance of an adequate regular force; for the gradual advance of the naval establishment; for improving all the means of harbor defence; for adding discipline to the distinguished bravery of the militia, and for cultivating the military art, in its essential branches, under the liberal patronage of government.

The resources of our country were, at all times, competent to the attainment of every national object; but they will now be enriched and invigorated by the activity which peace will introduce into all the scenes of domestic enterprise and labor. The provision that has been made for the public creditors, during the present session of congress, must have a decisive effect in the establishment of the public credit, both at home and abroad. The reviving interests of commerce will claim the legislative attention at the earliest opportunity; and such regulations will, I trust, be seasonably devised as shall secure to the United States their just proportion of the navigation of the world. The most liberal policy towards other nations, if met by corresponding dispositions, will, in this respect, be found the most beneficial policy towards ourselves. But there is no subject that can enter with greater force and merit into the deliberation of congress, than a consideration of the means to preserve and promote the manufactures which have sprung into existence, and attained an unparalleled maturity throughout the United States during the period of the European wars. This source of national independence and wealth, I anxiously recommend to the prompt and constant guardianship of congress.

The termination of the legislative session will soon separate you, fellow-citizens, from each other, and restore you to your constituents. I pray you to bear with you the expressions of my sanguine hope, that the peace which has been just declared will not only be the foundation of the most friendly intercourse between the United States and Great Britain, but that it will also be productive of happiness and

harmony in every section of our beloved country. The influence of your precepts and example must be every where powerful: and while we accord in grateful acknowledgments for the protection which Providence has bestowed upon us, let us never cease to inculcate obedience to the laws and fidelity to the union, as constituting the palladium of the national independence and prosperity.

JAMES MADISON.

Washington, February 18, 1815.

## Further from New-Orléans:

[From the Louisiana Gazette extra.]

Address, directed by major general Jackson to be read at the head of each of the corps composing the line below New-Orléans, Jan. 21, 1815.

*Citizens and fellow-soldiers!* The enemy has retreated, and your general has now leisure to proclaim to the world what he has noticed with admiration and pride—your undaunted courage, your patriotism, and patience, under hardships and fatigues. Natives of different states acting together, for the first time in this camp; differing in habits and in language, instead of viewing in these circumstances the germ of distrust and division, you have made them the source of an honorable emulation, and from the seeds of discord itself have reaped the fruits of an honorable union. This day completes the fourth week since fifteen hundred of you attacked treble your number of men, who had boasted of their discipline, and their services under a celebrated leader, in a long and eventful war—attacked them in their camp, the moment they had profaned the soil of freedom with their hostile tread, and inflicted a blow which was a prelude to the final result of their attempt to conquer, or their poor contrivances to divide us. A few hours was sufficient to unite the gallant band, though at the moment they received the welcome order to march they were separated many leagues, in different directions from the city. The gay rapidity of the march, and the cheerful countenances of the officers and men, would have induced a belief that some festive entertainment, not the strife of battle, was the object to which they hastened with so much eagerness and hilarity. In the conflict that ensued, the same spirit was supported and my communication to the executive of the United States have testified the sense I entertained of the merits of the corps and officers that were engaged. Resting on the field of battle, they retired in perfect order on the next morning to these lines, destined to become the scene of future victories, which they were to share with the rest of you, my brave companions in arms. Scarcely were your lines a protection against musket shot, when on the 28th a disposition was made to attack them with all the pomp and parade of military tactics, as improved by those veterans of the Spanish war.

Their batteries of heavy cannon kept up an incessant fire; their rockets illuminated the air; and under their cover two strong columns threatened our flanks. The foe insolently thought that this spectacle was too imposing to be resisted, and in the intoxication of his pride he already saw our lines abandoned without a contest—how were those menacing appearances met?

By shouts of defiance, by a manly countenance, not to be shaken by the roar of his cannon, by the glare of his firework rockets; by an artillery served with superior skill, and with deadly effect. Never, my brave friends, can your general forget the testimonials of attachment to our glorious cause, of indig-

nant hatred to our foe, of affectionate confidence in your chief, that resounded from every rank, as he passed along your line. This animating scene damped the courage of the enemy; he dropped his scaling ladders and fascines, and the threatened attack dwindled into a *demonstration*, which served only to shew the emptiness of his parade, and to inspire you with a just confidence in yourselves.

The new year was ushered in with the most tremendous fire his whole artillery could produce; a few hours only, however, were necessary for the brave and skilful men who directed our own to dismount his cannon, destroy his batteries, and effectually silence his fire. Hitherto, my brave friends, in the contest on our lines, your courage had been passive only; you stood with calmness, a fire that would have tried the firmness of a veteran, and you anticipated a nearer contest with an eagerness which was soon to be gratified.

On the 8th of January the final effort was made. At the dawn of day the batteries opened and the columns advanced. Knowing that the volunteers from Tennessee and the militia from Kentucky were stationed on your left, it was there they directed their chief attack.

Reasoning always from false principles, they expected little opposition from men whose officers even were not in uniform, who were ignorant of the rules of dress, and who had never been caned into discipline—fatal mistake! a fire incessantly kept up, directed with calmness and with unerring aim; strewed the field with the bravest officers and men of the column which slowly advanced, according to the most approved rules of European tactics, and was cut down by the untutored courage of American militia. Unable to sustain this galling and unceasing fire, some hundreds nearest the entrenchment called for quarter, which was granted—the rest retreating, were rallied at some distance, but only to make them a surer mark for the grape and cannister shot of our artillery, which, without exaggeration, mowed down whole ranks at every discharge; and at length they precipitately retired from the field.

Our right had only a short contest to sustain with a few rash men who fatally for themselves, forced their entrance into the unfinished redoubt on the river. They were quickly dispossessed, and this glorious day terminated with the loss to the enemy of their commander in chief and one major-general killed, another major general wounded, the most experienced and bravest of their officers, and more than three thousand men killed, wounded and missing, while our ranks, my friends, were thinned only by the loss of six of our brave companions killed and seven disabled by wounds—wonderful interposition of Heaven! unexampled event in the history of war!

Let us be grateful to the God of battles who has directed the arrows of indignation against our invaders, while he covered with his protecting shield the brave defenders of their country.

After this unsuccessful and disastrous attempt; their spirits were broken, their force was destroyed, and their whole attention was employed in providing the means of escape. This they have effected; leaving their heavy artillery in our power, and many of their wounded to our clemency. The consequences of this short, but decisive campaign, are incalculably important. The pride of our arrogant enemy humbled, his forces broken, his leaders killed, his insolent hopes of our disunion frustrated—his expectation of rioting in our spoils and wasting our country changed into ignominious defeat, shameful flight, and a reluctant acknowledgment of the humanity and kindness of those whom he had do-

to all the horrors and humiliation of a conquered state.

On the other side, unanimity established, disaffection crushed, confidence restored, your country saved from conquest, your property from pillage, your wives and daughters from insult and violation—the union preserved from dismemberment, and perhaps a period put by this decisive stroke to a bloody and savage war. These, my brave friends, are the consequences of the efforts you have made, and the success with which they have been crowned by Heaven.

These important results have been effected by the united courage and perseverance of the army; but which the different corps as well as the individuals that compose it, have vied with each other in their exertions to produce. The share they have respectively had will be pointed out in the general order accompanying this address. But the gratitude, the admiration of their country, offers a fairer reward than that which any praises of the general can bestow, and the best is that of which they can never be deprived, the consciousness of having done their duty, and of meriting the applause they will receive.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

*Head-Quarters, 7th Military District,*

*Camp below New Orleans,*

*Adjutant General's office, January 21.*

Before the camp at these memorable lines shall be broken up, the general thanks it a duty to the brave army which has defended them, publicly to notice the conduct of the different corps which compose it. The behavior of the regular troops, consisting of parts of the 7th and 44th regiments of infantry, and the corps of marines, all commanded by colonel Ross, has been such as to merit his warm approbation.—The 7th regiment was led by major Peyre and the 44th by captain Baker in the action of the 23d in a manner that does those officers the highest honor. They have continued through the campaign to do their duty with the same zeal and ability with which it was commenced. On that occasion the country lost a valuable officer in the death of lieutenant McClellan of the 7th infantry, who fell while bravely leading his company. Lieutenant Dupuy of the 44th, although severely wounded in this action returned in time to take a share in all the subsequent attacks.

To the Tennessee mounted gunmen, to their gallant leader brigadier-general Coffee, the general presents his warmest thanks, not only for their uniform good conduct in action, but for the wonderful patience with which they have borne the fatigue, and the perseverance with which they surmounted the difficulties of a most painful march, in order to meet the enemy—a diligence and zeal to which we probably owe the salvation of the country. Ordinary activity would have brought them too late to act the brilliant part they have performed in the defeat of our invaders. All the officers of the corps have distinguished themselves; but the general cannot avoid mentioning the name of lieutenant-colonel Lauderdale who fell on the night of the 23d—and those of colonels Dyer, Gibson and Elliott, who were wounded, but disdaining personal considerations remained firm to their duty.

The cavalry from the Mississippi territory, under their enterprising leader major Hinds, was always ready to perform every service which the nature of the country enabled them to execute. The daring manner in which they reconnoitered the enemy or his lines, excited the admiration of one army and the astonishment of the other.

Major-general Carroll, commanding the detachment of West Tennessee militia, has shewn the great

est zeal for the service, a strict attention to duty and an ability and courage that will always recommend him to the gratitude of his country. His troops have, since the lines were formed, occupied and defended the weakest part of them, and borne, without a murmur, an encampment on a marshy and unhealthy soil. In the memorable action of the 8th January, the chief effort of the enemy was directed against them; but their valor, and that of the brave men who supported them, (general Coffee's brigade on the left, and a part of the Kentucky troops on the right) soon made it clear that a rampart of high-minded men is a better defence than the most regular fortification.

General Adair, who, owing to the indisposition of general Thomas, brought up the Kentucky militia has shewn that troops will always be valiant when their leaders are so. No men ever displayed a more gallant spirit than these did under that most valuable officer. His country is under obligations to him.

The general would be ungrateful or insensible to merit, if he did not particularly notice the conduct of the officers and men who so bravely supported and so skilfully directed his artillery. Colonel McRea, in the action of the 23d, shewed, as he always does, great courage. Lieutenant Spotts, under whose immediate direction our artillery had been placed, led it to action with a daring courage worthy of admiration. Captain Humphrey commanded the first battery on our right—the service is greatly indebted to that officer, not only for the able and gallant manner in which he directed his fire, but for the general activity he displayed in his department.

Lieutenant Norris of the navy, with Mr. Walker Martin and a detachment of seamen, was stationed at the 2d battery; and lieutenant Grawley, with Mr. W. Livingston (master's mate) with a similar detachment, were stationed at a 32 pounder, which was remarkably well directed—they performed their duty with the zeal and bravery which has always characterized the navy of the United States. Captains Dominique and Belluche, lately commanding privateers at Barrataria, with part of their former crew and many brave citizens of New-Orleans, were stationed at Nos. 3 and 4. The general cannot avoid giving his warm approbation of the manner in which these gentlemen have uniformly conducted themselves while under his command, and of the gallantry with which they have redeemed the pledge they gave at the opening of the campaign to defend the country. The brothers L. fite have exhibited the same courage and fidelity; and the general promises that the government shall be duly apprized of their conduct. Colonel Perry, deputy quarter-master-general, volunteered his services at No. 6—he was ably aided by lieutenant Kern of the artillery—his battery was well served, bravely supported, and greatly annoyed the enemy. Nos. 8 and 9 were directed by lieutenant Spotts with his usual skill and bravery, assisted by Mr. Cheaveau.

The general takes the highest pleasure in noticing the conduct of general Garrigue de Flauijac, commanding one of the brigades of militia of this state, and member of the senate. His brigade not being in the field as soon as the invasion was known, he repaired to the camp and offered himself as a volunteer for the service of a piece of artillery, which he directed with the skill which was to be expected from an experienced artillery officer, demanding the exemption afforded by his seat in the senate, he continued in his subordinate but honorable station; and by his example as well as his exertion has rendered essential services to his country. Mr. Sebastian Harrier of the same body, set the same example, served a considerable time in the ranks of the volunteer

teer battalion, and afterwards as adjutant of the colored troops. Major Plauche's battalion of volunteers, though deprived of the valuable services of major Carnac, who commanded them, by a wound which that officer received in the attack of the 23th of December, have realized all the anticipations which the general had formed of their conduct. Major Plauche, and major St. Geme of that corps, have distinguished themselves by their activity, their courage, and their zeal; and the whole corps have greatly contributed to enable the general to redeem the pledge he gave, when at the opening of the campaign he promised the country, not only safety, but a splendid triumph over its insolent invaders. The two corps of colored volunteers have not disappointed the hopes that were formed of their courage and perseverance in the performance of their duty. Major Lacoste and Daquin, who commanded them, have deserved well of their country. Captain Savary's conduct has been noticed in the account rendered of the battle of the 23d, and that officer has since continued to merit the highest praise. Captain Beale's company of the city riflemen has sustained by its subsequent conduct the reputation it acquired in the action of the 23d. Colonel de la Ronde, of the Louisiana militia, has been extremely serviceable by his exertions, and has shewn great courage, and an uniform attachment to the cause of the country.

General Humbert, who offered his services as a volunteer; has continually exposed himself to the greatest dangers, with his characteristic bravery, as has also the Mexican field marshal, Don Juan de Anayer, who acted in the same capacity. The general acknowledges the important assistance he has received from commodore Patterson, as well by his professional exertion, as the zealous co-operation of his department during the whole course of the campaign. Captain Henly, on board of the *Caroline*, and afterwards in directing the erection of several batteries at the Bayou and on the right bank of the river, was of great utility to the army. Lieutenant Alexis, of the navy, stationed in the navy arsenal, was indefatigable in exertions to forward to the army every thing which could facilitate its operations—his zeal and activity deserve the notice of the government. Major Nicks, who, by an accidental wound was deprived of the pleasure of commanding the 7th regiment during the campaign, was continually employed in the fort, and furnished the ammunition and the artillery that was wanted, with the greatest activity and promptitude. To the volunteers of the Mississippi territory, and to the militia of the remoter parts of this state, who have arrived since the decisive action of the 8th, the general tenders his thanks, and is convinced that nothing but opportunity was wanting to entitle them to the praises that have been merited by the rest of the army. Captain Ogien's troop of horse was peculiarly useful by their local knowledge of the ground on which they acted; and the small detachment of the Attacapas dragoons, stationed near head-quarters, were indefatigable in performing all the duties which devolved on them.

The general would not do justice to his staff if he did not bestow deserved praise on the adjutant-general, colonel Butler, and his assistant, major Chotard, for their zeal and activity in the important department of service confided to them, and for the bravery which led them wherever danger or duty required their presence. The vigilance, courage, and attention to duty, exhibited during the campaign by colonel Haynes, and his two assistants, majors Davis and Hampton, have been appreciated, as they deserved to be, by the general.

The general's aids-de-camp, Thomas L. Butler and captain John Reed, as well as his volunteer aids, Messrs. Livingston, Duncan, Grymes, Duplessis and major Duvezac de Castera, the judge advocate, have merited the thanks of the general by the calm and deliberate courage they have displayed on every occasion, and in every situation that called it forth. The topographical engineer, major Tatum, exhibited all the ardor of youth in the hour of peril, united to the experience acquired by his long services.—The chief engineer, major Lacartiere de la Tour, has been useful to the army by his talents and bravery. The same praises are due to his assistants, captain Lewis Livingston and Mr. Larobe. The medical staff has merited well of the country, and the general would not do justice to his own feelings were he to withhold from Dr. Ker, hospital surgeon, who volunteered his services, and Dr. Flood, the just tribute of applause deserved by them for their medical skill and personal bravery. The quartermaster's department, though deprived of the personal exertions of col. Plat, who was wounded in the night action of the 23d, performed well of their duties. Major-general Villere and brigadier Morgan have merited the approbation of the general by their unwearied attention since they took the field.

The large mortar was ably directed by capt. in Lefebvre and by Mr. Gilbert. Captain Blanchard was very useful as an engineer, and merits the general's praise for the celerity and skill with which he erected the battery which now commands the river, on the right of the camp. Mr. Busquet and Mr. Ducom, of major St. Geme's company, displayed great knowledge and dexterity as artillerymen. To the whole army the general presents the assurance of his official approbation, and of his individual regard. This splendid campaign will be considered as entitling every man who has served in it to the salutation of his brother in arms.

By command,  
ROBERT BUTLER, *Adj. Gen.*

*Copy of a letter from com. Patterson to the secretary of the navy.*

New-Orleans, 27th January, 1815.

SIR—I do myself the honor to enclose you a letter from Mr Thomas Shields, purser of this station, giving a detailed account of the expedition under his command, sent to annoy the enemy in their embarkation; the successful issue of which is highly honorable to him and those under his command.—The prisoners taken by him, added to those taken by Mr. Johnson, will go far in the exchange of my officers and seamen, captured in the gun-boats.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration and respect, your obedient servant,

DANL. T. PATTERSON.

*The hon. secretary of the navy, Washington.*

*Copy of a letter from Mr. Thomas Shields to commodore Patterson, dated*

New Orleans, 25th January, 1815.

SIR—I have the honor to report my arrival in this city last night from the expedition ordered by you on the 17th inst. and which you did me the honor to entrust to my command.

On the night of the 19th I left the Pass Cheuf Menteur, having made the necessary observations on the enemy's situation before sun-set, with five boats and your gig manned and armed with fifty men. At 10 p. m. discovered a boat at anchor, which I captured by surprize, no resistance being made. She had forty men of the 14th light dragoons, including officers, and fourteen seamen of the British navy under command of a master's mate.

The number of troops exceeding my own, I thought

it most prudent to convoy them into the picket guard, from whence they could be more conveniently sent to New-Orleans by land than by water, and by which means I should also avoid weakening my own force, in itself already too limited for the completion of the object in view.

After landing the prisoners and putting them in charge of the army, I again left the Pass about 2 A. M. and stood on to gain the enemy's track, in the hope of intercepting some of them about day-light, but without success. I returned to the Pass on the 20th at 8 A. M. where I was detained until the morning of the 21st. Three gun-boats having arrived from the fleet below with four transports, all of whom were soon filled with troops from the shore, at 4 A. M. 21st, I again got out and fell into their track to the fleet about day-light. Finding it impossible to make any captures without being discovered, I determined to run down among them in disguise and strike at every opportunity.—Hoisted English colors and took a transport boat with five men; ordered her to follow and stood on for a transport schooner who was beating up for the army. At 9 I boarded and took her without opposition with 8 men; she had ten on board. From this time until 12 we were in the midst of their boats going up to the army, and during which time we took five others, having on board about 70 men. The wind at this time had unfortunately hauled to N. W. and blew with great violence; ordered the boats with their prizes to make the best of their way to the Rigolets. Finding the transport's draft of water too great to take her over the shoals, having already taken the ground, I set her on fire and joined the boats on shore. The wind still increasing and many boats approaching full of men from the army, induced a belief that they had discovered my character from the burning of the schooner, and meant to attack me. My force was unfortunately divided; the large launch with a 12 pound carronade, and some of my best men, with twenty prisoners, having drifted below, were compelled, from the strength of the current to anchor on the other side nearly half a mile distant. Every disposition was made by our little band to defend ourselves to the last extremity, and fire was prepared to burn the marsh should the enemy land in my rear. Six boats approached us at one time crowded with men, and three made a feint to attack the launch, but a well directed shot from her carronade compelled them to haul off, and a few discharges of our musketry drove the others also. In about two hours we were entirely clear of them. The violence of the wind and tide drove two of the prizes from their anchorage, on board of which were about 20 prisoners, with three of my own men, who were taken off, the prisoners having overpowered them so soon as they got out of the reach of our musketry. This is the only loss I have experienced during the expedition. Finding it totally impracticable to stem the strength of the current, and the wind being directly ahead for the fort at Coquille, my own safety and the preservation of the men entrusted to my command, induced me to parole the prisoners and let them go with their boats, particularly as a number of them were officers attached to the civil department, and could not, as I believed, be considered as prisoners of war.

Enclosed I have the honor to transmit a list of their numbers, names and rank.

The damage done the enemy on this occasion, is the loss of a transport, burnt, a large flat boat taken, one sunk and seventy-eight prisoners taken and brought in, with three slaves, two belonging to citizens of this state and one stolen by the enemy from

a Mr. Edward Thomas, near Washington city, when they destroyed our capitol.

To captain Newman, commanding at Coquille, I owe my best thanks for his uniform cheerful and friendly assistance. He furnished me with a boat and eight volunteers under lieu. Brush, of the U. S. artillery, who were of great service. To capt. Collins, commanding the picket guard at Chef Menteur, I am under many obligations. He also assisted me with eight volunteers.

To sailing master Dealy, who commanded the launch, and masters' mate Thomas Boyd, commanding a cutter, I am much indebted. Dr. Morrell, the surgeon who attended me, was particularly active; and though I had fortunately but little use for the exercise of his professional skill, his advice and assistance were always at hand.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,

THO. SHIELDS.

*Copy of a letter from sailing master Johnson to commodore Patterson.*

NEW-ORLEANS, Jan. 7th, 1815.

SIR—I have the pleasure to inform you of my succeeding in burning one of the enemy's transport brigs in lake Borgne yesterday morning at 4 A. M. The following are the particulars: after receiving a reinforcement of the launch and twelve men, and with the assistance of an officer and twelve men from captain Newman, commanding at fort Petite Coquilles, I manned the launch and three small boats, and on the 4th inst. proceeded down Pass Chef Menteur, as far as Bayou Sauvage, where col. Morgan, with a detachment of militia are stationed; we camped there for the night. On the 5th inst. in the afternoon, I proceeded down to east mouth of Pass Chef Menteur, with one of the small boats, to ascertain the position of the enemy in lake Borgne; finding at anchor there one brig, three gun boats, three schooners, and several barges, rowing from vessel to vessel; the brig lying at a distance of about two miles from the other vessels, I returned to the camp, determined on making an attempt to destroy her; I received the assistance of six men from col. Morgan; we then making in number 38 men: with this force I was conscious I should be able to destroy her, though I had been previously informed she mounted four pieces of cannon, and equipped accordingly; at midnight proceeded down Pass Chef Menteur, and on the 6th inst. at 4 o'clock A. M. took possession of the brig, only one man on deck; about 5 minutes after 4 A. M. one of the enemy's launches came along side, fired two muskets into her, when she surrendered; but owing to its blowing very fresh from the northward, making considerable of a sea, she parted her painter and was not able to regain the vessel, and the sea being too heavy to tow her with my boat, I abandoned her. It being near day-light, I immediately ordered the prisoners into the launch and set fire to the brig; at half past 5 o'clock, A. M. she was totally destroyed; she proved to be the British transport brig Cyrus, a captain, a sailing master, and eight men of the British navy on board, laden about half full, with rum, bread, and a quantity of soldiers' clothing for the British army at Bayou Bienvenue; at day light we arrived at the camp at Chef Menteur, delivered to col. Morgan the prisoners, who will be sent to the city, after which I returned to fort Petite Coquilles. Finding my provisions almost out, and being short of arms, I have returned to town with the launch, leaving Mr. Boyd, master's mate, and five men, at Petite Coquilles, to watch the movements of the enemy and give every information in his power.



I have the pleasure to say, that on this occasion the conduct of the officers and men whom I had the honor to command, convinced me clearly, that, had she been of the force expected, we could have burned her with ease.

Sir, I have the honor to be, your obedient humble servant,  
WM. JOHNSON.

P. S. I think the brigs lying at anchor at the East mouth of the Rigolets may easily be destroyed.

Commodore Daniel T. Patterson,  
New-Orleans.

## Post-office Establishment.

The committee on the post-office and post-roads, to whom were referred sundry petitions and memorials, remonstrating against the usage of transporting and opening the mail on the Sabbath, and the report of the post-master-general relating thereto, report:

That they have had the same under consideration, and deeming it of great national importance, particularly in time of war, that no delay should attend the transportation of the mail, they deem it inexpedient to interfere with the present arrangements of the post-office establishment; and therefore submit the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That it is inexpedient to grant the prayer of the petitioners.

General post-office, Jan. 16, 1815.

Sir—The post-master-general, to whom was referred sundry memorials against usage of transporting and opening the mails on the Sabbath, has the honor to report the following facts and observations.

The usage of transporting the mails on the Sabbath, is coeval with the constitution of the United States; and a prohibition of that usage will be first considered.

The mail passes every day in the week from Portsmouth, N. H. to Savannah in Georgia, and from Wiscasset in Maine to Schoodic Falls, without resting on the Sabbath. And the same practice prevails on the great route from Washington city to Ohio, Kentucky, and the Missouri territory; and from that city to Tennessee, Mississippi territory, and New-Orleans; and from Charleston, S. C. to Tennessee and Kentucky; and on several other great chains of communication.

If the mail was not to move on Sunday on the first mentioned route, it would be delayed from three to four days in passing from one extreme of the route to the other. From Washington city to St. Louis, M. T. the mail would be delayed two days. From Washington city to New-Orleans the mail would be delayed three days. From New-Orleans to Boston it would be delayed from four to five days; and, generally, the mails would on an average be retarded equal to one-seventh part of the time now employed, if the mails do not move on the Sabbath.

On the smaller cross routes, the transportation of the mail has been avoided on the Sabbath, except when necessary to prevent great delays, and to preserve connexions with different routes.

In relation to *opening* the mails on the Sabbath, it may be noticed, that the ninth section of the "act regulating the post-office establishment," makes it the duty of the post-masters to attend to the duties of his office "every day" on which a mail shall arrive at his office, and at "all reasonable hours" on every day of the week. When a mail is conveyed on the Sabbath, it must be opened and exchanged at the offices which it may reach in the course of the day; this operation, at the smaller offices, occupies not more than ten or twelve minutes; in some of the larger offices it occupies one hour;

and, it is believed, does not very greatly interfere with religious exercises, as to the post-masters themselves.

The practice of "delivering" letters and newspapers on the Sabbath, is of recent origin, and derived by the above quoted section commencing in 1810. Prior to that period, no post-master (except the post-master at Washington city) was required to deliver letters and newspapers on the sabbath. The "reasonable hours" were to be determined by the post-master general, who established the following regulations, now existing: "At post-offices where the mail arrives on Sunday, the office is to be kept open for the delivery of letters, &c. for one hour after the arrival and assorting of the mail; but in case that would interfere with the hours of public worship, then the office is to be kept open for one hour after the usual time of dissolving the meetings, for that purpose." Also, if the mail arrives at an office too late for the delivery of letters, on Saturday night, the post-master is instructed to deliver them on Sunday morning, at such early hour as not to trench upon the hours devoted to public religious exercises. If these regulations are not strictly attended to, it must be impenetrable to the urgency of applicants, and the complaisance of post-masters.

After the preceding statement, it is to be observed, that public policy, pure morality, and undefiled religion, combine in favor of a due observance of the Sabbath. Nevertheless, a nation owes to itself an exercise of the means adopted to its own preservation, and for the continuance of those very blessings which flow from such observance; and the nation must sometimes operate, by a few of its agents, even on the Sabbath, and such operation may, as in time of war, become indispensable; so that the many may enjoy an uninterrupted exercise of religion in quietude and safety. In the present state of the nation, it may be supposed necessary, daily, to convey governmental orders, instructions and regulations, and to communicate and receive information. If the daily carriage of the mail be, as relates to this safety of the nation, a matter of necessity, it also becomes a work of mercy.

When peace shall arrive, the necessity will greatly diminish, and it will be, at all times a pleasure to this department to prevent any profanation of the Sabbath as far as relates to its official duty or its official authority.

The preceding statement of facts and observations are submitted with much respect for the memorialists, and with great deference to yourself and the honorable the house of representatives.

RETURN J. MEIGS, jr.

To the honorable the speaker of the house of representatives.

## Foreign Articles.

Further extracts from English papers.

The London Globe, of Dec. 27, after giving a sketch of the treaty signed at Ghent, has the following remarks:—

"In this description of the treaty we read the humiliation of ministers in every line. It forms indeed a deplorable contrast with the high-sounding threats and boasts of that part of the public press devoted to their service. The waving of some rights and the mere retention of others, is a miserable finale to a war that we were told must not cease until after the Americans had been 'confoundedly well flogged,' which, it was boasted, must dismember the union, overthrow the government and sweep the American navy from the ocean, not leaving a single bit of bunting, a rack or a stick behind. But after the state to which ministers had brought the country by their

extravagance, and the war by their incapacity, if they have been able to determine it upon any terms not absolutely dishonorable and ruinous, if they have effected a lasting peace, although not an advantageous one, and not merely purchased a short and precarious respite, with a certainty of the renewal of war with increased force and violence, and at a time when America shall have both internally and in her relations with the European powers many advantages which she does not now possess, we will not be disposed to complain. From them the country had no right to expect any thing better. The war in the Peninsula languished in their hands until a spirit of energy was infused into it by the exertions of the opposition in parliament. The same incapacity has been observable in their management of the transatlantic war, but their tardily exerted vigor did not there promise like success, as the growing spirit of the country was able to meet it with corresponding force.—We understand that a copy of the treaty was laid before the cabinet on Monday last and acceded to with the mere addition of the clause that hostilities shall continue until the ratification. In the interval our readers will recollect Mr. MORROE'S letter, with explanatory observations, has been received, in which it is declared that the rights claimed by America shall not be ceded in a single instance; that the ensuing campaign must open with an army of 100,000 men; a force presumed fully competent to expel the English from the American continent, and that for this purpose recourse must be had to a military conscription; to which American papers add that this proposition was so well received that bills for carrying it into effect had been brought into congress and passed through several stages in the space of ten days from its first recommendation.—The advocates for war, who form an active and numerous body in that city, flatter themselves that the determined and inveterate spirit of hostility displayed in these proceedings will generate, both in this country and in America, difficulties and discontents that may prevent the ratification of the treaty.—They think it very hard to have been witnessing two or three dull acts of a tragedy exhibiting only the minor and preparatory incidents and that the curtain should drop abruptly at the very moment when they were expecting the grand *dénouement*. It certainly is a disappointment that must not a little hurt their feelings and wound their pride; but it is one we apprehend they must endure with the same patience with which they have endured its authors, the present ministers."

"At Covent Garden theatre last evening, prior to the exhibition of *The Temple of Concord*, a grand display of splendid fireworks took place, and the last transformation, in which the word "PEACE" appeared in the centre of a vivid sun, was received with the utmost applause. In consequence of the intelligence which had very recently arrived of peace with America, Mr. Gramaldi, who played the clown, and sung a song in character with much good humor, introduced into it a verse announcing the cessation of hostilities, which was received with great pleasure, and the song was universally encored."

From the London Times of December 29.

Yesterday being a holiday, no business whatever was transacted at the bank or stock exchange and it was consequently impossible to determine whether or not the funds would suffer any further depression, from the general dissatisfaction at the treaty with America. Probably the stocks may somewhat recover, as it is not uncommon when the first impression of ill news wears off; but still public credit must eventually suffer; for it is the general opinion that nothing but the probability of a new war in Europe

could have occasioned the disgraceful compromise of our transatlantic quarrel. Unable as we are to penetrate the thick veil which hangs over the negotiations at Vienna, it is not for us to say, what dark machinations against the honor and interest of England may be brewing there; but urgent and serious, indeed, must those dangers be, if they touch us closer than the defeats which we have received by sea and land from the once despised arms of America. I may suit party writers to make very light of such considerations. The ministerialists may affect to forget that the British flag was ever at risk to the American. The oppositionists may tell you, that in spite of "national humiliation and discredit brought on the country, he rejoices because ministers have humbled themselves in the dust." With the principles which we have uniformly maintained; with a zealous affection for the interest of the country, and for that which is its best interest—its honor—each of these modes of considering this important subject is alike inconsistent. It is inconsistent with common sense to deny that our naval reputation has been blasted in this short but disastrous war.

It is inconsistent with the spirit and feelings of Englishmen not to regret that the means of retrieving that reputation are cut off by a premature and inglorious peace. Is this a "personal hate and revenge against Mr. MADISON?" Is it a wish to "make war in the spirit of personal malice and vengeance?" Oh! no. It is a far different, a far higher sentiment; a feeling innate in English bosoms, which teaches us that for the loss of honor there is no reparation. Therefore, once more we say, that we anxiously look to the non-ratification of this deadly instrument. We trust that it has not been ratified by the PRINCE REGENT, except on condition, that the American government shall solemnly retract their suit contained in Mr. MORROE'S letter. That insult is a new offence subsequent to and cancelling all the obligation imposed on us by the treaty. Who can accept an apology accompanied with gestures of contempt and defiance? But it is said to be improbable that the PRINCE should refuse to ratify a treaty concluded, as this probably was, in conformity with his own instructions; and yet it is not long since those who argue in this way, assured us, that this same person was one of the most faithless and dishonorable of mankind. If the conscription law should fail; if the doubling of the taxes should prove ineffectual; if the internal divisions and disaffection of the states should increase, Mr. Madison will, no doubt, favor us with a ratification; but these very circumstances will only aggravate the evident impolicy of the treaty on our part. Should a different state of things present itself, he will probably imitate the conduct of Mr. Jefferson, also receiving a treaty signed and sealed, sucked out the very marrow of it, and threw us the mere dry bone. We allude to the treaty of 1806, which as concluded by the American negotiators in this country, contained an express recognition of the known and established law of nations respecting the confiscation of enemy's property on board a neutral ship. Seven months after this treaty was sent to Mr. Jefferson for ratification, he returned with these essential clauses struck out! This example teaches us two lessons. It instructs us not to rely on an American president's ratification; and it farther points out the necessity of stimulating his speedy decision. "*Hostilities are not to be suspended.*" This part of the treaty, at least, we hope, will be religiously attended to by government. Let us yet see one of our first generals sent out. Let us yet behold a British force in America, capable of intimidating Madison and his congress. Let us yet hope to see the war concluded

with one blow, that may "not only chastise the savages into present peace, but make a lasting impression on their fears."

*The foreign papers, which we have received, sink into comparative insignificance beside the American treaty.*

## Events of the War.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

*Circular to the Marshals of the United States.*

Office of commissary-general of prisoners,  
Washington, February 18, 1815.

SIR—In consequence of the conclusion of a peace between the United States and Great Britain, which has been this day proclaimed by the president, British subjects, resident in this country, cease to be alien enemies.

You will therefore consider all restrictions heretofore imposed on persons of that description, (not prisoners of war) on account of the character attached to them by the existence of hostilities, as at an end; and you are requested to take immediate measures to discharge all such persons, within your district, from any and every restraint imposed on that account.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. MASON.

*Marshal of the district of*

### NOTICE.

Office of commissary-general of prisoners, Feb. 20, 1815.

A mutual restoration of prisoners of war having been provided for by the treaty of peace recently concluded with Great Britain, all officers belonging to the service of the United States, whether of the army, navy, or militia; and all other persons, citizens or residents of the same, who may have been captured during the late war, and paroled by the enemy, and who are now within the United States, are hereby declared discharged from parole, and as free to do military duty, in any capacity, or to enter into any other service or employment, as if they had never been captured.

J. MASON.

NEW-YORK, FEB. 18.—Yesterday brigadier-general BORN, the commanding officer of this station, received a letter from the secretary at war, announcing that the president had received and examined the treaty, and that there was no doubt it would be ratified, and directed him to give notice of the fact to the commander of the British squadron off this port. Gen. Boyd immediately wrote to the British officer, and enclosed a copy of Mr. Monroe's letter. These letters were sent down to the squadron by major SPENCER in the revenue cutter, commanded by captain Brewster.

*Department of War, Feb. 14, 1814.*

SIR—It is with great satisfaction that I have to inform you, that a treaty of peace was concluded between the United States and Great Britain at Ghent, on the 24th Dember last.

A copy of this treaty was received to-day by Mr. Carroll. It has been examined by the president, and will (I have no doubt) be ratified.

I give you this information that hostilities may cease immediately between our troops and those of Great Britain. It will be proper for you to notify this to the British commander in your vicinity.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JAMES MONROE.

*To the officer commanding at N. York.*

Head-quarters, 3d Military District, New-York,

February 7, 1815.

SIR—I have the honor to transmit to you, by major Spencer, of the United States army, a copy of a letter I have this morning received from the honora-

ble James Monroe, secretary of war, to congratulate you on the return of peace between Great Britain and the United States, and to offer you such refreshments as your ships may require.

I have the honor to be, with much respect, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

J. P. BOYD, *Enig. Gen.*

*Commanding 3d M. District.*

*Officer commanding his Britannic majesty's ships of war off New-York.*

EXPEDITION.—The news of peace reached Montreal in sixty-four hours from New-York.

PEACE.—The news of peace has been received every where with demonstrations of joy. The people felt that their country had triumphed, and were assured, before they knew the terms of the treaty, that our envoys at Ghent were not the kind of men to put their hand to a dishonorable instrument.—Most of our cities have been, or are about to be, illuminated for the restoration of a blessing which we gave up for a season, I trust, to secure its enjoyment. The intelligence has generally been communicated to the British vessels on our coast, and some of them seem already to have left it.

PEACE.—The news of peace was received at Savannah from the British squadron off Amelia Island, on the 11th inst. and at Charleston on the 13th. So that the object of those eastern merchants who despatched expresses with a view to speculations in produce at those places is completely defeated.

ALGIERS.—A war with Algiers may be expected. These allies of our late enemy have depredated much upon us; and, in the present state of our navy, we have a fine opportunity to drub them into respect. Getting out our 72's, it will be an excellent school for our gallant officers to learn the management of a fleet—they know enough about single ships.

SAVANNAH.—Had Savannah been attacked by the enemy, there would have been a new edition of the work at Orleans. We are happy that the generous Georgians were excused this severe trial of their patriotism; but we never feared the result. It is satisfactorily proved from a multitude of circumstances, that the very mountain tops of that state had been deserted, to rush like a torrent on the foe, to rescue St. Mary's, itself, from the eternal disgrace of Castine, a town of the great and populous state of Massachusetts; which history shall say was held by the British without opposition, from the state authorities, and with the open approbation of British partizans, expressed in the Boston newspapers; and that, also, there was a direct intercourse with it by hundreds of people for treasonable or smuggling purposes—that public stages ran to Castine, while possessed as aforesaid, from places under the jurisdiction of the state, and that the United States' officers, stationed to prevent such intercourse, were incompetent, for want of support from the people, to make the laws respected. When it was known that the enemy had made a decent on St. Mary's, the people of Georgia, as with the soul of one man, seized their arms, and the constituted authorities of the state moved towards the scene of expected action.—When Castine was taken, the boasted "seventy thousand" militia of Massachusetts said "we shall now have some trade," and the governor and council, and board of war, &c. &c. never moved one step either to drive off the invader, or prevent a treasonable intercourse with him.—*These things must not be forgotten.*

TO THE RIGHT ABOUT. The glory of the victory at New Orleans seems to have a strange effect on the minds of some that recently done every thing, legal and illegal, that they could to discomfit and disgrace the arms of the United States. The following is from a late Boston Centinel:

"It is possible, the next news from New Orleans will announce the evacuation of the country by the British; and we shall be much disappointed if the effect of this repulse on the British ministry, is not a direction to their envoys in Ghent to sign a preliminary treaty of peace on the basis of the *status quo ante bellum*. Thus then will the courage and constancy of the American people have restored the political relations of their beloved country, as it regards Great Britain, to the exact state they were in prior to this calamitous war."

"**BEAUTY AND BOOTY.**"—These words, or, in other terms, **RAPE AND ROBBERY**, were the British watch-word and countersign on their attack of the defences of *Orleans*, on the ever-to-be-remembered 8th of January. It is a fact, confirmed by the universal testimony, that it was the design of the enemy to have given up that rich city, and its inhabitants, to the lusts of a soldiery, unparalelled, and, possibly, never to be equalled, certainly, not excelled, for their *brutalized* qualities. Their language, manners and behavior is inexpressibly horrible. As observed in another place, I *dare* not attempt to describe on paper the scenes of *bestiality* that many gentlemen have told me they saw, openly done, on board the fleet late in the Chesapeake—and their common conversation is the most blasphemous that can be imagined. Great God!—and these men, if men they may be called, have been held up as champions of "*religion and liberty*." O miserable perversion of the noblest attributes of the great and good!

"*Beauty and booty*!"—rejoice, virgins of *Orleans*, that the ravishers of *St. Sebastians*, and your intended spoilers, have perished. Praise heaven, that many of them have gone "where the wicked cease from troubling," and that you are unpolled by the embraces of monsters, remorseless as wolves and ravens—as hyenas, who have robbed the tomb for "*booty*," and ruined "*beauty*" in the sanctuary of churches.

*Compliment to Americans.*—A letter from a person of distinction in Canada is published in a Halifax paper, in defence of sir George Prevost. The following is an extract:—

"The principal cause of lamentation appears to be, that we have lost more men (in proportion) here, than in Spain. Is the commander of the forces to be blamed because the Americans fight obstinately and well; and that this is the real cause of the disproportionate slaughter that has roused the morbid sensibility and peevishness of some, no one here will doubt. The officers of the army from Spain, who have been engaged in Upper Canada, have acknowledged, that they never saw such determined charges as were made by the Americans in the late actions.

"An officer who has been in all the actions on the peninsula, told me the other day, that he never witnessed such obstinate courage as they shewed. His singular, but forcible expression was, "they do not know, sir, when they are beaten, they do not know when they ought to go away." In the action on the 25th July, the Americans charged to the very muzzles of our cannon, and actually bayoneted the artillerymen who were at their guns. Their charges were not once or twice only, but repeated and long, and the steadiness of British soldiers alone could have withstood them. This, added to the woody nature of the country in which the war has been carried on, and which gave the enemy great advantage in using riflemen (a description of force little used in our army,) will sufficiently account for the slaughter that has taken place in our ranks."

**COURT OF ENQUIRY.**—From the *National Intelligencer*.—The court of enquiry ordered to examine into and to report upon the conduct of brigadier general *Winder*, so far as it is connected with the

capture and destruction of the city of Washington in August, 1814, unanimously submit the following as the result of their investigations.

The court with great attention and much labor have perused the numerous papers and documents referred to them, from whence they collect:—That brigadier-general *Winder* was appointed to the command of the 10th military district, of which Washington was a part, on the 2d of July, 1814; that immediately thereafter he took every means in his power to put that district into a proper state of defence; that from the period when well grounded apprehensions were entertained that the enemy meditated an attack upon the capital his exertions were great and unremitting, that through these exertions he was enabled to bring into the field on the 24th of August, 1814, the day on which the battle of Bladensburg was fought, about 5 or 6000 men, all of whom excepting four hundred were militia, that he could not collect much more than one half of his force until a day or two previously to the engagement, and 6 or 700 of them did not arrive until fifteen minutes before its commencement; that from the uncertainty whether Baltimore, the city of Washington or fort Washington would be selected as the point of attack, it was necessary that brigadier-general *Winder's* troops should frequently change their positions, owing to which and alarms causelessly excited in the night of the 23d August, they were all much fatigued and many of them nearly exhausted at the time when the hostile army was crossing the bridge at Bladensburg; that the officers commanding the troops were generally unknown to general *Winder*, and but a very small number of them had enjoyed the benefit of military instruction or experience.

The members of this court, in common with their fellow citizens lament, deeply lament, the capture of the capital, and they regard with no ordinary indignation the spoliation of its edifices, those public monuments of art and science, always deemed sacred by a brave and generous foe; but, amidst these mingled and conflicting sensations, they nevertheless feel it to be their duty to separate the individual from the calamities surrounding him, and to declare that to the officer, upon whose conduct they are to determine, no censure is attributable. On the contrary, when they take into consideration the complicated difficulties and embarrassments under which he labored, they are of opinion, notwithstanding the result, that he is entitled to no little commendation: before the action he exhibited industry, zeal and talent, and during its continuance a coolness, a promptitude and a personal valor highly honorable to himself and worthy of a better fate.

The court adjourned *sine die*.

W. SOOTT, major-general and president.

Attest—G. L. NICHOLAS, lieutenant and recorder.

**GENERALS.** The war with America was a fine thing for young officers in the British army, who remain without reach of our rifles, or "*rifle-barrelled cannon*." We have killed lieut. gen. *Packenham*, and major-generals *Brock*, *Ross* and *Gibbs*; wounded major-general *Keane*; prisoners lieutenant-general *Hyslop*, and major-general *Riall*.

It appears that at *Orleans* the enemy lost an undue proportion of officers. This is as it should be.—The privates ought to be killed only of necessity, but the officers become a mark for our riflemen. It is stated, that several who led on the men received from 8 to 12 separate balls, chiefly in the head, or near the heart. The "*Beauty and Booty*" lads, or **RAPE AND PLUNDER** fellows, met a just reward. Let barbarians perish!

NEW-LONDON ANECDOTE, Colonel Benjamin being

absent when the flag arrived at fort Trumbull from the British, with the news of the capture of the President, captain M.K. (of N. Y.) being officer of the day, the letters were delivered to him. Captain M.K. wishing to indulge a little familiarity with the bearer, asked him where the battle was fought? to which the English officer answered very shortly, "at sea." I did not suppose (says Mr. M.K. modestly) that it was on *Lake Champlain*.

**BRITISH PRISONERS.** It appears that there are in Massachusetts alone, at least *two thousand six hundred* prisoners of war captured from the enemy, waiting for exchange according to the usages of civilized nations, lately suspended by the British government. It is stated from an official source, January 25th, that there are nearly two thousand prisoners in close confinement, and one hundred and fifty on parole, at Pittsfield, and four hundred and fifty on parole at Salem.—*Col.*

**A GOOD SIGN.** The elegant ship *UNION* was lately launched at *Boston*, to cruise against the enemies of the United States.

**FORT MIMS.** A gentleman belonging to the forces of the United States in the Creek country, thus vents his honest indignation at the allied white and red savages—"We look every day for orders to march and meet the enemy. I am heartily willing as one to spend my last gasp for my country. The ruins of fort Mims, two miles from here, through which I have rode with generals Winchester, Taylor, and other officers, are enough to "harrow up the soul." *The piles of human bones, from aged decrepitude to the infant at the breast, bleached by the rains and winds of Heaven, must arouse a holy rage in every manly bosom.* I expect to see the *hell hounds* of England and their cursed allies in a few days. May the God of Heaven inspire me with an Ajax prayer, or that of Macduff to the manes of a Duncan against Macbeth."

**COCKBURN.** The editor of the *Savannah Republican*, says *Cockburn* is—"a finished buccanier, an accomplished vandal—an outlaw in the code of christian charity." But *Cockburn* is not such a great deal worse than the rest of his countrymen, else they would not use him. The man who employs an assassin, or purchases stolen goods, is equally an assassin or thief.

**NEW ORLEANS.** We shall in our next or some future paper, proceed to record many things worthy of remembrance that occurred at *New Orleans*, with several official articles that yet lie over: ☞ The *Plantagenet 74*, arrived at the *Havanna* a little while since, with the bodies of *PACKENHAM* and *KEANE* preserved in hogsheads of rum. *GIBBS* was buried on the field. There were on board the English ships the acknowledged amount of *ONE THOUSAND* wounded men, including 80 officers. And it was notorious that they had also with them a *comptroller*, collector, printing presses and apparatus, and every thing else that belonged to the permanent establishment, they originally designed to have made at *New Orleans*.—Wofully have they been disappointed.

The British army in its attack on our lines on the 8th of Jan. was led on by one lieutenant general and three major-generals—*PACKENHAM*, *KEANE*, *GIBBS* and *LAMBERT*—the three first are dead, and latter is said to have suffered a temporary derangement, or insanity, by the havoc that surrounded him, so that the troops were led off by a lieutenant colonel. There is no doubt but that the loss of the enemy is much greater than it has been estimated by gen. *JACKSON*. In the whole, it may have amounted to 6000 men. *What a monitor to Europe!*

The dreadful tale has by this time, perhaps reached England, and great will be the sensibility that it

must excite! We sympathise with the mourners of the deceased, while we glory in the destruction of the ravishers and plunderers. "BOOTH AND BEAUTY"  
—*Packenham* richly deserved his death.

☞ Another account says that the *Plantagenet* had on board the bodies of *Packenham* and *Gibbs*, and that *Keane* was recovering of his wounds—also that col. *Thornton*, who was wounded at *Bladensburg*, was again wounded at *New Orleans*—as is stated in com. *Patterson's* letters, and it is said his life was despaired of. It is added "the British officers who had arrived at *Havanna*, from *New-Orleans*, said but little on the subject of the invasion of Louisiana, but, acknowledged they were defeated, and that they never witnessed such fighting in Europe as was exhibited by our troops at *New-Orleans*."

#### MILITARY.

Several companies of militia, from the interior counties, reached *Richmond, Va.* about the 14th inst. for the defence of the lower country. They were the advance of a body of 5000 men, chiefly collected from that part of the state beyond the ridge of mountains. A hale, hard, generous people.

There is a report in the southern papers that the British were attacked and defeated at *Darien*, (Geo.) with the loss of 170 killed and wounded and 300 prisoners—only 50 men of the whole force that landed making their escape. Gen. *Blackshear*, with 1000 Georgians, was at or near that place on the 6th inst. The story may be true but—"it wants confirmation." *Extract of a letter from an officer in general M'Intosh's army dated,*

*West of Chatahoocchie, 8th Jan. 1815.*

"The *Tom Bigbie* is ordered to be navigated, to convey provisions to *New Orleans*, as bread stuff will be scarce if the communication should be cut off. We have a battalion and all the artificers we could collect building boats at the *Tallipoosa*, to convey a detachment with two months provisions to *Mobile*. I hope they will be ready in a few days to receive us. Every nerve is strained to press on our movements. There is no doubt of the British being in the act of taking possession of the *Floridas*, and are establishing posts at the fork of the *Chatahucuh* and *Flint* rivers, and at *Appalachicola* at *Forbes' store*."

*Extract from the instructions of the war department to commanding generals of districts and armies relative to militia in the service of the United States.*

Adjutant and Inspector General's Office,  
13th February, 1815.

You will discharge all militia, volunteers and detachments now in service within your command.

Those troops will be previously mustered conformably to the following provisions of the laws and regulations relative to militia drafts. "An act to provide for calling forth the militia," &c. passed April 18th, 1814. Section 11. In all cases where a brigade of militia shall be called forth for actual service, it shall be the duty of the brigade major of such brigade to inspect and muster the same and sign the muster rolls conformably to the provisions of the act entitled "an act more effectually to provide for the national defence by establishing a uniform militia throughout the United States." If less than a brigade be called forth, then it shall be the duty of the brig. major within the district wherein such militia may rendezvous, to inspect and muster the same, and sign the muster rolls. Two musters to be made in the manner aforesaid—one on the assembling, and the other on the discharge of such militia. If there should be no brig. major in the vicinity, the commanding officer may direct any officer under the rank of lieutenant-colonel, whether of the regular troops or militia, to inspect and muster the militia so called forth." "It shall be the duty of the officer

so mustering and inspecting militia detachments, to make immediate report thereof to the war department. Payment will be made through the regimental paymaster in all cases in which the corps shall be organized as a regiment; and in all cases in which it shall fall short of the number necessary to that organization, by the paymaster accompanying the army or division to which it may belong."

By order of the secretary of war,

D. PARKER, Adj. and Insp. Gen.

#### NAVAL.

It was contemplated, by the citizens of Norfolk, to fit out a small vessel with provisions, purchased by subscription, for the benefit and comfort of our brave but unlucky tars, captured in the President. The idea originated from the knowledge of a general scarcity of provisions at Bermuda. On application to the commanding British officer in Lynnhaven, a flag could not be procured, he having no power to grant the same.

The privateer brig *Chasseur*, Boyle, of Baltimore, has had a tremendous fight with a British sloop of war. The latter is said to have been silenced; but when capt. Boyle was about to take possession, a frigate hove in sight, and he was forced to make his escape. It was reported in the West Indies that one half of the crew of the sloop of war were killed or wounded, and that Boyle's loss in men was very small, though he was much damaged in his sails, spars, &c. and had to put into Martinico to refit.

The brig *Macedonian*, which sailed in co. with the ill-fated president, has followed her destiny, having been captured a few days out of port. She was to accompany the president as a store ship, on a long cruise to a distant part of the world, and was as fine a vessel as ever sailed from this or any other country. She was built in Connecticut a few months since, for a cruiser, and was upwards of 400 tons burthen.

The President is thought to have been bound for the *East Indies*. Had she reached the place of her destination, who can count the damage she might have done?

The *Constitution*, *Wasp*, *Hornet*, *Peacock* and *Syren*, are the only U. S. vessels now at sea. The latter has been absent twelve months, and was on the coast of Africa in May last, since which time nothing has been heard from her. No certain information has been obtained of the *Wasp* since the 23d September, when she was cruising of Madeira.

We have also at sea rather more than fifty private armed vessels—many of them on the British coasts. *Baltimore* has abroad, at or from foreign ports about 40 merchant vessels, that, not having the fear of *John Bull* before them, respected not his blockade.

Our prize list now amounts to about 1470—it will probably be inserted in our next. We expect to have it yet greatly increased.

An advertisement in a Canada paper announced that "a new frame of a frigate, complete with planks, &c." would be sold at auction on the first day of February, at Murin's ship yard, new point Carriere, Montreal. The sale was to commence precisely at 12 o'clock, by Alexander Henry, king's auctioneer.

*Quebec, Jan. 24.* On Friday evening Mr. Coudie left town with about 100 workmen for the Isle au Noix, about 150 for Kingston, for the purpose of increasing our wooden walls and floating bulwarks, and, we trust of enabling us to wipe off all stains.

**THE SPANIARDS.** By the following letter the reader will find that governor Kindelan has refused peremptorily to allow the British the privilege of landing in East Florida or of carrying on offensive operations in that territory against the frontier of the

state of Georgia, and that the Spanish government determine to adhere to the strictest neutrality.

"As soon as you communicated verbally to me the object of your coming to this place, I had the honor of informing you, in the same mode, that I had the strictest orders from my government to observe the most rigid neutrality, and under this supposition, I could not permit you to communicate with the British vessels that might present themselves off this bar; that I would facilitate your going to Providence, and, finally, that you would be pleased to discharge your escort of colored people, who, under the erroneous impression of this province being invaded, you had brought with you from the Seminoles, for the purpose of guarding you on your route to this place; all which I now repeat to you officially for your information and government, to which I add, by the treaty of peace, made in the year 1783, the two Floridas were ceded by treaty to Spain by Great Britain, with all the rights of sovereignty over the soil which it possessed; and by the treaty of S. Ildefonso, made with the United States of America, in the year 1785, the northern limits of said province were defined; these are a line beginning on the east bank of the Mississippi, at 31 degrees of latitude, which from said point proceeds to river Chatahoche, and from the fork of this and Flint river by a right line down to the head of St. Mary's, state of Georgia: therefore all the Indians inhabiting the country south of this line, are under the dominion and protection of the Spanish nation, and that part of them living to the eastward of the river Appalachia, are within the limits of the eastern province, under my command. I must therefore distinctly state to you, that I shall consider any landing of English troops within these limits, or any enterprize coming to this province, with any hostile intentions against the United States, as an aggression on the part of Great Britain, and under this impression, shall act in conformity with my duty. On this occasion I have the honor of offering my respects, and request you will have the goodness to inform me of your intentions. God preserve you many years.

I am, &c. your most obedient,

SEBASTIAN KINDELAN.

To *George Woodbine.*"

## Proceedings of Congress.

### IN SENATE.

*Thursday, Feb. 9.* Mr. Giles from the committee reported the following resolution:

"Resolved, That it is inexpedient at this time to provide by a general law for making compensation to individuals whose property may have been destroyed during the war, by the constituted authorities of the United States, or whose property may have been occupied for or appropriated to public purposes."

The senate resumed the consideration of the national bank bill; on which there took place, as on yesterday, much animated debate.

*Friday, Feb. 10.* The senate resumed the consideration of the bill to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America.

Mr. Giles moved to strike out that part of the rules for the government of the bank which follows:

"Until the first Monday of April, 1816, it shall not be obligatory on the said corporation to pay its notes in specie, but all the notes of the corporation, whether payable at the seat of the bank in Philadelphia, or elsewhere, shall be payable in other notes of the said corporation, or in treasury notes at the option of the applicant; if at any time during the continuance of the present war between the United States and Great Britain and a period of one year after the termination of the said war, demand shall be made upon the said corporation for gold or silver coin to an amount, and under circumstances which induce a reasonable or probable belief that the specie capital may be greatly diminished or endangered, it shall be lawful for congress, on the petition of the directors, to authorise the suspension of specie payments, for such time or times as they may deem proper."

After much debate, the question on the motion was decided as follows:

YEAS.—Messrs. Brown, Daggitt, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard,

German, Giles, Goldsborough, Gore, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason, Thompson, Wells.—15.

**YAYS.**—Messrs. Anderson, Barbour, Barry, Bibb, Chace, Condit, Howell, Kerr, Loeock, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Smith, Talbot, Tait, Turner, Varnum, Wharton.—18.

On motion by Mr. Gore to amend the bill by inserting therein a provision "that the authority of the bank to pay its notes otherwise than by specie, shall be expressed on such note"—the vote stood as follows:

**YAYS.**—Messrs. Brown, Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Giles, Goldsborough, Gore, Hunter, Kerr, King, Lambert, Mason, Thompson.—15.

**NAYS.**—Messrs. Anderson, Barbour, Barry, Bibb, Chace, Condit, Howell, Loeock, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Smith, Talbot, Tait, Turner, Varnum, Wells, Wharton.—18.

On the question "shall the bill be engrossed and read a third time as amended?"—the vote stood as follows:

**YAYS.**—Messrs. Anderson, Barbour, Barry, Bibb, Chace, Condit, Howell, Kerr, Loeock, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Smith, Talbot, Tait, Turner, Varnum, Wharton.—18.

**NAYS.**—Messrs. Brown, Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Giles, Goldsborough, Gore, Hunter, King, Lambert, Mason, Thompson, Wells.—15.

And the senate adjourned.

**Saturday, Feb. 11.** The new national bank bill was read a third time, and after debate, passed, by a vote of 13 to 16.

The yeas and nays were as follows:

**YAYS.**—Messrs. Anderson, Barbour, Barry, Bibb, Chace, Condit, Howell, Loeock, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Smith, Talbot, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Wharton.—18.

**NAYS.**—Messrs. Brown, Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Giles, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, Kerr, King, Lambert, Mason, Thompson.—16.

So the bill was passed, and the concurrence of the house requested therein.

**Monday, Feb. 13.** The bill making appropriations for the support of government, was read a third time as amended, and passed. The bill for the relief of the inhabitants of the late county of New-Madrid, in the Missouri territory, who suffered by earthquakes," was ordered to a third reading as amended.

Mr. Giles, from the military committee, reported sundry resolutions expressive of the thanks of congress to general Jackson, and the troops under his command, for their gallantry and good conduct in the defence of New-Orleans; which were read and passed to a second reading.

Mr. Giles also reported sundry resolutions expressive of the high sense entertained by congress of the patriotism and good conduct of the people of Louisiana, and of New-Orleans, during the late military operations before that city; which were read and passed to a second reading.

Mr. Tait reported sundry resolutions expressive of the sense of congress of the gallantry of commodore Patterson, major Carnieck and other naval and marine officers engaged in the defence of Orleans; which were read and passed to a second reading.

The bill from the house concerning Matthew Guy and others, was postponed to the 2d Monday in March next (rejected) 14 to 11.

**Wednesday, Feb. 15.** After sitting in closed doors (on the treaty) for some time—

The following resolutions, reported the day before yesterday, were unanimously adopted.

Resolutions expressive of the high sense entertained by congress, of the patriotism and good conduct of the people of Louisiana and of New-Orleans, during the late military operations before that city.

*Resolved, by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled,* That congress entertain a high sense of the patriotism, fidelity, zeal, and courage, with which the people of the state of Louisiana promptly and unanimously stepped forth, under circumstances of imminent danger from a powerful invading army, in defence of all the individual, social, and political rights held dear by man. Congress declare and proclaim, that the brave Louisianians deserve well of the whole people of the United States.

*Resolved,* That congress entertain a high sense of the generosity, benevolence, and humanity, displayed by the people of New-Orleans, in voluntarily affording the best accommodations in their power, and giving the kindest attention to the wounded, not only of our own army, but also to the wounded prisoners of a vanquished foe.

*Resolved,* That the president of the United States be requested to cause the foregoing resolutions to be communicated to his excellency the governor of Louisiana, accompanied with a request that he cause the greatest possible publicity to be given to them, for the information of the whole people of Louisiana.

Resolutions expressive of the thanks of congress to major general Jackson, and the troops under his command, for their gallantry and good conduct in the defence of New Orleans.

*Resolved, by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled,* That the thanks of congress be, and they are hereby given to major general Jackson, and through him to the officers and soldiers of the regular army, of the militia, and of the volunteers, under his immediate command, and the officers and soldiers charged with the defence of St. Philip, for their uniform gallantry and good conduct, conspicuously displayed against the enemy from the time of his landing before New-Orleans, until his final expulsion from the state of Louisiana; and particularly for their valor, skill and good conduct, on the 8th of January last, in repelling, with great slaughter, a numerous British army of chosen veteran troops, when attempting, by a bold and daring attack, to storm and carry the works hastily thrown up for the defence of New-Orleans, and

thereby obtaining a most signal and complete victory over the enemy, with a disparity of loss on his part unexampled in military annals.

*Resolved,* That the president of the United States be requested to cause to be struck a gold medal, with devices emblematical of this splendid achievement, and presented to major general Jackson, as a testimony of the high sense entertained by congress, of his judicious and distinguished conduct on that memorable occasion.

*Resolved,* That the president of the United States be requested to cause the foregoing resolutions to be communicated to major general Jackson, in such terms as he may deem best calculated to give effect to the objects thereof.

*Resolved, by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled,* That congress entertain a high sense of the valor and good conduct of commodore D. T. Patterson, of the officers, petty officers, and seamen, attached to his command, for their prompt and efficient co-operation with general Jackson, in the late gallant and successful defence of the city of New Orleans, when assailed by a powerful British force.

*Resolved,* That congress entertain a high sense of the valor and good conduct of maj. Daniel Carnieck, of the officers, non-commissioned officers and marines, under his command, in the defence of said city, on the late memorable occasion.

**Friday, Feb. 17.** Mr. Smith submitted for consideration the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the committee on military affairs be instructed to consider the propriety of reducing the military establishment of the United States, with authority to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Dana submitted for consideration the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the committee on naval affairs be instructed to enquire what provisions should be made by law for protecting the commerce and seamen of the United States against the Barbary powers. Agreed to.

On the question, whether the bill from the house "for the relief of the legal representatives of David Dardin, deceased," should pass to a third reading, it was decided in the negative. So the bill is lost.

**Saturday, Feb. 18.** Mr. Barbour submitted for consideration the following motion:

*Resolved,* That the president of the United States be requested to cause an experienced engineer and naval officer to explore the Chesapeake bay for the purpose of ascertaining the most convenient harbor in the said bay for the reception of ships of war of the largest class; and that they particularly ascertain whether it be practicable to establish a convenient harbor at the mouth of the Chesapeake on the Middle Ground, and the probable amount which may be necessary to place such harbor in the most respectable posture of defence.

On motion by Mr. Smith,

*Resolved,* That a committee be appointed to consider the expediency of repealing all acts or parts of acts laying additional duties on goods, wares and merchandise imported in the ships or vessels of such foreign nations as shall agree to admit into their ports goods, wares and merchandise imported into such ports on board of the ships or vessels of the U. States.

Messrs. Smith, Taylor, Bibb, Hunter and King were appointed the committee.

On motion of Mr. Tait,

*Resolved,* That the committee on naval affairs be instructed to enquire into the expediency of repealing any act or acts respecting the flotilla establishment; and that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

The bill from the house to authorise the issuing treasury notes for the service of 1817, as amended, was read a third time and passed; and the concurrence of the house requested therein.

Progress was made in much other business.

**Monday, Feb. 20.** The motion of Mr. Barbour, relative to the establishment of a naval harbour in the Chesapeake bay, was referred to messrs. Barbour, Smith and King.

On motion of Mr. Dana, a committee was ordered to be appointed to consider what privileges should be secured by law to citizens of the United States, as preferents to foreign subjects in navigation.

Messrs. Dana, Smith, Gore, Hunter and King were appointed the committee.

The bill authorizing a detachment of the militia of the United States, was, on motion of Mr. Turner, postponed to the 4th of March (rejected).

The bill authorizing the issue of treasury notes (as amended) was ordered to a third reading.

Several other bills passed various stages of proceeding.

**Tuesday, Feb. 22.** The senate passed bills to repeal the acts respecting volunteers and sea-facilities—a bill for the better temporary accommodation of congress—and a bill for regulating the compensation to post-masters; and done or made progress in much other business.

**Thursday, Feb. 23.** The bill to repeal the discriminating duty on tonnage between foreign vessels and vessels of the United States, and between goods imported into the United States in foreign vessels, and vessels of the United States, was read a third time; and the question on the passage thereof was decided by yeas and nays.

For the bill

Against it

NONE.

The senate passed the bill to repeal the acts for raising mounted rangers—to provide a library room, and for the transportation of Mr. Jefferson's library—to repeal the acts respecting the flotilla force—and passed some private acts.

The bill to lay a duty on gold and silver ware, &c. was ordered to a third reading. The proposed duty on lotteries was postponed—or rejected—as follows:

**YAYS.**—Messrs. Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, German,

Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, Kerr, King, Lambert, Smith, Thompson, Varnum, Wells—16.

NAYS—Messrs. Barbour, Barry, Bibb, Brown, Condit, Morrow Roberts, Talbot, Taylor, Turner, Wharton—11.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Thursday, February 9. Mr. Fisk, of N. Y. submitted for consideration the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the rules of this house be so amended, that officers who have received or shall hereafter receive the thanks of congress for their gallantry and good conduct displayed in the service of their country, shall be admitted to seats within the hall of the house.

The bill from the senate making an appropriation for rebuilding or repairing the public buildings in the city of Washington, was read a third time.

Mr. Pickens spoke against the bill, on the general ground of opposition to the permanency of the seat of government.

Mr. Webster moved to have it re-committed—Negative after debate, by a majority of 12. After much speaking, the vote on the passage of the bill was taken and carried by yeas and nays as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Anderson, Avery, Barbour, Bard, Barnett, Bayly, de Va. Bines, Bowen, Breckenridge, Burwell, Calhoun, Champion, Clendenin, Crawford, Crighton, Culpeper, Cutler, Duval, Earle, Evans, Findley, Fisk, of Vt. Fisk of N. Y. Forsythe, Franklin, Gholson, Goodwin, Gourdin, Hall, Harris, Hasbrouck, Hawes, Hawkins, Hopkins, of Ky. Hubbard, Hungerford, Ingersoll, Jackson, of Va. Johnson, of Va. Johnson, of Ky. Kennedy, Kent, of Md. Kershaw, Kilbourn, King, of N. C. Lefferts, Lewins, Lowndes, Lyle, Mason, McCoy, McKim, McLan, Moore, Nelson, Newton, Ormsby, Pearson, Pickens, Plensants, Rhea, of Ten, Rich, Ringgold, Roane, Sage, Sevier, Seybert, Slipperli, Smith, of Pen. Smith, of Va. Stuart, Sturgis, Tellair, Troup, White, Wood, Yancey—78.

NAYS—Messrs. Alston, Baylies, of Mass. Bigelow, Boyd, Bradbury, Brigham, Brown, Butler, Cannon, Cilley, Cox, Crouch, Davy, Davis, of Mass. Desha, Ely, Eppes, Farrow, Gaxton, Goldsborough, Grosvenor, Henderson, Humphreys, Hulbert, Hughs, Irwin, Jackson, of R. I. Kent, of N. Y. Kerr, King, of Mass. Lavis, Lovett, Muscley, Murfree, Markel, Oakley, Pickens, Piper, Potter, J. Reed, W. Reed, Rea, of Pen. Ruggles, Schoreman, Slaymaker, Smith, of N. Y. Stanford, Strong, Targgart, Taylor, Thompson, Ulree, of Va. Ward, of Mass. Ward, of N. J. Webster, Wheaton, Wilcox, Williams, Wilson, of Mass. Wilson, of Pen. Winter, Wright—63.

[The bill now only wants the signature of the president, to become a law.]

Friday, Feb. 10. A good deal of private business being disposed of, the house took up for consideration the resolution [submitted yesterday] for authorizing the admission on the floor of the house of representatives, of officers who have by name received the thanks of congress for services rendered their country; which was agreed to.

[In consequence of this resolution, major-general Brown and his suite, majors Jones, Austin and Brown, were conducted to a seat within the Hall of the house.]

The house, on motion of Mr. Eppes, resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Breckenridge in the chair, on the bill to authorise the issuing of Treasury notes for 1815.

The bill was, on motion of Mr. Eppes, so amended as to provide for issuing treasury notes to an amount not exceeding 25 millions of dollars; such of the notes as are of less amount than 100 dollars, to be transferable by delivery, (without endorsement) and all notes of 100 dollars or upwards, to bear an interest of five and two-thirds per cent. The notes of the first description in amounts of 100 dollars and upwards, to be payable or redeemable in public stock to bear an interest of eight per cent. those of the latter description to be payable or redeemable in public stock to bear an interest of seven per cent.

The bill as first reported, proposed an issue of fifteen millions of notes, redeemable in five annual instalments of three millions each, as proposed by the secretary of the treasury, for which the land tax was pledged. Connected with this plan, was the intention to propose a loan of twenty-five millions of dollars. The amendments last reported by the financial committee, are connected with a proposed loan of fifteen millions, thus reversing the proportion of loan and Treasury notes first proposed.

It was stated by Mr. Eppes, that the committee had, on further consideration, deemed a loan to so large an amount as of questionable practicability, and had therefore determined to increase the issue of treasury notes, and proportionally reduce the loan, and therefore proposed the amendments which were now made to the bill.

The amendments having been reported to the house, were agreed to without debate or opposition; and,

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to-morrow.

After much debate and many motions, it was determined, that the mail should be transported and opened as usual; and that the prayers of the petitioners that it might be stopped on Sunday, ought not to be granted.

Saturday, February 11.—After other business, of not much general interest, the house resumed the consideration of Mr. Jackson's bill providing for clothing the militia in the service of the United States; which was amended, and then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The engrossed bill to authorise the issuing of treasury notes for the service of the year 1815, was read a third time and passed.

The bill from the senate for making a road from Cumberland in Maryland to the state of Ohio, and appropriating 100,000 dollars for the purpose, was ordered to a third reading, and read a third time and passed.

Monday, February 13.—A message from the senate announcing the passage of a bill to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America, was brought up and the bill read a first and second time.

A motion made by Mr. Gaston to refer it to the committee of ways and means with a view to amend its details, was negatived—ayes 59, nays "40 or 80."

Mr. Sharp then moved that it should be referred to a committee with a view to its amendment according to the following instructions:

1. To strike out all that part of the bill that allows fifteen millions of dollars of the capital of said bank to be paid in six per cent. stock of the United States heretofore created and now in the hands of stockholders; and then amend the bill so as to allow the government to take the said fifteen millions on their account.

2. That all the government subscriptions shall be paid in stock at five per cent. interest.

3. That the government shall have a number of directors in said bank equal to the proportion it may have of the capital of the bank; who shall be appointed by the president of the United States.

4. That so long as the bank shall not be required to pay specie for its notes or bills, or after having commenced paying of specie shall from any cause stop the payment of the same, the government shall not be required to pay to the bank a higher rate of interest on any loans to government either as permanent loans or in anticipation of loans, than four per cent.

5. That the bank shall not be allowed to sell or transfer any part of the government stock that it may acquire by permanent loans to government, until the end of one year after the war.

Mr. Sharp made a speech about an hour long in favor of his propositions. Mr. Forsyth replied, and Messrs. Oakley, Calhoun, Bowen and Gaston supported the commitment and Messrs. Hawkins, Wright and Rhea opposed it. Motion lost—for the commitment 75, against it 80.

Mr. Gaston then moved to refer it to a committee of the whole—lost—for the reference 70, against it 84.

Mr. Sharp then moved to amend the bill by striking out so much as allows the subscription of stock heretofore created. This motion was supported by Mr. Duval and opposed by Messrs. Wright and Humphreys, and lost: ayes 72, nays 82.

Mr. Sharp then moved to amend the bill by limiting the interest to be given by the government on loans from the bank to 4 per cent.—lost: ayes 74, nays 77. And then the house adjourned.

[Many persons have, no doubt, frequently thought that we have wasted a great deal of paper by our attention to notice so many motions on various important subjects that have miscarried. But I esteem it useful that the people should see them; and they are especially important to candidates for seats in legislative bodies, that they may ascertain the whole art, trade and mystery of *pro-oxidation*. In making these observations, I have no particular reference to this day's proceedings; and will only add, that the custom in our British parliament, (from whence we have drawn most of our legislative ideas, without copying the *virtues* of that body) it is the custom for the opposition to any measure to try the *general principle* of the thing; and, if they fail in that, to suffer the majority to make the *details* as to them shall appear most expedient. Whether it is from the desire to *make a speech*, 2, 5 or 9 columns long, which no body reads, or from a thirst of independence, and a determination that the *minority* shall rule, which operates here, I cannot tell. But an enquiry into the matter might be wholesome to the concerns of the nation.]

Tuesday, February 14.—After disposing of other business—

The bank bill was ordered to lie on the table. The bill making provision for clothing the militia of the United States when called into the actual service of the United States, was read a third time and passed, by the following vote, by yeas and nays.

For the bill	145
Against it	NONE

So the bill was unanimously passed, and sent to the senate for concurrence therein.

The amendments of the senate to the civil list and miscellaneous appropriation bill, were read and agreed to.

Mr. Fisk, presented a petition of "the New England emigration society," praying that twenty-five townships of public lands lying south of 41 degrees of north latitude, may be sold to them on the terms and for the purposes therein mentioned. Referred to the committee on public lands.

The engrossed bill requiring the secretary of the senate and the clerk of the house of representatives to give bond for the faithful execution of the duties of their office, was read a third time and passed.

Wednesday, Feb. 15. Mr. Newton of Va. offered for consideration the following resolution, which, he said, would speak for itself and preclude the necessity of any elucidatory remarks:

*Resolved*, That the president of the United States be requested to cause to be laid before this house such information as he shall deem necessary to be communicated, touching the state of the relations existing between the U. States and the Barbary powers.

The resolution was agreed to *non. con.* and a committee appointed to lay it before the president.

The bill for laying a direct tax on the district of Columbia, was agreed to in committee of the whole, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Thursday, Feb. 16. The resolutions from the senate expressive of the sense of congress on the conduct of the defenders of New Orleans, coming before the house, the chairman of the military committee,

Mr. Troup, said, that he congratulated the house on the return of peace—if the peace be honorable, he might be permitted to congratulate the house on the glorious termination of the war. He might be permitted to congratulate them on the glorious termination of the most glorious war ever waged by any people.—To the



glory of its gen. Jackson and his gallant army have contributed not a little. I cannot, sir—perhaps language cannot, do justice to the merits of general Jackson and the troops under his command, or to the sensibility of the house, I will therefore forbear to trouble the house with the usual prelatory remarks; it is a fit subject for the genius of Homer. But there was a spectacle connected with this subject upon which the human mind would delight to dwell—upon which the human mind could not fail to dwell with peculiar pride and exultation. It was the yeomanry of the country marching to the defence of the city of Orleans, leaving their wives and children and firesides at a moment's warning. On the one side, committing themselves to the bosom of the mother of rivers; on the other, taking the rout of the trackless and savage wilderness for hundreds of miles. Meeting at the place of rendezvous—seeking, attacking and beating the enemy in a pitched battle—repulsing three desperate assaults with great loss to him—killing, wounding and capturing more than four thousand of his force, and finally compelling him to fly precipitately the country he had boldly invaded. The farmers of the country triumphantly victorious over the conquerors of the conquerors of Europe. *I came, I saw, I conquered*, says the *American husbandman*, fresh from the plough. The proud veteran who triumphed in Spain and carried terror into the warlike population of France was humbled beneath the power of my arm. The God of battles and of righteousness took part with the defenders of their country and the foe was scattered before us as chaff before the wind. It is, indeed, a fit subject for the genius of Homer, of Ossian or Milton.

That militia should be beaten by militia is of natural and ordinary occurrence—that regular troops should be beaten by militia is not without example—the examples are as numerous or more numerous in our own country than in any other—but that regular troops, the best disciplined and most veteran of Europe, should be beaten by undisciplined militia with the disproportionate loss of an hundred to one, is to use the language of the commanding general, almost incredible. The disparity of the loss—the equality of force—the difference in the character of the force—all combine to render the battle of the 8th of January, at once the most brilliant and extraordinary of modern times. Nothing can account for it but the rare merits of the commanding general, and the rare patriotism and military ardor of the troops under his command.

Glorious, sir, as are these events to the American arms—honorable as they are to the American character—they are not more glorious and honorable than are the immediate consequences full of usefulness to the country. If the war had continued, the men of the country would have been inspired with a noble ardor and a generous emulation in defence of the country—they would have struck terror into the invader and given confidence to the invaded. Europe has seen that to be formidable on the ocean we need but will it. Europe will see that to be invincible on the land it is only necessary that we judiciously employ the means which God and nature have bountifully placed at our disposal. The men of Europe bred in camps, trained to war—with all the science and all the experience of modern war, are not a match for the men of America taken from the closet, the har, the counting-house and the plough. If, sir, it be pardonable at any time to indulge these sentiments and feelings, it may be deemed pardonable on the present occasion.

The resolution of the senate defective—it does not record the prominent fact which more than any other contributes to the brilliancy of general Jackson's triumph—the fact that the triumph was that of militia over regular troops—on the contrary it is so worded, that strangers or posterity deriving their knowledge from the record, and its—If, would be led to believe that the regular troops constituted the principal force, and that the militia was only auxiliary. If the house should consider the defect as important I would move to amend the resolution.

The bill for fixing the compensation to collectors, being before the house it was determined to allow a commission of 4 1/2 per centum, on all monies collected, &c. not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, and one half per cent. on all collected over that sum in addition.

Friday, February 17. Mr. Jackson of Va. submitted for consideration the following resolution:

1. Resolved, That the committee on military affairs be instructed to enquire and report to what extent the military establishment of the United States can be reduced consistently with the public interest.

2. Resolved, That the said committee be further instructed to enquire whether any, and if any, what provision ought to be made by law for allowing \_\_\_\_\_ months extra pay and a donation in land to the officers of the army who may be disbanded.

3. Resolved, That the said committee be further instructed to enquire into the expediency of establishing one or more additional military schools.

4. Resolved, That the naval committee be instructed to enquire into and report to what extent the navy of the United States on the lakes can be reduced, consistently with the public interest.

5. Resolved, That the committee be further instructed to enquire into the expediency of establishing one or more naval academies.

6. Resolved, That the committee on foreign relations be instructed to ascertain and report whether any, and if any, what modifications of existing laws are necessary to adapt them to the state of our relations with foreign nations.

The house having agreed to consider these resolutions—

Mr. Jackson made a few remarks of an explanatory nature.

After discussion, they were ordered to lie on the table.

The bill from the senate, to give further time to complete surveys and locate patents for lands, granted under Virginia revolution warrants, was read a third time, passed and returned to the senate.

The engrossed bill to lay a direct tax on the district of Columbia, was read a third time without debate, passed, and sent to the printer.

The resolutions expressive of the thanks of congress to major general Andrew Jackson, and the troops under his command, for their gallantry and good conduct in the defence of New-Orleans, were read a third time and passed unanimously.

The resolutions expressive of the high sense entertained by congress of the patriotism and good conduct of the people of Louisiana, and New-Orleans, were read a third time.

Mr. Robertson, of Louisiana, expressed in a feeling manner his high sense of the complimentary manner in which his constituents were mentioned in this resolve; and flattered himself they would never forget, at any time, the high character they had now acquired.

Mr. Sharp then rose, and addressed the house nearly as follows:

Mr. Speaker—The subject those resolutions present for our consideration, is the most interesting occurrence in the history of our country.

The people of Louisiana, approached by an enemy who suspected their fidelity to their newly-adopted government, and who held out every allurements that could be presented to seduce them from the union; at this very moment, whilst assailed by the blandishments of the enemy, with open arms they received their fellow-citizens who came to their aid, and by voluntary contributions furnished every thing necessary to their comfort while exposed in the open field in defence of their city. Yet their patriotism and humanity was surpassed by their bravery. On the 23d of December, it was a company of Louisianians that penetrated the very centre of the enemy's camp and made good their retreat, and brought off a number of prisoners. On the 8th of January, the Louisianians aided in defending the breast-works on the right, and when the enemy got possession of one of our bastions, they were among the foremost who met them; and amidst the clash of swords and bayonets, grappled with them upon the ramparts, and bore them into the ditch.

If we compare the conduct of Louisiana with any other part of the nation, even the oldest and best established in their political institutions, so far from losing anything in the comparison, it is on their part splendid and honorable, and must effectually put down all those feelings of distrust and jealousy that have been entertained in some parts of the union in relation to their adoption into our republic.

In another point of view this subject is still more interesting. There is perhaps no epoch to be found on the historic page, none in the history of America, in which we have been called upon to present the thanks of the American people to a whole state Louisiana, the youngest daughter of the Union, composed of a population most of whom had tasted of liberty but yesterday; it had not been their birth right, but such are the charms of liberty to a people who have felt its blessings and known its value, that on the approach of a foe to enslave them, the whole population of Louisiana are bristling with the bayonet; the old men, the exempted are clad in mail and rushing to meet the foe.

"If humanity shows to the God of the world,

A sight for his fatherly eye,

"It is that of a people, with banner unfurled,  
Resolved for their freedom to die."

Such a spectacle was presented by the state of Louisiana. As we are ever to expect, in so just a cause they received the benedictions of Heaven, and under its benign influence, aided by their fellow-citizens in arms, they not only triumphed over, but almost exterminated their enemy.

Can there be an American, whose bosom does not beat high with joy to call Louisiana a legitimate daughter of the Union; and hail her citizens as brothers?

Is there any part of the American empire, that could hesitate ever hereafter to hold Louisiana in the maternal embrace of the nation; to extend to her our care and protection?

The resolutions were then unanimously passed.

The resolution expressive of the high sense entertained by congress of the merits of commodore D. T. Patterson, naval, Daniel Carnick and the officers and men under their command, were read a third time and passed, with one negative (Mr. McKee of Ky.).

The house resumed the consideration of the bill from the senate "to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States of America."

Mr. Forsyth moved to refer the bill to a select committee.

Mr. Lowndes superseded this motion by a motion to postpone the bill indefinitely. He made this motion, not from any hostility to a national bank, wishing, as the gentleman did, that a national bank should be established; but because he wished it to be done at a time and under circumstances which would give the house ability to decide correctly on the subject. He believed, he said, and he was not alone in that opinion, that the present moment was a most unfavorable one for the establishment of a bank.—It must be known that, long as the subject of a bank had been agitated, there had been important differences of sentiment as to the principles of such an institution, which had been suppressed because of the pressure of the times. Among other objections to acting on this subject at present, he said, it was no trifling one that the suspension of specie payments by the state banks, which every one considered an evil, would unquestionably be prolonged by it. In the fragment of the session which now remains, there would not be time to enter into a consideration of these points; and, if there were full time, the mere circumstances of the new and almost insuperable difficulties arising from a new state of things which now present themselves, ought to suggest a reason for postponement. Congress could not now establish a bank half so eligible or half so durable, as they could at a future session.

Mr. Forsyth said he was perfectly aware that the subject of a national bank was attended with great difficulty at this or any other session; but his opinion was that this was the best time for an attempt of this kind. The subject had been so much discussed, that he apprehended every gentleman was prepared to decide on it without much further discussion. It was from a hope that it

sides of the house could now come to some understanding, and agree on the establishment of such an institution as should be not only valuable to the United States, but satisfactory to all parties, that he had now moved to commit the bill, which he hoped would not be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Gaston conceived there would be less difficulty in acting on this subject at the present session, than was anticipated by the gentleman from South Carolina. The subject has been so repeatedly discussed, that he thought it could be acted on more advantageously in the small remnant of the present session, than in the first session of a new congress, bringing together individuals not acquainted with each others' views, and not having the advantage of hearing the subject frequently discussed. Having always been friendly to such an institution, and believing it as important in peace as in war, he hoped an experiment would be made, by referring this subject to a committee, which, whether successful or not, would not consume much time of the house.

Mr. Grosvenor, Mr. Wright, Mr. Pickering and Mr. Farrow, also advocated the postponement, and Mr. Kilbourn, Mr. Fisk, of Vt. Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Telfair opposed it.

On the question of postponement, which was decided by yeas and nays, the vote stood as follows:—  
YEAS.—Messrs. Avery, Barbour, Bard, Barnett, Barlies of Mass. Bigelow, Boyl, Bradbury, Brigham, Champion, Cilley, Clapton, Cooper, Crawford, Cuthbert, Davenport, Desha, Ely, Epps, Farrow, Franklin, Geddles, Glasgow, Goodwyn, Grosvenor, Hale, Hall, Hasbrouck, Hawes, Henderson, Hulbert, Jackson of R. I. Johnson of Ky. Kennedy, Kent of N. Y. King of Mass. Law, Lowndes, Mackon, McKee, Montgomery, Mosely, Markell, Nelson, Ormsby, Pickering, Pitkin, Potter, J. Reed, W. Reed, Roane, Ruggles, Schureman, Seybert, Sheffey, Shipherd, Slaymaker, Smith of N. Y. Stanfor, Stockton, Stuart, Taggart, Thompson, Troup, Vose, Ward of Mass. Ward of N. J. Wheaton, White, Wilcox, Williams, Wilson of Mass. Winter, Wright—74.

NAYS.—Messrs. Alston, Anderson, Bayly of Va. Bines, Bowen, Breckenridge, Brown, Butler, Capertou, Calhoun, Cannon, Clendenin, Comstock, Conard, Cox, Creighton, Crouch, Culpeper, Duval, Earle, Findley, Fisk of Vt. Fisk of N. Y. Forney, Forsythe, Gaston, Gholson, Gourdin, Griffin, Hanson, Hawkins, Hubbard, Hungerford, Ingersoll, Ingham, Jackson of Va. Kent of Md. Kerr, Kershaw, Kilbourn, Lefferts, Lewis, Lovett, Lyl, McCoy, McLan, Moore, Murfree, Newton, Parker, Pearson, Pickens, Piper, Pleasants, Rea of Penn. Rhea of Ten. Rich, Ringgold, Robertson, Sag, Sevier, Sharp, Sherwood, Smith of Va. Strong, Sturges, Tannehill, Taylor, Telfair, Udree, Wilson of Pen. Wood, Yancey—73.

So the bill was indefinitely postponed.  
Saturday, Feb. 18. Mr. Nelson, from the committee on the petition of William Lambert, made a report, terminating with the following resolution:

Resolved, That the president of the United States be requested to cause such further observations to be made at the seat of the national government as may be deemed most proper to determine the longitude of the capitol, in the city of Washington with the greatest practicable degree of exactness; and that the data, with abstracts of the calculations and the results founded thereon, be laid before congress at their next session."

The report was agreed to.  
Mr. Culpeper submitted for consideration a resolution requesting the committee to recommend a day of thanksgiving and religious solemnity to the people of the United States on the present state of the country, &c. which was twice read and laid on the table.

The bill to grant land to deserters from the enemy, was indefinitely postponed.

Monday, Feb. 20. Mr. Bowen, from the committee on pensions and revolutionary claims, reported a bill (embracing various claims of that character) concerning invalid pensioners: read twice and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. Harris moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on the public lands be instructed to report a bill with provisions for having the boundary lines of the lands ceded to the United States by the Creek treaty recently ratified run and marked, and having the same laid off into sections and quarter sections, preparatory to the sale thereof, and for making an appropriation for defraying the expenses incident thereto.

Mr. Humphreys proposed to amend the resolution as follows; and the motion so amended prevailed:

Resolved, That the committee of ways and means be instructed to enquire into the necessity and expediency of making an appropriation of money to meet the expense of surveying and laying off the military bounty lands, and the lands lately ceded by the Creek Indians to the United States, in the treaty of Fort Jackson, in order to the settlement thereof by citizens of the United States."

The order of the day on Mr. Rich's resolution for classifying persons liable to the direct tax, and allowing them to furnish soldiers in lieu of the same, was on motion of its author, indefinitely postponed.

The bill from the senate authorising payment to the widow of Elbridge Gerry, late vice president of the United States, of such salary as would have been payable to him during the remainder of his term of service, had he so long lived," being before the house—

Mr. Eppes moved to postpone it indefinitely.  
This motion gave rise to a debate, in which messrs. Eppes, Cannon, Putter, Taylor, Grosvenor, Sheffey and Pickering, advocated the postponement, and Messrs. Fisk of N. Y. McKim, Fisk of Vt. Jackson, of Va. Hurlbert, Wright, and Oakley opposed it.

The debate was one of some interest. The general principle asserted by those opposed to the bill, was the impropriety of settling a precedent of pensions for civil services, which would entail on the United States the evils so grievously felt in despotic governments, from the same source. The bill was advocated on the ground of respect for the services of a deceased patriot and public servant, whose family was by his decease placed in a state of absolute dependence.

The question on postponement, was at length decided by yeas and nays as follows:

For postponement 86  
Against it 44

So the bill was indefinitely postponed, in other words, rejected.  
The president's message of this day and the treaty, were received and read, and 5000 copies thereof ordered to be printed. [See page 402.]

The remainder of the sitting was occupied on Mr. Kilbourn's bill to provide by encouraging actual settlement for the protection of the North Western frontier; which was, in the end, indefinitely postponed.

Thursday, Feb. 21. Nothing important, done in the house this day.

Wednesday, Feb. 22. Mr. Troup, from the committee on military affairs, reported a bill fixing the military peace establishment of the United States.

[The bill provides that the military peace establishment shall consist of such proportions of artillery, infantry and riflemen, not exceeding in the whole ten thousand men, as the president shall think proper; the corps of engineers to be retained. The general officers to consist of two major generals and four brigadier generals. The president to cause selections to be made of officers from the existing force, and to cause the supernumerary officers to be discharged, as soon as circumstances shall permit. Three months pay to be given to each officer, &c. so honorably discharged, and, in addition, to each officer a donation of land, 2500 acres to a major general, &c. 640 to a captain, 480 to a subaltern. To each private also, an additional donation of 160 acres of land, provided the whole quantity of land such private receives shall not exceed 320 acres. The bill also proposes to regulate the future organization of the army.]

The bill was twice read and referred to a committee of the whole.  
Mr. Eppes, from the committee of ways and means, made a report recommending an agreement to the amendments of the senate to the treasury note bill.

The bill, as it went from this house, provided that those treasury notes to be issued bearing no interest, should be fundable at eight per cent, and those bearing interest at seven per cent. The senate propose to amend the bill, so as that the notes bearing no interest shall be fundable at seven per cent, and those bearing interest shall be fundable at six per cent.

Mr. E. said, that, as the state of war had ceased since the bill passed this house and the state of peace would probably appreciate the value of the public securities, it was supposed the interest proposed by the senate would be sufficient.

The amendments were agreed to.  
The order of the day on the bill from the senate authorizing the president of the United States to cause to be built one or more floating batteries for the defence of the waters of the United States, was indefinitely postponed.

Much other business was progressed in.

Thursday, Feb. 23.—Mr. Eppes, under the direction of the same committee, moved,

That the secretary of the treasury be directed to report at the next session a general Tariff of duties proposed to be imposed upon imported goods, war-s, and merchandise."

The motion was agreed to, *non con.*  
The bill from the senate to repeal the acts respecting volunteers and sea-men, was passed.

Mr. Fisk of Vt. offered for consideration the following resolution: Resolved, That the committee of ways and means be instructed to enquire into the expediency of making provision by law for paying the members of this house in money current in the states (to which they respectively belong).

This motion gave rise to some debate, and was indefinitely postponed.

Two or three messages were received from the president of the United States, by Mr. Coles his secretary; one of which it appeared was of a confidential nature, and the doors were closed and galleries cleared, and after so remaining for a short time, were again opened; when the following message, being of a public nature, was read.

To the senate and house of representatives of the United States.

I lay before congress copies of two ratified treaties which were entered into on the part of the United States, one on the 22d day of July, 1814, with the several tribes of Indians called the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawanoes, Senakas and Miamies; the other on the 9th day of August, 1814, with the Creek nation of Indians.

It is referred to the consideration of congress how far legislative provisions may be necessary for carrying any part of these stipulations into effect.

JAMES MADISON.

February 22, 1815.

The message and treaties were referred to the committee of ways and means.

PLASTER OF PARIS.

This very valuable article has been recently discovered in many parts of our country, and we shall want no more from Nova Scotia. So far it is well. Every thing that lessens our dependence upon or communication with the British or any thing that belongs to them, should be a subject of rejoicing, as it more or less lessens that influence which has so immensely injured the United States, and prevented a national character and home feeling.

An in exhausted store of this plaster is found on the shore of the Hudson river, about a mile above the city of that name—it is also plentiful in the western parts of New-York, from whence, by the Susquehanna, &c. a large portion of Pennsylvania, &c. is supplied, and in several other places convenient for boat transportation, and to supply the interior.

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SUPPLEMENT TO VOLUME VII.

*Hæc olim meminisse juvabit.*—VIROIL.

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# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

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SUPPLEMENT TO VOLUME SEVEN.

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## BIOGRAPHY.

### Brig. Gen. Zebulon M. Pike.

*From the Analectic Magazine.*

Though the REGISTER already contains a brief notice of this distinguished and lamented soldier, to which the writer of the following elegant memoir acknowledges himself indebted, there is in the character of the illustrious dead so many traits of a high and manly soul impelled by an irresistible thirst of glory, and nice regard for honour, that we believe we cannot be too zealous in holding him up as an example to his countrymen.

ED. REG.

ZEBULON MONTGOMERY PIKE was born at Lambertons,\* in the state of New-Jersey, January 5th, 1779. His father was a respectable officer in the army of the United States. His family had for several generations resided in New-Jersey, and were descended from a Captain John Pike, whose name is preserved by tradition as having been a gallant and distinguished soldier in the early Indian wars of the colony. He entered the army while yet a boy, and served for some time as a cadet in his father's company, which was then stationed on the western frontiers of the United States. At an early age he obtained the commission of ensign, and some time after, that of lieutenant in the 1st regiment of infantry. He was thus almost from his cradle trained to the habits of a military life; but he did not, like most of the peaceful veterans of the barracks and the parade, while away his days in inactivity, contented with the mechanical routine of military duty. By a life of constant activity and exposure, he invigorated his constitution, and prepared himself for deeds of hardihood and adventure. At the same time, he endeavoured to supply the deficiency of his early education by most ardent, though, probably, often desultory and ill-regulated application to every branch of useful knowledge. He had entered the army with no other education than such as is afforded by the most ordinary village school—reading, writing, and a little arithmetic. By his own solitary exertions he acquired, almost without the aid of a master, the French and Latin languages, the former of which, it appears from his journal, he was able to write and speak with sufficient

accuracy for all the purposes of business; to these he afterwards added a competent knowledge of the Spanish. He also studied the elementary branches of mathematics, and became very conversant and even skilful in all the ordinary practical applications of that science. He seems, besides, to have had a general curiosity, to which no kind of knowledge was without interest, he read with avidity every book which fell in his way, and thus, without any regular plan of study, acquired a considerable stock of various information, and some tincture of popular English literature. In most of these literary acquirements, Pike scarcely attained to the accuracy of the scholar, but they were such as became the gentleman, and elevated and adorned the character of the soldier. Nor were these studies directed solely to the improvement of the mind; he endeavoured to make them subservient to a much higher end. From his youth he sedulously cultivated in himself a generous spirit of chivalry; not that punctilious and barren honour which cheaply satisfies itself with the reputation of personal courage and freedom from disreputable vice, but the chivalry of the ancient school of European honour—that habit of manly and virtuous sentiment, that spirit of patriotism and self-devotion, which, while it roots out from the heart every other weakness of nature, spares and cherishes “that last infirmity of noble minds;” the love of glory, and in every great emergency in which man may be called upon to act, sends him forth into the service of his country or his kind, at once obeying the commands of duty, and elevated and animated by the warm impulse of enthusiastic feeling.

Among other habits of mental discipline by which Pike was accustomed to cherish these principles and feelings, was a constant practice of inserting upon the blank pages of some favourite volume, such striking maxims of morality, or sentiments of honour, as occurred in his reading, or were suggested by his own reflections. He had been in the practice of making use of a small edition of Doddsley's “Economy of Human Life,” for this purpose. Soon after his marriage, he presented this volume to his wife, who still preserves it as one

\* This name is a curious instance of the mode in which many of our Indian names have been changed. It is a corruption of Lamaton, which was formerly pronounced and spelt Alamatumk, that being the original Indian name.

of the most precious memorials of her husband's virtues. An extract from one of the manuscript pages of this volume was published in a periodical work soon after his death. It was written as a continuation of the article "Sincerity," and is strongly characteristic of the author.

"Should my country call for the sacrifice of that life which has been devoted to her service from early youth, most willingly shall she receive it. The sod which covers the brave shall be moistened by the tears of love and friendship; but if I fall far from my friends and from you, my Clara, remember that the choicest tears which are ever shed, are those which bedew the unburied head of the soldier; and when these lines shall meet the eyes of our young ——— let the pages of this little book be impressed on his mind as the gift of a father who had nothing to bequeath but his honour, and let these maxims be ever present to his mind as he rises from youth to manhood:

- "1. Preserve your honour free from blemish.
- "2. Be always ready to die for your country.

"Z. M. Pike.

"Kaskasias, Indiana Territory."

Thus gifted with a lofty spirit of honour, and an iron constitution, Pike presents to the imagination no imperfect resemblance of one of the cavaliers of the sixteenth century, the hardy, steel-clad companions of Bayard and Sydney.

In March, 1801, he married Miss Clarissa Brown, of Cincinnati, in the state of Kentucky. By this marriage he had several children, only one of whom, a daughter, survives him.

On the old peace establishment of our army, then composed only of a few regiments, and employed altogether in garrisoning a few frontier posts, promotion was slow, and the field of action limited and obscure. For several years Lieutenant Pike panted in vain for an opportunity of gratifying that "all-ruling passion" which to use his own words, "swayed him irresistibly to the profession of arms, and the pursuits of military glory."

At length, in 1805, a new career of honourable distinction was opened to this active and aspiring youth. Soon after the purchase of Louisiana, the government of the United States determined upon taking measures to explore their new territory, and that immense tract of wilderness, included within its limits. Besides ascertaining its geographical boundaries, it was

wished to acquire some knowledge of its soil and natural productions, of the course of its rivers, and their fitness for the purposes of navigation and other uses of civilized life, and also to gain particular information of the numbers, character, and power of the tribes of Indians who inhabited this territory, and their several dispositions towards the United States. With these views, while Captains Lewis and Clarke were sent to explore the unknown sources of the Missouri, Pike was despatched on a similar expedition for the purpose of tracing the Mississippi to its head.

On the 9th of August, 1805, Pike accordingly embarked at St. Louis, and proceeded up the Mississippi with twenty men, in a stout boat, provisioned for four months, but they were soon obliged to leave their boat and proceed on their journey by land, or in canoes, which they built after leaving their boat, and carried with them on their march. Pike's own journal has been for some time before the public, and affords a much more satisfactory narrative of the expedition than the narrow limits of a magazine article can allow. For eight months and twenty days this adventurous soldier and his faithful band were almost continually exposed to hardship and peril, depending for provisions upon the precarious fortunes of the chase, enduring the most piercing cold, and cheerfully submitting to the most constant and harrassing toils. They were sometimes for days together without food, and they frequently slept without cover on the bare earth, or the snow, during the bitterest inclemency of a northern winter. During this voyage, Pike had no intelligent companion upon whom he could rely for any sort of advice or aid, and he literally performed the duties of astronomer, surveyor, commanding officer, clerk, spy, guide, and hunter, frequently preceding the party for many miles, in order to reconnoitre, or rambling for whole days in search of deer or other game for provision, and then returning to his men in the evening hungry and fatigued, he would sit down in the open air to copy by the light of a fire the notes of his journey, and to plot out the courses of the next day.

His conduct towards the Indians was marked with equal good sense, firmness, and humanity; he every where, without violence or fraud, induced them to submit to the government of the United States, and he made use of the authority of his country to put an end to a savage warfare which had for many years been carried on

with the utmost cruelty and rancour between the Sioux and the Chippeways, two of the most powerful nations of Aborigines remaining on the North American continent. He also every where enforced with effect the laws of the United States against supplying the savages with spirituous liquors. Thus, while he wrested their tomahawks from their hands, and compelled them to bury the hatchet, he defended them from their own vices, and in the true spirit of humanity and honour, rejected with disdain that cruel and dastardly policy which seeks the security of the civilized man in the debasement of the savage.

In addition to the other objects of Pike's mission, as specifically detailed in his instructions, he conceived that his duty as a soldier required of him an investigation of the views and conduct of the British traders, within the limits of our jurisdiction, and an enquiry into the exact limits of the territories of the United States and Great Britain. This duty he performed, says the author of a former sketch of his biography,\* with the boldness of a soldier and the politeness of a gentleman; he might have justly added, with the disinterestedness of a man of honour, and the ability and discretion of an enlightened politician. He found that the North-west company, by extending their establishments and commerce far within the bounds of the United States, and even into the very centre of Louisiana, were thus enabled to introduce their goods without duty or license into our territories, to the very great injury of the revenue, as well as to the complete exclusion of our own countrymen from all competition in this trade. He perceived, besides, that these establishments were made subservient to the purposes of obtaining an influence over the savages dangerous to the peace and injurious to the honour and character of our government, and he thought it evident that in case of a rupture between the two powers, all these posts would be used as rallying points for the enemy, and as places of deposite for arms to be distributed to the Indians, to the infinite annoyance, if not total ruin, of all the adjoining territories.

An opportunity was now presented to him of enriching himself for life, by merely using the power vested in him by law, and seizing upon the immense property of the company which he found illegally introduced within our territory. But having been hospitably received at one of their

principal posts, his high sense of honour would not permit him to requite their hospitality by a rigorous execution of the laws. It is probable, too, that he thought so violent a measure might lead to collisions between the two governments, without tending to produce any permanent beneficial effect, and he cheerfully sacrificed all views of personal interest to what he conceived to be the true interest and honour of his country. By means of reprimands and threats to the inferior traders, and a frank and spirited remonstrance to the director of the Fond du Lac department, he succeeded in procuring a stipulation, that in future no attempt should be made to influence any Indian on political affairs, or any subjects foreign to trade, and that measures should be immediately taken to prevent the display of the British flag, or any other mark of power, within our dominion; together with a promise that such representations should be immediately made to the company, and such an arrangement effected with regard to duties, as would hereafter set that question at rest.

His conduct with regard to this subject was, at the time, viewed with cold approbation, but the events of the present war have borne ample testimony to his sagacity and foresight.

Within two months after his return from this expedition, Pike was selected by General Wilkinson for a second perilous journey of hardship and adventure. The principal purpose of this expedition was, like that of the former, to explore the interior of Louisiana. He was directed to embark at St. Louis with the Osage captives, (about forty in number,) who had been rescued from their enemies, the Potowatomies, by the interference of our government, and to transport them to the principal village of their nation; and he was instructed to take this opportunity to bring about interviews between the different savage nations, and to endeavour to assuage animosities, and establish a permanent peace among them. He was, after accomplishing these objects, to continue his route into the interior, and to explore the Mississippi and its tributary streams, especially the Arkansas and the Red River, and thus to acquire such geographical information as might enable government to enter into definitive arrangements for a boundary line between our newly acquired territory and North Mexico.

In the course of this second journey, our adventurous soldier, after leaving the Osage village, encountered hardships, in comparison of which the severities of his for-

\* In the Monthly Recorder for July 1813, to which sketch together with Pike's own journal and Niles's Weekly Register, the writer is indebted for most of the facts of General Pike's biography.

mer journey seemed to him ease and luxury.

Winter overtook the party unprovided with any clothing fit to protect them from cold and storms. Their horses died, and for weeks they were obliged to explore their way on foot through the wilderness, carrying packs of sixty or seventy pounds weight, beside their arms, exposed to the bitterest severity of the cold, relying solely on the produce of the chase for subsistence, and often for two or three days altogether without food. This part of his journal contains a narrative of a series of sufferings sufficient to make the "superfluous and lust-dieted" son of luxury shudder at the bare recital. Several of the men had their feet frozen, and all, except Pike and one other, were in some degree injured by the intensity of the cold. He thus relates the history of two of these dreary days:

"18th *January, Sunday*.—The doctor and myself, who fortunately were untouched by the frost, went out to hunt something to preserve existence; near evening we wounded a buffalo with three balls, but had the mortification to see him run off notwithstanding. We concluded it was useless to go home to add to the general gloom, and went amongst some rocks, where we encamped, and sat up all night; from the intense cold it was impossible to sleep. Hungry and without cover.

"19th *January, Monday*.—We again took the field, and after crawling about one mile in the snow, got near enough to shoot eight times at a gang of buffaloes, and could plainly perceive two or three of them to be badly wounded, but by accident they took the wind of us, and, to our great mortification, all were able to run off. By this time I had become extremely weak and faint, it being the fourth day since we had received sustenance, all of which we were marching hard, and the last night had scarcely closed our eyes to sleep. We were inclining our course to a point of woods; determined to remain absent and die by ourselves, rather than to return to our camp and behold the misery of our poor lads, when we discovered a gang of buffaloes coming along at some distance. With great exertions I made out to run and place myself behind some cedars, and by the greatest good luck the first shot stopped one, which we killed in three more shots, and by the dusk had cut each of us a heavy load, with which we determined immediately to proceed to the camp, in order to relieve the anxiety of our men, and carry the poor fellows some food. We arrived there about

12 o'clock, and when I threw my load down, it was with difficulty I prevented myself from falling; I was attacked with a giddiness of the head, which lasted for some minutes. On the countenances of the men was not a frown, nor a desponding eye, but all seemed happy to hail their officer and companions, yet not a mouthful had they eat for four days. On demanding what were their thoughts, the sergeant replied, the most robust had determined to set out in search of us on the morrow, and not return unless they found us, or had killed something to preserve the lives of their starving companions."

In the course of this long, toilsome, and perilous march, Pike displayed a degree of personal heroism and hardihood, united with a prudence and sagacity which, had they been exerted on some wide theatre of action, would have done honour to the most renowned general. The reader may, perhaps smile at this remark, as one of the wild exaggerations of a biographer anxious to dignify the character of his hero, but the truth is, that great men owe much of their splendour to external circumstances, and if Hannibal had made his famous march across the Alps at the head of a company of foot, instead of an army, his name if it had reached us, would have come down to posterity with much less dignity than that of our hardy countryman. There are passages in Pike's journal of his second expedition which, had they been found, with proper alterations of place and circumstance, related by Plutarch or Livy of one of their heroes, would have been cited by every schoolboy as examples of military and heroic virtue. Take, for instance, the account of Pike's firm and prudent conduct in repressing the first symptoms of discontent in his little band, and his address upon this occasion to the mutineer, and they will be found to need but little of the usual embellishments of an eloquent historian, to be made worthy of Hannibal himself.

"24th *January, Saturday*.—We sallied out in the morning, and shortly after perceived our little band, marching through the snow, (about two and a half feet deep,) silent, and with downcast countenances. We joined them, and learnt that they, finding the snow to fall so thickly that it was impossible to proceed, had encamped about one o'clock the preceding day. As I found all the buffaloes had quitted the plains, I determined to attempt the traverse of the mountains, in which we persevered until the snow became so deep it was impossible to proceed, when I again turned



my face to the plain, and for the first time in the voyage found myself discouraged, and for the first time I heard a man express himself in a seditious manner; he exclaimed, 'that it was more than human nature could bear, to march three days without sustenance, through snows three feet deep and carry burdens only fit for horses,' &c.

"As I knew very well the fidelity and attachment of the majority of the men, and even of this poor fellow, and that it was in my power to chastise him when I thought proper, I passed it by for the moment, determined to notice it at a more auspicious time. We dragged our weary and emaciated limbs along until about 10 o'clock. The doctor and myself, who were in advance, discovered some buffaloes on the plain, when we left our loads and orders written on the snow, to proceed to the nearest woods to encamp. We went in pursuit of the buffaloes, which were on the move.

"The doctor, who was then less reduced than myself, ran and got behind a hill, and shot one down, which stopped the remainder. We crawled up to the dead one, and shot from him as many as twelve or fourteen times among the gang, when they removed out of sight. We then proceeded to cut up the one we had shot, and after procuring each of us a load of the meat, we marched for the camp, the smoke of which was in view. We arrived at the camp to the great joy of our brave lads, who immediately feasted sumptuously. After our repast, I sent for the lad who had presumed to speak discontentedly in the course of the day, and addressed him to the following effect: 'Brown, you this day presumed to make use of language which was seditious and mutinous; I then passed it over, pitying your situation, and attributing it to your distress, rather than to your own inclination to sow discontent amongst the party. Had I reserved provisions for ourselves, whilst you were starving; had we been marching along light and at our ease, whilst you were weighed down with your burden, then you would have had some pretext for your observations; but when we were equally hungry, weary, emaciated, and charged with burden, which I believe my natural strength is less able to bear than any man's in the party; when we were always foremost in breaking the road, reconnoitering, and in the fatigues of the chase, it was the height of ingratitude in you to let an expression escape which was indicative of discontent, your ready compliance and firm perseverance I had reason to expect, as the leader of men, and and my companions

in miseries and dangers. But your duty as a soldier demanded your obedience to your officer, and a prohibition of such language, which for this time, I will pardon, but assure you, should it ever be repeated, I will revenge your ingratitude and punish your disobedience by instant death. I take this opportunity, likewise, to assure you, soldiers, of my thanks for the obedience, perseverance, and ready contempt of every danger which you have generally evinced; I assure you, nothing shall be wanting on my part to procure you the rewards of our government, and gratitude of your countrymen.'

"They all appeared very much affected, and retired with assurances of perseverance in duty."

Amidst these distresses, after a three months' winters' march, they explored their way to what they supposed to be the Red River. Here they were met by a party of Spanish cavalry, by whom Pike was informed, to his great astonishment, that they were not on the Red River, but on the Rio del Norte, and in the Spanish territory. All opposition to this force would have been idle, and he reluctantly submitted to accompany the Spaniards to Santa Fe, to appear before the governor. Though, to his great mortification, his expedition was thus broken off, all hardship was now at an end. He was treated on the road with great respect and hospitality, though watched and guarded with much jealousy; but he still insisted on wearing his sword, and that his men should retain their arms. Indeed, it was his resolution, had he or any of his people been ill used, to surprise the guard, carry off their horses, and make the best of their way to Apaches.

When he arrived at Santa Fe, his whole dress was a blanket-coat, blue trowsers, mocasons, and a scarlet cloth cap lined with a fox skin; his men were in leather coats with leggings, &c. and not a hat in the whole party. But he appeared before the governor with his usual spirit, and insisted on being treated with the respect due to an American officer. From Santa Fe he was sent to the capital of the province of Biscay, to be examined by the commandant general, where he was well received and entertained for some time, after which he was sent on his way home, under the escort of a strong party of horse. He arrived with his little band at Natchitoches on the 1st of July, 1807.

The most vexatious circumstance attending this unexpected sequel to his expedition was the seizure of all his papers, ex-

cept his private journal, by the Spanish government. He had been fitted out with a complete set of mathematical and astronomical instruments, and had made frequent and accurate observations. He had thus ascertained the geographical situation of the most important points with much precision, and had collected materials for an accurate map of a great part of the country which he traversed. The seizure of these papers is a real loss to the cause of science. It is, however, in perfect conformity to that narrow and purblind policy which the old Spanish government uniformly manifested in the administration of its colonies.

Pike, upon his return, received the thanks of the government; a committee of the house of representatives expressed their high sense of his "zeal, perseverance, and intelligence," and the administration, much to its honour, bestowed upon him a more solid testimony of approbation, by a rapid promotion in the army. He was immediately appointed captain, shortly after a major, and upon the further enlargement of the army in 1810, a colonel of infantry.

During the intervals of his military duties, he prepared for the press a narrative of his two expeditions, accompanied by several valuable original maps and charts. This was published in 8vo. in 1810. The work is rather overloaded with unnecessary detail, and the language is careless and often inaccurate; the last fault is, however, in a great measure to be attributed to several disadvantageous circumstances under which the work went to press, while the author was at a distance, engaged in public service. Still it is sufficiently evident that the volume is not the composition of a scholar. But it bears the strongest marks of an acute, active, busy mind, unaccustomed to scientific arrangement or speculation, but filled with a variety of knowledge, all of a useful, practical, kind. Though entirely unacquainted with botany, zoölogy, and mineralogy, as sciences, Pike had a liberal curiosity, which taught him to look upon every object with the eye of an observer, and to despise no sort of knowledge, though he might not himself perceive its immediate utility. Above all, the narrative has that unstudied air of truth which is so apt to evaporate away in the processes of the book-making traveller; it retains all the clearness and freshness of first impressions, and we are never for a moment left in doubt whether or no the writer and the traveller are the same person.

Immediately after the declaration of war, Pike was stationed with his regiment

upon the northern frontier, and upon the commencement of the campaign of 1813, was appointed a brigadier general.

There was a tincture of enthusiasm in Pike's character, which communicated itself to his whole conduct: in whatsoever pursuit he engaged, he entered upon it with his whole soul. But the profession of arms had been always his favourite study—his "life's employment, and his leisure's charm." Having served through every gradation of rank, almost from a private, up to a general, and very often employed in separate and independent commands, he was intimately acquainted with all the minutiae of discipline. The veteran of a peace establishment is too apt, from the want of greater objects, to narrow his mind down to the little details of a military life, until, at length, every trifle swells up into ideal importance, and the cut of a coat or the tying of a neckcloth, seems big with the fate of nations. Pike was extremely attentive to all the particulars, even to the most minute points, of discipline and dress, yet he gave them their due importance, and no more. He did not degrade the soldier into a mere living machine, and while he kept up the strictest discipline, he laboured to make his men feel that this severity arose not from caprice or ill temper, but from principle, and that it had for its sole object their own glory, their ease, their health, and safety. Careless of popularity, and negligent of the arts by which good will is often conciliated where there is no real esteem, by the unassuming simplicity and frankness of his manners, and the undeviating honour of his conduct, he bound to himself the hearts of all around him with the strong ties of respect and affection.

Thus self-formed, and thus situated, the eyes of the army, were anxiously cast towards him as the chosen champion who was to redeem their reputation from that disgrace with which it had been stained by a long series of disasters. The day for which his heart had long panted at length arrived—a bright day of glory for the hero of gloom and sorrow to his country. He was selected for the command of the land forces in an expedition against York, the capital of Upper Canada, and on the 25th of April sailed from Sackett's Harbour in the squadron commanded by Commodore Chauncey. The day before the expedition sailed, he wrote a letter to his father, which contains these prophetic words:

"I embark to-morrow in the fleet at Sackett's Harbour, at the head of a column of 1,500 choice troops, on a secret expedition.

If success attends my steps, honour and glory await my name; if defeat, still shall it be said that we died like brave men, and conferred honour, even in death, on the American name.

“Should I be the happy mortal destined to turn the scale of war, will you not rejoice, O my father? May Heaven be propitious, and smile on the cause of my country! But if we are destined to fall, may my fall be like Wolfe’s—to sleep in the arms of victory.”

On the 27th of April General Pike arrived at York, with about seventeen hundred chosen men, and immediately prepared to land. The spot which was selected for landing, was the site of an old French fort called Toronto, of which scarcely any vestiges now remain. The plan of attack was formed by General Pike himself, and clearly and minutely detailed in his general orders, which were directed to be read at the head of every corps; every field officer was also directed to carry a copy of them in order that he might at any moment refer to them, and give explanations to his subordinates. Every thing was arranged, and every probable exigency provided for, with admirable method and precision.

There is one paragraph of these orders which breathes so much of his own spirit, that I cannot forbear from extracting it. It is deeply stamped with that unity of character which was visible throughout all his actions, and which is, in truth, one of the strongest marks of a powerful and original mind.

“No man will load until ordered, except the light troops in front, until within a short distance of the enemy, and then charge bayonets; thus letting the enemy see that we can meet them with their own weapons. Any man firing or quitting his post without orders must be put to instant death, as an example may be necessary. Platoon officers will pay the greatest attention to the coolness and aim of their men in the fire; their regularity and dressing in the charge. The field officers will watch over the conduct of the whole. Courage and bravery in the field do not more distinguish the soldier than humanity after victory; and whatever examples the savage allies of our enemies may have given us the general confidently hopes, that the blood of an unresisting or yielding enemy will never stain the weapons of the soldiers of his column. Property must be held sacred; and any soldier who shall so far neglect the honour of his profession as to be guilty of plundering the inhabitants shall, if convicted, be punished with death. But

the commanding general assures the troops, that should they capture a large quantity of public stores, he will use his best endeavours to procure them a reward from his government.”

As soon as the debarkation commenced, a body of British grenadiers was paraded on the shore, and the Glengary Fencibles, a local force which had been disciplined with great care, and has repeatedly proved itself fully equal to any regular force, appeared at another point. Large bodies of Indians were also seen in different directions, while others filled the woods which skirted the shore. General Sheaffe commanded in person.

Forsythe’s riflemen were first to land, which they effected under a heavy fire of musketry and rifles from the Indians and British. As soon as the fire from the shore commenced, Major Forsythe had ordered his men to rest a few moments upon their oars, and return the fire. At this moment Pike was standing upon the deck of his ship. He saw the pause of his first division, and, impatient at the delay, exclaimed, “I can stay here no longer, come, jump into the boat;” and, springing into it, followed by his staff, was immediately rowed into the thickest of the fire.

The infantry had followed the riflemen, and formed in platoons as soon as they reached the shore. General Pike took the command of the first platoon which he reached, and ordered the whole to prepare for a charge. They mounted the bank, and the enemy, after a short conflict, broke at once, and fled in disorder towards the works. At that moment the sound of Forsythe’s bugles was heard, announcing his success at another point. Its effect upon the Indians was almost electrical; they gave a horrible yell, and fled in every direction.

The whole force, being now landed and collected, was again formed and led on by General Pike in person to attack the enemy’s works. They advanced through the woods, and after carrying one battery by assault, in the most gallant manner, moved on in columns towards the main work. The fire of the enemy was soon silenced by our artillery, and a flag of surrender was expected, when a terrible explosion suddenly took place from the British magazine, which had been previously prepared for this purpose. Pike, after aiding in removing a wounded man with his own hands, had sat down on the stump of a tree with a British serjeant, who had been taken, and was employed with Captain Nicholson and one of his aids in examining the prisoner. The

explosion was tremendous; an immense quantity of large stones were thrown in every direction with terrible force, and scattered destruction and confusion around among our troops. The general, his aid, Captain Nicholson, and the prisoner, fell together, all, except the aid, mortally wounded. General Pike had been struck on the breast by a heavy stone. Shortly after he received the blow, he said to his wounded aid, "I am mortally wounded—write to my friend D—; and tell him what you know of the battle, and to comfort my—." In the same broken manner, he afterwards added several other requests relating to his private affairs.

The troops were instantly formed again; as a body of them passed by their wounded general, he said, "Push on, brave fellows, and avenge your general." While the surgeons were carrying him out of the field, a tumultuous huzza was heard from our troops; Pike turned his head with an anxious look of enquiry; he was told by a sergeant, "The British union jack is coming down, general—the stars are going up." He heaved a heavy sigh, and smiled. He was then carried on board the commodore's ship, where he lingered for a few hours. Just before he breathed his last, the British standard was brought to him; he made a sign to have it placed under his head, and expired without a groan.

The death of General Pike, at such a period, was a great public misfortune; his countrymen did not know half the extent of their loss. Pike was plain and unimposing in his appearance and manners, and to the world seemed little more than an active and intelligent soldier; but it is not easy to say what height of military excellence may not have been reached by a mind like his, stimulated by high-soaring ambition, braced up by principle to habitual dignity of thought, and constantly expanding its views, enlarging its resources, and unfolding its powers, by its own native and unwearied energy.

Gallant spirit! It was thine to wash out with thy life-blood the foul remembrance of our country's shame—of those disgraces which had blasted her honour, and tarnished the ancient glories of her arms. It was thine, in life, in death, to give to your companions in arms a great example of chivalrous honour and heroic courage;—it was thine to lead them to the threshold of the temple of fame, and bid them enter on a long career of glory.

Gallant spirit! Thy country will not forget thee—thou shalt have a noble memory. When a grateful nation confers upon

the heroes of Niagara and Erie the laurels they have so nobly earned, she will bid them remember that those laurels were first gathered on the shores of York, and were watered by the blood of a hero; and hereafter, when our children and children's children shall read the story of patriots and heroes who have greatly fallen in the arms of victory, when their eyes glisten, and their young hearts throb wildly at the kindling theme, they will close the volume which tells of Epaminondas, of Sydney, or of Wolfe, and proudly exclaim, "And we, too, had our Montgomery and our Pike." V.

### Captain David Porter.

*From the Same.*

DAVID PORTER, the eldest son of Captain David Porter, was born in Boston on the 1st February, 1780. His father was an officer in our navy during the revolutionary war, and distinguished himself on various occasions by his activity, enterprise, and daring spirit. Being necessarily absent from home for the greater part of his time, the charge of his infant family devolved almost entirely on his wife. She was a pious and intelligent woman; the friend and instructor of her children, teaching them not merely by her precepts, but by her amiable and virtuous example.

Soon after the conclusion of the war, Captain Porter removed with his household to Baltimore, where he took command of the revenue cutter the *Active*. Here in the bosom of his family he would indulge in the veteran's foible of recounting past scenes of peril and adventure, and talking over the wonders and vicissitudes that chequer a sea-faring life. Little David would sit for hours and listen and kindle at these marvellous tales, while his father, perceiving his own love of enterprise springing up in the bosom of the lad, took every means to cherish it, and to inspire him with a passion for the sea. He at the same time gave him all the education and instruction that his limited means afforded, and being afterwards in command of a vessel in the West-India trade, proposed to take him a voyage by way of initiating him into the life of a sailor. The constitution of the latter being feeble and delicate excited all the apprehensions of a tender mother, who remonstrated with maternal solicitude, against exposing the puny stripling to the dangers and hardships of so rude a life. Her objections, however, were either obviated

or overruled, and at the age of sixteen he sailed with his father for the West-Indies, in the schooner *Eliza*. While at the port of *Jeremie*, in the island of *St. Domingo*, a pressgang endeavoured to board the vessel in search for men: they were bravely repelled with the loss of several killed and wounded on both sides; one man was shot down close by the side of young *Porter*. This affair excited considerable attention at the time. A narrative of it appeared in the public papers, and much praise was given to *Captain Porter* for the gallant vindication of his flag.

In the course of his second voyage, which he performed as mate of a ship, from *Baltimore* to *St. Domingo*, young *Porter* had a further taste of the vicissitudes of a sailor's life. He was twice impressed by the British, and each time effected his escape, but was so reduced in purse as to be obliged to work his passage home in the winter season, destitute of necessary clothing. In this forlorn condition he had to perform duty on a cold and stormy coast, where every spray was converted instantaneously into a sheet of ice. It would appear almost incredible that his feeble frame, little inured to hardship, could have sustained so much, were it not known how greatly the exertions of the body are supported by mental excitement.

Scarcely had he recovered from his late fatigues when he applied for admission into the navy; and on receiving a midshipman's warrant, immediately joined the frigate *Constellation*, *Commodore Truxton*. In the action with the French frigate the *Insurgent*, *Porter* was stationed in the foretop, and distinguished himself by his good conduct. Want of friends alone prevented his promotion at the time. When *Commodore Barron* was appointed to the command of the *Constellation*, *Porter* was advanced to the rank of lieutenant solely on account of his merit, having no friends or connexions capable of urging his fortunes. He was ordered to join the United States' schooner *Experiment* under *Captain Maley*, to be employed on the West-India station. During the cruise they had a long and obstinate engagement with a number of brigand barges in the *Bite of Leogan*, which afforded him another opportunity of bringing himself into notice. He was also frequently employed in boat expeditions to cut out vessels, in which he displayed much coolness and address. *Commodore Talbot*, who commanded on that station, gave him charge of the *Amphitrite*, a small pilot boat prize schooner mounting five small swivels taken from the tops of

the *Constellation*, and manned with fifteen hands. Not long after taking this command he fell in with a French privateer mounting a long twelve pounder and several swivels, having a crew of forty men, and accompanied by a prize ship and a large barge with thirty men armed with swivels. Notwithstanding the great disparity of force, *Porter* ordered his vessel to be laid alongside the privateer. The contest was arduous, and for some time doubtful, for in the commencement of the action he lost his rudder, which rendered the schooner unmanageable. The event, however, excused the desperateness of the attack, for after an obstinate and bloody resistance the privateer surrendered with the loss of seven killed and fifteen wounded. Not a man of *Porter's* crew was killed; several, however, were wounded, and his vessel was much injured. The prize was also taken, but the barge escaped. The conduct of *Lieutenant Porter* in this gallant little affair was highly applauded by his commander.

Shortly after his return to the United States he sailed, as first lieutenant, in the *Experiment*, commanded by *Capt. Charles Stewart*. They were again stationed in the West Indies, and afforded great protection to the American commerce in that quarter. They had several engagements with French privateers, and were always successful, insomuch that they became the terror of those marauders of the ocean, and effectually controlled their rapacity and kept them quiet in port. The gallant and lamented *Trippe* was second lieutenant of the *Experiment* at the time.

When the first squadron was ordered for the Mediterranean, *Porter* sailed as first lieutenant of the schooner *Enterprise*, *Captain Stewart*. In this cruise they encountered a Tripolitan corsair of very superior force; a severe battle ensued in which the enemy suffered great slaughter, and was compelled to surrender, while our ship received but little injury. In this brilliant action *Porter* acquired much reputation from the conspicuous part he acted. He afterwards served on board of different ships in the Mediterranean station, and distinguished himself by his intrepidity and zeal whenever an opportunity presented. On one occasion he commanded an expedition of boats sent to destroy some vessels laden with wheat, at anchor in the harbour of old *Tripoli*; the service was promptly and effectually performed; in the engagement he received a musket ball through his left thigh.

Shortly after recovering from his wound

he was transposed from the New York to the Philadelphia, Capt. Bainbridge as first lieutenant. The frigate was then lying at Gibraltar, when he joined her in September, 1803. She soon after sailed for the blockade of Tripoli. No event took place worthy of mention until the 31st of October. Nearly a week previous to this ill-fated day, the weather had been tempestuous, which rendered it prudent to keep the ship off the land. The 31st opened with all the splendour of a Sicilian morning: the promise of a more delightful day never appeared. The land was just observed, when a sail was descried making for the harbour, with a pleasant easterly breeze. It was soon ascertained to be an armed ship of the enemy, and all sail was set in chase. After an ineffectual pursuit of several leagues, Captain Bainbridge had just given orders to hale off, when the frigate grounded. Every expedient that skill or courage could devise to float or defend her, was successively resorted to, but in vain. The particulars of this unfortunate affair are too generally known to need a minute recital: it is sufficient to add that this noble ship and her gallant crew were surrendered to a barbarous and dastardly enemy, whose only motive in warfare is the hope of plunder. Throughout the long and dreary confinement, which ensued, in the dungeons of Tripoli, Porter never suffered himself for a moment to sink into despondency; but supported the galling indignities and hardships of his situation with equanimity and even cheerfulness. A reasonable supply of Books served to beguile the hours of imprisonment, and enabled him even to turn them to advantage. He closely applied himself to the study of ancient and modern history, biography, the French language, and drawing; in which art, so useful to a seaman, he has made a considerable proficient. He also sedulously cultivated the theory of his profession, and improved the junior officers by his frequent instructions; representing the manœuvres of fleets in battle by means of small boards ingeniously arranged. He was active in promoting any plan of labour or amusement that could ameliorate the situation or dispel the gloomy reflections of his companions. By these means captivity was robbed of its heaviest evils, that dull monotony that wearies the spirits and that mental inactivity that engenders melancholy and hypochondria.

An incident which occurred during his confinement deserves to be mentioned as being highly creditable to Lieutenant Porter. Under the rooms occupied by the

officers was a long dark passage, through which the American sailors, who were employed in public labour, frequently passed to different parts of the castle. Their conversation being repeatedly heard as they passed to and fro, some one made a small hole in the wall to communicate with them. For some days a constant intercourse was kept up, by sending down notes tied to a string. Some persons, however, indiscreetly entering into conversation with the seamen, were overheard, and information immediately carried to the Bashaw. In a few minutes the bolts of the prison door were heard to fly back with unwonted violence, and Sassi (chief officer of the castle) rushed furiously in. His features were distorted, and his voice almost inarticulate with passion. He demanded in a vehement tone of voice by whom or whose authority the wall had been opened; when Porter advanced with a firm step and composed countenance, and replied, "I alone am responsible." He was abruptly and rudely hurried from the prison, and the gates were again closed. This generous self-devotion, while it commanded the admiration of his companions, heightened their anxiety for his fate; apprehending some act of violence from the impetuous temper and absolute power of the Bashaw. Their fears, however, were appeased by the return of Porter, after considerable detention; having been dismissed without any further severity through the intercession of the minister Mahomet Dghies, who had on previous occasions shown a friendly disposition towards the prisoners.

It is unnecessary here to dwell on the various incidents that occurred in this tedious captivity, of and the many ingenious and adventurous plans of escape, devised and attempted by our officers, in all which Porter took an active and prominent part. When peace was at length made, and they were restored to light and liberty, he embarked with his companions for Syraeuse, where a court of enquiry was held on the loss of the Philadelphia. After an honorable acquittal he was appointed to the command of the United States Brig Enterprise, and soon after he was ordered by Commodore Rodgers to proceed to Tripoli, with permission to cruise along the shore of Bengazi, and to visit the ruins of Leptis Magna, anciently a Roman colony: He was accompanied in this expedition by some of his friends, and after a short and pleasant passage, anchored near the latter place. They passed three days in wandering among the mouldering remains of Roman taste and grandeur; and excavated in such

places as seemed to promise a reward for their researches. A number of ancient coins and cameos were found, and among other curiosities, were two statues in tolerable preservation: the one a warrior, the other a female figure, of beautiful white marble, and excellent workmanship. Verde antique pillars, of large size, formed of a single piece, and unbroken, were scattered along the shores. Near the harbor stood a lofty and elegant building of which Lieutenant Porter took a drawing: from its situation and form it was supposed to have been a Pharos. The awning under which the party dined was spread on the site, and among the fallen columns of a temple of Jupiter, and a zest was given to the repast, by the classical ideas awakened by surrounding objects.

While in command of the *Enterprise*, and at anchor in the port of Malta, an English sailor came alongside and insulted the officers and crew by abusive language; Captain Porter overhearing the scurrilous epithets he vociferated ordered a boatswain's mate to seize him and give him a flogging at the gangway. This well merited chastisement excited the indignation of the Governor of Malta, who considered it a daring outrage, and gave orders that the forts should not permit the *Enterprise* to depart. No sooner was Captain Porter informed of it, than he got his vessel ready for action, weighed anchor, and with lighted matches and every man at his station, with the avowed determination of firing upon the town if attacked, sailed between the batteries and departed unmolested.

Shortly after this occurrence, in passing through the Straits of Gibraltar, he was attacked by twelve Spanish gun-boats, who either mistook, or pretended to mistake his vessel for a British brig. The calmness of the weather, the weight of their metal, and the acknowledged accuracy of their aim, made the odds greatly against him. As soon, however, as he was able to hear them, they were assailed with such rapid and well directed volleys as quickly compelled them to shear off. This affair took place in sight of Gibraltar, and in presence of several ships of the British navy: it was, therefore, a matter of notoriety, and spoken of in terms of the highest applause.

After an absence of five years passed in unremitted and arduous service, Captain Porter returned to the United States, and shortly after was married to Miss Anderson, daughter of the member of Congress of that name from Pennsylvania. Being appointed to the command of the

*flotilla*, on the New Orleans station, he discharged, with faithfulness and activity, the irksome duty of enforcing the embargo and non-intercourse laws. He likewise performed an important service to his country, by ferreting out and capturing a pirate, a native of France, who, in a small well-armed schooner, had for some time infested the Chesapeake: and who, growing bolder by impunity, had committed many acts of depredations, until his maraudings became so serious as to attract the attention of government.

While commanding on the Orleans station; the father of Captain Porter died, an officer under his command. He had lived to see the wish of his heart fulfilled, in beholding his son a skilful and enterprising sailor, rising rapidly in his profession and in the estimation of his country.

The climate of New Orleans disagreeing with the health of Captain Porter and his family, he solicited to be ordered to some other station, and was, accordingly, appointed to the command of the *Essex* frigate, at Norfolk.

At the time of the declaration of war against England, the *Essex* was undergoing repairs at New York, and the celerity with which she was fitted for sea reflected great credit on her commander. On the 3d of July, 1812, he sailed from Sandy Hook on a cruise, which was not marked by any incident of consequence, excepting the capture of the British sloop of war *Alert*, Captain Langhorne. Either undervaluing the untried prowess of our tars, or mistaking the force of the *Essex*, she ran down on her weather quarter, gave three cheers and commenced an action. In a few minutes she struck her colors, being cut to pieces, with three men wounded; and seven feet water in her hold. To relieve himself from the great number of prisoners, taken in this and former prizes, Captain Porter made a cartel of the *Alert*, with orders to proceed to St. Johns, Newfoundland, and thence to New York. She arrived safe, being the first ship of war taken from the enemy, and her flag the first British flag sent to the seat of government during the present war.

Having returned to the United States and refitted, he again proceeded to sea, from the Delaware, on the 27th of October, 1812, and repaired agreeably to instructions from Commodore Bainbridge, to the coast of Brazil, where different places of rendezvous had been arranged between them. In the course of his cruise on this coast, he captured his Britannic majesty's packet *Nocton*, and after taking out of her

about 11,000 pounds sterling in specie, ordered her for America. Hearing of Commodore Bainbridge's victorious action with the *Java*, which would oblige him to return to port, and of the capture of the *Hornet* by the *Montague*, and learning that there was a considerable augmentation of British force on the coast, and several ships in pursuit of him, he abandoned his hazardous cruising ground, and stretched away to the southward, scouring the coast as far as Rio de la Plata. From thence he shaped his course for the Pacific Ocean, and, after suffering greatly from want of provisions, and heavy gales off Cape Horn, arrived at Valparaiso, on the 14th of March, 1813. Having victualled his ship, he ran down the coast of Chili and Peru, and fell in with a Peruvian corsair, having on board twenty-four Americans as prisoners, the crews of two whaling ships, which she had taken on the coast of Chili. The Peruvian captain justified his conduct on the plea of being an ally of Great Britain, and the expectation likewise of a speedy war between Spain and the United States. Finding him resolved to persist in similar aggressions, Captain Porter threw all his guns and ammunition into the sea, liberated the Americans, and wrote a respectful letter to the viceroy explaining his reasons for so doing, which he delivered to the captain. He then proceeded to Lima, and luckily recaptured one of the American vessels as she was entering the port.

After this he cruised for several months in the Pacific, inflicting immense injury on the British commerce in those waters. He was particularly destructive to the shipping employed in the spermaceti whale fishery. A great number with valuable cargoes were captured; two were given up to the prisoners; three sent to Valparaiso and laid up; three sent to America; one of them he retained as a store ship, and another he equipped with twenty guns, called her the *Essex junior*, and gave the command of her to Lieutenant Downes. Most of these ships mounted several guns, and had numerous crews; and as several of them were captured by boats or by prizes, the officers and men of the *Essex* had frequent opportunities of showing their skill and courage, and of acquiring experience and confidence in naval conflict.

Having now a little squadron under his command, Captain Porter became a complete terror in those seas. As his numerous prizes supplied him abundantly with provisions, clothing, medicine, and naval stores of every description, he was enabled

for a long time to keep the sea, without sickness or inconvenience to his crew; living entirely on the enemy, and being enabled to make considerable advances of pay to his officers and crew without drawing on government. The unexampled devastation achieved by his daring enterprises, not only spread alarm throughout the ports of the Pacific, but even occasioned great uneasiness in Great Britain. The merchants who had any property afloat in this quarter, trembled with apprehensions for its fate; the underwriters groaned at the catalogue of captures brought by every advice, while the pride of the nation was sorely incensed at beholding a single frigate lording it over the Pacific, roving about the ocean in saucy defiance of their thousand ships; revelling in the spoils of boundless wealth, and almost banishing the British flag from those regions, where it had so long waved proudly predominant.

Numerous ships were sent out to the Pacific in pursuit of him; others were ordered to cruise in the China seas, off New Zealand, Timor and New Holland, and a frigate sent to the River La Plata. The manner in which Captain Porter cruised, however, completely baffled pursuit. Keeping in the open seas, or lurking among the numerous barren and desolate islands that form the Gallipagos groupe, and never touching on the American coast, he left no traces by which he could be followed; rumour, while it magnified his exploits, threw his pursuers at fault; they were distracted by vague accounts of captures made at different places, and of frigates supposed to be the *Essex* hovering at the same time off different coasts and haunting different islands.

In the mean while Porter though wrapped in mystery and uncertainty himself, yet received frequent and accurate accounts of his enemies, from the various prizes which he had taken. Lieutenant Downes, also, who had convoyed the prizes to Valparaiso, on his return, brought advices of the expected arrival of Commodore Hillyar in the *Phœbe* frigate rating thirty-six guns accompanied by two sloops of war. Glutted with spoil and havoc, and sated with the easy and glorious captures of merchantmen, Captain Porter now felt eager for an opportunity to meet the enemy on equal terms, and to signalize his cruise by some brilliant achievement. Having been nearly a year at sea, he found that his ship would require some repairs, to enable her to face



the foe; he repaired, therefore, accompanied by several of his prizes, to the Island of Nooaheevah, one of the Wasington groupe, discovered by a Captain Ingraham of Boston. Here he landed, took formal possession of the island in the name of the government of the United States, and gave it the name of Madison's Island. He found it large, populous and fertile, abounding with the necessaries of life; the natives in the vicinity of the harbour which he had chosen received him in the most friendly manner, and supplied him with abundance of provisions. During his stay at this place he had several encounters with some hostile tribes on the island, whom he succeeded in reducing to subjection. Having calked and completely overhauled the ship, made for her a new set of water casks, and taken on board from the prizes provisions and stores for upwards of four months, he sailed for the coast of Chili on the 12th December, 1813. Previous to sailing he secured the three prizes which had accompanied him, under the guns of a battery erected for their protection, and left them in charge of Lieutenant Gamble of the marines and twenty-one men, with orders to proceed to Valparaiso after a certain period.

After cruising on the coast of Chili without success, he proceeded to Valparaiso, in hopes of falling in with Commodore Hillyar, or, if disappointed in this wish, of capturing some merchant ships said to be expected from England. While at anchor at this port Commodore Hillyar arrived, having long been searching in vain for the Essex, and almost despairing of ever meeting with her. Contrary to the expectations of Captain Porter, however, Commodore Hillyar, beside his own frigate, superior in itself to the Essex, was accompanied by the Cherub sloop of war, strongly armed and manned. These ships, having been sent out expressly to seek for the Essex, were in prime order and equipment, with picked crews, and hoisted flags bearing the motto "God and country, British sailors' best rights: traitors offend both." This was in opposition to Porter's motto of "Free trade and sailors' rights," and the latter part of it suggested doubtless, by error industriously cherished, that our crews are chiefly composed of English seamen. In reply to this motto Porter hoisted at his mizen, "God, our country, and liberty: tyrants offend them." On entering the harbour the Phœbe fell foul of the Essex in such manner as to lay her at the mercy of Captain Porter; out of respect, however, to the

neutrality of the port, he did not take advantage of her exposed situation. This forbearance was afterwards acknowledged by Commodore Hillyar, and he passed his word of honour to observe like conduct while they remained in port. They continued therefore, while in harbour and on shore, in the mutual exchange of courtesies and kind offices that should characterize the private intercourse between civilized and generous enemies. And the crews of the respective ships often mingled together and passed nautical jokes and pleasantries from one to the other.

On getting their provisions on board the Phœbe and Cherub went off the port, where they cruised for six weeks, rigorously blockading Captain Porter. Their united force amounted to 81 guns and 500 men, in addition to which they took on board the crew of an English letter of marque lying in port. The force of the Essex consisted of but 46 guns, all of which, excepting six long twelves, were 32 pound carronades, only serviceable in close fighting. Her crew, having been much reduced by the manning of prizes, amounting to but 255 men. The Essex junior being only intended as a storeship, mounted ten 18 pound carronades and ten short sixes with a complement of only 60 men.

This vast superiority of force on the part of the enemy prevented all chance of encounter, on any thing like equal terms, unless by express covenant between the commanders. Captain Porter, therefore, endeavoured repeatedly to provoke a challenge, (the inferiority of his frigate to the Phœbe not justifying him in making the challenge himself,) but without effect. He tried frequently also to bring the Phœbe into single action; but this Commodore Hillyar warily avoided, and always kept his ships so close together as to frustrate Captain Porter's attempts. This conduct of Commodore Hillyar has been sneered at by many, as unworthy a brave officer; but it should be considered that he had more important objects to effect than the mere exhibition of individual or national prowess. His instructions were to crush a noxious foe, destructive to the commerce of his country; he was furnished with a force competent to this duty; and having the enemy once within his power, he had no right to wave his superiority, and by meeting him on equal footing, give him a chance to conquer, and continue his work of destruction.

Finding it impossible to bring the enemy to equal combat; and fearing the arrival of additional force, which he understood

was on the way, Captain Porter determined to put to sea the first opportunity that should present. A rendezvous was accordingly appointed for the Essex junior, and having ascertained by repeated trials that the Essex was a superior sailer to either of the blockading ships, it was agreed that she should let the enemy chase her off; thereby giving the Essex junior an opportunity of escaping.

On the next day, the 28th March, the wind came on to blow fresh from the southward, and the Essex parted her larboard cable and dragged her starboard anchor directly out to sea. Not a moment was lost in getting sail on the ship; but perceiving that the enemy was close in with the point forming the west side of the bay, and that there was a possibility of passing to windward, and escaping to sea by superior sailing, Captain Porter resolved to hazard the attempt. He accordingly took in his top gallant sails and braced up for the purpose, but most unfortunately on rounding the point a heavy squall struck the ship and carried away her main top mast, precipitating the men who were aloft into the sea, who were drowned. Both ships now gave chase, and the crippled state of his ship left Porter no alternative but to endeavour to regain the port. Finding it impossible to get back to the common anchorage, he ran close into a small bay about three quarters of a mile to leeward of the battery, on the east of the harbour, and let go his anchor within pistol shot of the shore. Supposing the enemy would, as formerly, respect the neutrality of the place, he considered himself secure, and thought only of repairing the damages he had sustained. The wary and menacing approach of the hostile ships, however, displaying their motto flags and having jacks at all their masts' heads, soon showed him the real danger of his situation. With all possible despatch he got his ship ready for action, and endeavoured to get a spring on his cable, but had not succeeded, when, at 54 minutes past 3 P. M. the enemy commenced the attack.

At first the Phœbe lay herself under his stern and the Cherub on his starboard bow; but the latter soon finding herself exposed to a hot fire, bore up and ran under his stern also, where both ships kept up a severe and raking fire. Captain Porter succeeded three different times in getting springs on his cables, for the purpose of bringing his broadside to bear on the enemy, but they were as often shot away by the excessive fire to which he was exposed.

He was obliged, therefore, to rely for defence against this tremendous attack merely on three long twelve pounders, which he had run out of the stern ports; and which were worked with such bravery and skill as in half an hour to do great injury to both the enemy's ships and induce them to hale off and repair damages. It was evidently the intention of Commodore Hillyar to risk nothing from the daring courage of his antagonist, but to the Essex at as cheap a rate as possible. All his manœuvres were deliberate and wary; he saw his antagonist completely at his mercy, and prepared to cut him up in the safest and surest manner. In the mean time the situation of the Essex was galling and provoking in the extreme; crippled and shattered, with many killed and wounded, she lay awaiting the convenience of the enemy, to renew the scene of slaughter, with scarce a hope of escape or revenge. Her brave crew, however, in place of being disheartened, were aroused to desperation, and by hoisting ensigns in their rigging and jacks in different parts of the ship, evinced their defiance and determination to hold out to the last.

The enemy having repaired his damages, now placed himself with both his ships on the starboard quarter of the Essex, out of reach of her carronades, and where her stern guns could not be brought to bear. Here he kept up a most destructive fire, which it was not in Captain Porter's power to return; the latter, therefore saw no hope of injuring him without getting under way and becoming the assailant. From the mangled state of his rigging he could set no other sail than the flying jib; this he caused to be hoisted, cut his cable, and ran down on both ships, with an intention of laying the Phœbe on board.

For a short time he was enabled to close with the enemy, and the firing on both sides was tremendous. The decks of the Essex were strewed with dead, and her cockpit filled with wounded; she had been several times on fire, and was in fact a perfect wreck; still a feeble hope sprang up that she might be saved, in consequence of the Cherub being compelled to hale off by her crippled state; she did not return to close action again, but kept up a distant firing with her long guns. The disabled state of the Essex, however, did not permit her to take advantage of this circumstance; for want of sail she was unable to keep at close quarters with the Phœbe, who, edging off, chose the distance which best suited her long guns, and kept up a tremendous fire, which made a dreadful

havoc among our crew. Many of the guns of the Essex were rendered useless, and many had their whole crews destroyed: they were manned from those that were disabled, and one gun in particular was three times manned; fifteen men were slain at it in the course of the action, though the captain of it escaped with only a slight wound. Captain Porter now gave up all hope of closing with the enemy, but finding the wind favourable, determined to run his ship on shore, land the crew, and destroy her. He had approached within musket-shot of the shore, and had every prospect of succeeding, when in an instant the wind shifted from the land and drove her down upon the Phœbe, exposing her again to a dreadful raking fire. The ship was now totally unmanageable; yet as her head was toward the enemy, and he to leeward, Captain Porter again perceived a faint hope of boarding. At this moment Lieutenant Downs of the Essex junior came on board to receive orders, expecting that Captain Porter would soon be a prisoner. His services could be of no avail in the deplorable state of the Essex, and finding from the enemy's putting his helm up, that the last attempt at boarding would not succeed, Captain Porter directed him, after he had been ten minutes on board, to return to his own ship, to be prepared for defending and destroying her in case of attack. He took with him several of the wounded, leaving three of his boat's crew on board to make room for them. The Cherub kept up a hot fire on him during his return. The slaughter on board of the Essex now became horrible, the enemy continued to rake her, while she was unable to bring a gun to bear in return. Still her commander, with an obstinacy that bordered on desperation, persisted in the unequal and almost hopeless conflict. Every expedient that a fertile and inventive mind could suggest was resorted to, in the forlorn hope that they might yet be enabled by some lucky chance to escape from the grasp of the foe. A hawser was bent to the sheet anchor, and the anchor cut from the bows, to bring the ship's head round. This succeeded; the broadside of the Essex was again brought to bear; and as the enemy was much crippled and unable to hold his own, Captain Porter thought she might drift out of gunshot before she discovered that he had anchored. The hawser, however, unfortunately parted, and with it failed the last lingering hope of the Essex. The ship had taken fire several times during the action, but at this moment her situation was awful. She

was on fire both forward and aft; the flames were bursting up each hatchway; a large quantity of powder below exploded, and word was given that the fire was near the magazine. Thus surrounded by horrors, without any chance of saving the ship, Captain Porter turned his attention to rescuing as many of his brave companions as possible. Finding his distance from the shore did not exceed three quarters of a mile, he hoped many would be able to save themselves should the ship blow up. His boats had been cut to pieces by the enemies' shot, but he advised such as could swim to jump overboard and make for shore. Some reached it—some were taken by the enemy, and some perished in the attempt; but most of this loyal and gallant crew preferred sharing the fate of their ship and their commander.

Those who remained on board now endeavoured to extinguish the flames, and having succeeded, went again to the guns and kept up a firing for a few minutes; but the crew had by this time become so weakened that all further resistance was in vain. Captain Porter summoned a consultation of the officers of divisions, but was surprised to find only acting Lieutenant Stephen Decatur M-Knight remaining; of the others some had been killed, others knocked overboard, and others carried below disabled by severe wounds.—The accounts from every part of the ship were deplorable in the extreme; representing her in the most shattered and crippled condition, in imminent danger of sinking, and so crowded with the wounded that even the birth deck could contain no more, and many were killed while under the surgeon's hands. In the mean while the enemy, in consequence of the smoothness of the water and his secure distance, was enabled to keep up a deliberate and constant fire, aiming with coolness and certainty as if firing at a target, and hitting the hull at every shot. At length, utterly despairing of saving the ship, Captain Porter was compelled, at 20 minutes past 6 P. M. to give the painful order to strike the colours. It is probable that the enemy did not perceive that the ship had surrendered, for he continued firing; several men were killed and wounded in different parts of the ship, and Captain Porter thinking he intended to show no quarter, was about to rehoist his flag and to fight until he sunk, when the enemy desisted his attack ten minutes after the surrender.

The foregoing account of this battle is taken almost verbatim from the letter of Captain Porter to the secretary of the na-

ry. Making every allowance for its being a partial statement, this must certainly have been one of the most sanguinary and obstinately contested actions on naval record. The loss of the *Essex* is a sufficient testimony of the desperate bravery with which she was defended. Out of 255 men which comprised her crew, fifty-eight were killed; thirty-nine wounded severely; twenty-seven slightly, and thirty-one missing, making in all 154. She was completely cut to pieces, and so covered with the dead and dying, with mangled limbs, with brains and blood, and all the ghastly images of pain and death, that the officer who came on board to take possession of her, though accustomed to scenes of slaughter, was struck with sickening horror, and fainted at the shocking spectacle.

Thousands of the inhabitants of Valparaiso were spectators of the battle, covering the neighboring heights: for it was fought so near the shore that some of the shot even struck among the citizens, who, in the eagerness of their curiosity, had ventured down upon the beach. Touched by the forlorn situation of the *Essex*, and filled with admiration at the unflagging spirit and persevering bravery of her commander and crew, a generous anxiety ran throughout the multitude for their fate: bursts of delight arose when, by any vicissitude of battle, or prompt expedient, a chance seemed to turn up in their favour; and the eager spectators were seen to wring their hands, and uttered groans of sympathy, when the transient hope was defeated, and the gallant little frigate once more became an unresisting object of deliberate slaughter.

It is needless to mention particularly the many instances of individual valour and magnanimity among both the officers and common sailors of the *Essex*: their general conduct bears ample testimony to their heroism; and it will hereafter be a sufficient distinction for any man to prove that he was present in that battle. Every action that we have fought at sea has gone to destroy some envious shade which the enemy has attempted to cast on our rising reputation. After the affair of the *Argus* and the *Pelican*, it was asserted that our sailors were brave only while successful and unhurt, but that the sight of slaughter filled them with dismay. In this battle it has been proved that they are capable of the highest exercise of courage—that of standing unmoved among incessant ear-nage, without being able to return a shot, and destitute of a hope of ultimate success.

Though, from the distance and posi-

tions which the enemy chose, this battle was chiefly fought on our part by six twelve pounders only, yet great damage was done to the assailing ships. Their masts and yards were badly crippled, their hulls much cut up; the *Phœbe*, especially, received 18 twelve pound shot below her water line, some three feet under water. Their loss in killed and wounded was not ascertained, but must have been severe; the first lieutenant of the *Phœbe* was killed, and Captain Tucker, of the *Cherub*, was severely wounded. It was with some difficulty that the *Phœbe* and the *Essex* could be kept afloat until they anchored the next morning in the port of Valparaiso.

Much indignation has been expressed against Commodore Hillyar for his violation of the laws of nations, and of his private agreement with Captain Porter, by attacking him in the neutral waters of Valparaiso; waiving all discussions of these points, it may barely be observed, that his cautious attack with a vastly superior force, on a crippled ship, which, relying on his forbearance, had placed herself in a most defenceless situation, and which for six weeks previous had offered him fair fight, on advantageous terms, though it may reflect great credit on his prudence, yet certainly furnishes no triumph to a brave and generous mind.—Aware, however, of that delicacy which ought to be observed towards the character even of an enemy, it is not the intention of the writer to assail that of Commodore Hillyar. Indeed, his conduct after the battle entitles him to high encomium; he showed the greatest humanity to the wounded, and, as Captain Porter acknowledges, endeavored as much as lay in his power to alleviate the distresses of war by the most generous and delicate deportment towards both the officers and crew, commanding that the property of every person should be respected. Captain Porter and his crew were paroled, and permitted to return to the United States in the *Essex Junior*, her armament being previously taken out. On arriving off the port of New-York, they were overhauled by the *Saturn* razeed, the authority of Com. Hillyar to grant a passport was questioned, and the *Essex Junior* detained. Captain Porter then told the boarding officer that he gave up his parole, and considered himself a prisoner of war, and as such should use all means to escape. In consequence of this threat the *Essex Junior* was ordered to remain all night under the lee of the *Saturn*, but the next

morning Captain Porter put off in his boat, though thirty miles from shore; and, notwithstanding he was pursued by the Saturn, effected his escape, and landed safely on Long Island. His reception in the United States has been such as his great services and distinguished valor deserved. The various interesting and romantic rumors that had reached this country concerning him, during his cruise in the Pacific, had excited the curiosity of the public to see this modern Sinbad; on arriving in New-York his carriage was surrounded by the populace, who took out the horses, and dragged him, with shouts of acclamations, to his lodgings.

The length to which this article has already been extended, notwithstanding the brevity with which many interesting circumstances have been treated, forbids any further remarks on the character and services of Captain Porter. They are sufficiently illustrated in the foregoing summary of his eventful life, and particularly in the history of his last cruise, which was conducted with wonderful enterprise, fertility of expedient, consummate seamanship, and daring courage. In his single ship he has inflicted more injury on the commerce of the enemy than all the rest of the navy put together; not merely by actual devastation, but by the general insecurity and complete interruption which he occasioned to an extensive and invaluable branch of British trade. His last action, also, though it terminated in the loss of his frigate, can scarcely be considered as unfortunate, inasmuch as it has given a brilliancy to his own reputation, and wreathed fresh honors around the name of the American sailor.

### Meriwether Lewis.

*History of the Expedition under the command of Captains Lewis and Clarke, to the sources of the Missouri, &c. &c. Prepared for the press by Paul Allen, Esq. in two vols. 8vo. Philadelphia, Pa.*

This work, which simply consists of a faithful, minute, and comprehensive journal of the expedition of Lewis and Clarke to the sources of the Missouri, thence across the Rocky Mountains, and down the river Columbia to the Pacific Ocean, performed by order of government in 1804, 5, 6, is an important work to our country. It has lately come from the press, and is to be found in most of our book stores. The untimely death of Governor Lewis has prevented the world from receiving the history of the expedition in that perfect form which is so desirable; but the present work is probably the best substitute that will ever be published. Its value and the importance of the expedition will appear more manifest from the following interesting letter from Mr. Jefferson to Mr. Allen, containing as well the life of Governor Lewis, as the instructions to him and the views of the government in setting on foot the expedition. The letter will evince the illustrious statesman and philosopher in the estimation of mankind. Our naval heroes will especially be gratified at the eulogium on their splendid deeds at the close of the letter. America will now see the egregious deception by which federal writers have attempted to circulate and establish a belief that Mr. Jefferson was hostile to commerce, as his instructions will show that the expedition was instituted as much to promote the interest of commerce, as the arts, sciences, and happiness of the human race.

Whig.

### Life of Captain Lewis.

Monticello, August 18, 1813.

Sir, In compliance with the request conveyed in your letter of May 25, I have endeavored to obtain from the relations and friends of the late Governor Lewis, info on those such incidents of his life as might be not unimportant to those who may read the narrative of his western discoveries. The ordinary occurrences of a private life, and those also while acting in a subordinate sphere in the army, in a time of peace, are not deemed sufficiently interesting to occupy the public attention; but a general account of his parentage, with such smaller incidents as marked his early character are briefly noted; and to these are added, as being peculiarly within my own knowledge, whatever related to the public mission, of which an account is now to be published. The result of my inquiries and recollections shall now be offered, to be enlarged or abridged as you may think best; or otherwise to be used with the materials you may have collected from other sources.

Meriwether Lewis, late governor of Louisiana, was born on the eighteenth of August, 1774, near the town of Charlottesville, in the county of Albemarle, in Virginia, of one of the distinguished families of that state. John Lewis, one of his father's uncles, was a member of the king's council, before the revolution. Another of them, Fielding Lewis, married a sister of General Washington. His father, William Lewis, was the youngest of five sons of Colonel Robert Lewis of Albemarle, the fourth of whom, Charles, was one of the early patriots who stepped forward in the commencement of the revolution, and commanded one of the regiments first raised in Virginia, and placed on continental establishment. Happily situated at home, with a wife and young family, and for some time at ease, he left all to aid in the liberation of his country from foreign usurpations, then first unmasking their ultimate end and aim. His good sense, integrity, bravery, enterprise, and remarkable bodily powers, marked him as an officer of great promise; but he unfortunately died early in the revolution. Nicholas Lewis, the second of his father's brothers, commanded a regiment of militia in the successful expedition of 1776, against the Cherokee Indians who, seduced by the agent of the British government to take up the hatchet against us, had committed great havoc on our southern frontier, by murdering and scalping helpless women and children, according to their cruel and cowardly principles of warfare. The chastisement they then received closed the history of their wars, and prepared them for receiving the elements of civilization, which, zealously inculcated by the present government of the United States, have rendered them an industrious, peaceable, and happy people. This member of the family of Lewises, whose bravery was so usefully proved on this occasion, was endeared to all who knew him by his inflexible probity, courteous disposition, benevolent heart, and engaging modesty and manners. He was the umpire of all the private differences of his country—selected always by both parties.

He was also the guardian of Meriwether Lewis, of whom we are now to speak, and who had lost his father at an early age. He continued some years under the fostering care of a tender mother, of the respectable family of Meriwethers, of the same county; and was remarkable even in infancy for enterprise, boldness, and discretion. When only eight years of age he habitually went out, in the dead of night alone with his dogs, into the forest, to hunt the racoon and opossum, which, seeking their food in the night, can then only be taken. In this exercise no season, or circumstance could obstruct his purpose—plunging through the winter's snows and frozen streams in pursuit of his object. At thirteen he was put to the Latin school, and continued at that until eighteen, when he returned to his mother, and entered on the cares of his farm; having, as well as a younger brother been left by his father with a competency for all the correct and comfortable purposes of a temperate life. His talent for observation, which had led him to an accurate knowledge of the plants and animals of his own country, would have distinguished him as a farmer; but, at the age of twenty, yielding to the ardour of youth and a passion for more dazzling pursuits, he engaged as a volunteer in the body of militia which were called out by General Washington, on occasion of the discontents produced by the excessive taxes in the western parts of the United States; and from that situation he was promoted to the regular army, as an ensign in the line. At twenty-three he was promoted to a captaincy; and always attracting the first attention where punctuality and fidelity were requisite, he was appointed paymaster to his regiment. About this time a circumstance occurred, which, leading to the transaction which is the subject of this book, will justify a recurrence to its original idea. While I resided at Paris, John Ledyard, of Connecticut, arrived there, well known in the United States for energy of body and mind. He had accompanied Captain Cook on his voyage to the Pacific Ocean; and distinguished himself on that voyage by his intrepidity. Being of a roaming disposition, he was now panting for some new enterprise. His immediate object at Paris was to engage a mercantile company in the fur-trade of the western coast of America, in which, however, he failed. I then proposed to him to go by land to Kamtschatka, cross in some of the Russian vessels to Nootka Sound, fall down into the latitude of the Missouri, and penetrate to, and through that to the United States. He eagerly seized the idea, and only asked to be assured of the permission of the Russian government. I interested, in obtaining that, M. de Simoulin, minister plenipotentiary of the empress at Paris, but more especially the baron de Grimm, minister plenipotentiary of Saxony at Gotha, her more special agent and correspondent there in matters

not immediately diplomatic. Her permission was obtained and an assurance of protection while the course of the voyage should be through her territories. Ledyard set out from Paris, and arrived at St. Petersburg after the empress had left that place to pass the winter, I think, at Moscow. His finances not permitting him to make unnecessary stay at St. Petersburg, he left it with a passport from one of the ministers; and at two hundred miles from Kamshatka, was obliged to take up his winter quarters. He was preparing, in the spring, to resume his journey, when he was arrested by an officer of the empress, who by this time had changed her mind, and forbidden his proceeding. He was put into a close carriage, and conveyed, day and night, without ever stopping till they reached Oland; where he was set down and left to himself. The fatigue of this journey broke down his constitution; and when he returned to Paris his bodily health was much impaired. His mind, however, remained firm, and he after this undertook the journey to Egypt. I received a letter from him, full of sanguine hopes, dated at Cairo, the fifteenth of November, 1788, the day before he was to set out for the head of the Nile; on which day, however he ended his career and life: and thus failed the first attempt to explore the western part of our northern continent.

In 1792, I proposed to the American Philosophical Society that we should set on foot a subscription to engage some competent person to explore that region in the opposite direction; that is by ascending the Missouri, crossing the Stony mountains, and descending the nearest river to the Pacific. Captain Lewis being then stationed at Charlottesville, on the recruiting service, warmly solicited me to obtain for him the execution of that object. I told him it was proposed that the person engaged should be attended by a single companion only, to avoid exciting alarm among the Indians. This did not deter him; but Mr. Andre Michaux, a professed botanist, author of the Flora Boreali-Americana and of the Histoire des Chenes d'Amérique, offering his services, they were accepted. He received his instructions, and when he had reached Kentucky in the prosecution of his journey, he was overtaken by an order from the minister of France then at Philadelphia, to relinquish the expedition, and to pursue elsewhere the botanical inquiries on which he was employed by that government; and thus failed the second attempt for exploring that region.

In 1803, the act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes being about to expire, some modifications of it were recommended to Congress, by a confidential message of January 18th, and an extension of its views to the Indians on the Missouri. In order to prepare the way, the message proposed the sending an exploring party to trace the Missouri to its source, to cross the Highlands, and follow the best water communication which offered itself, from thence to the Pacific ocean. Congress approved the proposition, and voted a sum of money for carrying it into execution. Capt. Lewis, who had then been near two years with me as private secretary, immediately renewed his solicitations to have the direction of the party. I had now had opportunities of knowing him intimately. Of courage undaunted; possessing a firmness and perseverance of purpose which nothing but impossibilities could divert from its direction; careful as a father of those committed to his charge, yet steady in the maintenance of order and discipline; intimate with the Indian character, customs, and principles; habituated to the hunting life; guarded, by exact observation of the vegetables and animals of his own country, against losing time in the description of objects already possessed; honest, disinterested, liberal, of sound understanding, and a fidelity to truth so scrupulous, that whatever he should report would be as certain as if seen by ourselves; with all these qualifications, as if selected and implanted by nature in one body for this express purpose, I could have no hesitation in confiding the enterprise to him. To fill up the measure desired, he wanted nothing but a greater familiarity with the technical language of the natural sciences, and readiness in the astronomical observations necessary for the geography of his route. To acquire these he repaired immediately to Philadelphia and placed himself under the tutorage of the distinguished professors of that place, who with a zeal and emulation, evinced by an ardent devotion to science, communicated to him freely the information requisite for the purposes of the journey. While attending too, at Lancaster, the fabrication of the arms with which he chose that his men should be provided, he had the benefit of daily communication with Mr. Andrew Elliot, whose experience in astronomical observation, and practice of it in the woods, enabled him to apprise Captain Lewis of the wants and difficulties he would encounter, and of the substitutes and resources offered by a woodland and uninhabited country.

Deeming it necessary he should have some person with him of known competence to the direction of the enterprise, in the event of accident to himself, he proposed William Clarke, brother of General George Rogers Clarke, who was approved of, and with that view, received a commission of captain.

In April, 1803, a draft of his instructions was sent to Captain Lewis, and on the twentieth of June they were signed in the following form:

"To Meriwether Lewis, esquire, captain of the first regiment of infantry of the United States of America.

"Your situation as secretary of the President of the United States, has made you acquainted with the objects of my confidential message of January 18, 1803, to the legislature; and you have seen the act they passed, which though expressed in general terms, was meant to sanction those objects, and you are appointed to carry them into execution.

"Instruments for ascertaining, by celestial observation, the geography of the country through which you will pass, have been already provided. Light articles for barter and presents among the Indians, arms for your attendants, say from ten to twelve

men, boats, tents, and other travelling apparatus, with ammunition, medicine, surgical instruments, and provisions, you will have prepared; with such aids as the secretary at war can yield in his department; and from him also you will receive authority to engage about our troops, by voluntary agreement the number of attendants above mentioned; over whom you, as their commanding officer, are invested with all the powers the laws give in such a case.

"As your movements, while within the limits of the United States, will be better directed by occasional communications adapted to circumstances, as they arise, they will not be noticed here. What it flows will respect your proceedings after your departure from the United States.

"Your mission has been communicated to the ministers here from France, Spain, and Great Britain, and through them to their governments; and such assurances given them as to its objects, as we trust will satisfy them. The country of Louisiana having been ceded by Spain to France, the passport you have from the minister of France, the representative of the present sovereign of the country, will be a protection with all its subjects; and that from the minister of England will entitle you to the friendly aid of any traders of that allegiance with whom you may happen to meet.

"The object of your mission is to explore the Missouri river, and such principal streams of it, as by its course and communication with the waters of the Pacific ocean, whether the Columbia, Oregon, Colorado, or any other river, may offer the most direct and practicable water communication across the continent, for the purposes of commerce.

"Beginning at the mouth of the Missouri; you will take observations of latitude and longitude, at all remarkable points on the river, and especially at the mouths of rivers, at rapids, at islands, and other places and objects distinguished by such natural marks and characters of a durable kind, as that they may with certainty be recognized hereafter. The courses of the river between these points of observation may be supplied by the compass, the log-line, and by time corrected by the observations themselves. The variations of the needle, too, in different places should be noticed.

"The interesting points of the portage between the heads of the Missouri, and of the water offering the best communication with the Pacific ocean, should also be fixed by observation, and the course of that water to the ocean, in the same manner as that of the Missouri.

Your observations are to be taken with great pains and accuracy; to be entered distinctly and intelligently for others as well as yourself, to comprehend all the elements necessary, with the aid of the usual tables, to fix the latitude and longitude of the places at which they were taken; and are to be rendered to the war office, for the purpose of having the calculations made concurrently by proper persons within the United States. Several copies of these, as well as other notes, should be made at leisure times, and put into the care of the most trust-worthy of your attendants, to guard, by multiplying them, against the accidental losses to which they will be exposed.—A further guard would be, that one of these copies be on the circula medals of the paper-birch, as less liable to injury from damp than common paper.

"The commerce which may be carried on with the people inhabiting the line you will pursue, renders a knowledge of those people important. You will therefore endeavor to make yourself acquainted, as far as a diligent pursuit of your journey shall admit, with the names of the nations and their number.

"The extent and limits of their possessions;  
 "Their relations with other tribes or nations;  
 "Their language, traditions, monuments;  
 "Their ordinary occupations in agriculture, fishing, hunting, war, arts, and implements for these;  
 "Their food, clothing, and domestic accommodations;  
 "The diseases prevalent among them, and the remedies they use;

"Moral and physical circumstances which distinguish them from the tribes we know;

"Peculiarities in their laws, customs and dispositions;  
 "And articles of commerce they may need or furnish, and to what extent.

"And, considering the interest which every nation has in extending and strengthening the authority of reason and justice among the people around them, it will be useful to acquire what knowledge you can of the state of morality, religion, and information among them: as it may better enable those who may endeavor to civilize and instruct them, to adapt measures to the existing notions and prejudices of those on whom they are to operate.

"Other objects worthy of notice will be—  
 "The soil and face of the country, its growth and vegetable productions, especially those not of the United States;

"The animals of the country generally, and especially those not in the United States;

"The remains and accounts of any which may be deemed rare or extinct;

"The mineral productions of every kind, but more particularly metals, lime stone, pit-coal, and saltpetre; salines and mineral waters, noting the temperature of the last, and such circumstances as may indicate their character;

"Volcanic appearances;

"Climate, as characterized by the thermometer, by the proportion of rainy, cloudy, and clear days; by lightning, hail, snow, ice, by the excess and recess of frost; by the winds prevailing at different seasons; the dates at which particular plants put forth, or lose their flower or leaf; times of appearance of particular birds, reptiles or insects.

"Although your route will be along the channel of the Missouri

it, yet you will endeavor to inform yourself, by inquiry, of the character and extent of the country watered by its branches, and especially on its southern side. The North river, or Rio Bravo, which runs into the gulph of Mexico, and the North river, or Rio Colorado, which runs into the gulph of California, are understood to be the principal streams heading opposite the waters of the Missouri, and running southwardly. Whether the dividing grounds between the Missouri and them are mountains or flat lands, what are their distance from the Missouri, the character of the intermediate country, and the people inhabiting it, are worthy of particular inquiry. The northern waters of the Missouri are less to be inquired after, because they have been ascertained to a considerable degree, and are still in a course of ascertainment by English traders and travellers; but if you can learn any thing certain of the most northern source of the Mississippi, and of its position relatively to the Lake of the Woods, it will be interesting to us. Some accounts too of the path of the Canadian traders from the Mississippi, at the mouth of the Ouiskoning to where it strikes the Missouri, and of the soil and rivers in its course is desirable.

In all your intercourse with the natives, treat them in the most friendly and conciliatory manner which their own conduct will admit; allay all jealousies as to the object of your journey; satisfy them of its innocence; make them acquainted with the position, extent, character, peaceable and commercial dispositions of the United States; of our wish to be neighborly, friendly, and useful to them, and of our disposition to a commercial intercourse with them; confer with them on the points most convenient as mutual, emporiums, and the articles of most desirable interchange for them and us. If a few of their influential chiefs, within practicable distance, wish to visit us, arrange such a visit with them, and furnish them with authority to call on our officers on entering the United States, to have them conveyed to this place at the public expense. If any of them should wish to have some of their people brought up with us and taught such arts as may be useful to them we will receive, instruct, and take care of them. Such a mission, whether of influential chiefs, or of young people would give some security to your own party. Carry with you, some matter of the like-pox; for those of them with whom you may be of its efficacy as a preservative from the small-pox, and instruct and encourage them in the use of it. This may be especially done when you are not wintered.

As it is impossible for us to foresee in what manner you will be received by those people, whether with hospitality or hostility, so it is impossible to prescribe the exact degree of perseverance with which you are to pursue your journey. We value too much the lives of citizens to order them to probable destruction. Your numbers will be sufficient to secure you against the unauthorized opposition of individuals or of small parties; but if a superior force, authorized or not authorized, by a nation, should be arrayed against your further passage, and inflexibly determined to arrest it, you must decline its further pursuit and return. In the loss of yourselves we should lose also the information you will have required. By returning safely with that, you may enable us to renew the essay with better calculated means. To your own discretion, therefore, must be left the degree of danger you may risk, and the point at which you should decline, only saying, we wish you to err on the side of your safety, and to bring back your party safe, even if it be with less information.

As far up the Missouri as the white settlements extend, an intercourse will probably be found to exist between them and the Spanish posts of St. Louis opposite Cahokia, or St. Genieveve opposite Kaskaskia. From still further up the river, the traders may furnish a conveyance for letters. Beyond that you may perhaps be able to engage Indians to bring your letters for the government to Cahokia, or Kaskaskia, on promising that they shall receive such special compensation as you shall have stipulated with them. Avoid yourself of these means to communicate to us, at reasonable intervals, a copy of your journal, notes and observations of every kind, putting into cypher whatever might do injury if betrayed.

Should you reach the Pacific ocean, inform yourself of the circumstances which may decide whether the furs of those parts may not be collected as advantageously at the head of the Missouri (convenient as is supposed to the waters of the Colorado and Oregon or Columbia) as at Nootka Sound, or any other point of that coast; and that trade be consequently conducted through the Missouri and United States more beneficially than by the circumnavigation now practised.

On your arrival on that coast, endeavour to learn if their be any port within your reach frequented by the sea vessels of any nation, and to send two of your trusty people back by sea, in such way as shall appear practicable, with a copy of your notes; and should you be of opinion that the return of your party by the way they went will be innocently dangerous, then ship the whole, and return by sea, by the way either of Cape Horn, or the Cape of Good Hope, as you shall be able. As you will be without money, clothes, or provisions, you must endeavour to use the credit of the United States to obtain them; for which purpose open letters of credit shall be furnished you, authorizing you to draw on the executive of the United States, or any of its officers, in any part of the world, in which draughts can be disposed of, and to apply with our recommendations to the consuls, agents, merchants, or citizens of any nation with which we have intercourse, assuring them, in our name, that any aids they may furnish you shall be honorably repaid, and on demand. Our consuls, Thomas Hewes, at Batavia, in Java, William Buchanan, in the Isles of France and Bourbon, and John Elmstie, at the Cape of Good Hope, will be able to supply your necessities, by draughts on us.

"Should you find it safe to return by the way you go, after sending two of your party round by sea, or with your whole party, if no conveyance by sea can be found, do so; making such observations on your return as may serve to supply, correct, or confirm those made on your outward journey.

"On re-entering the United States and reaching a place of safety, discharge any of your attendants who may desire and deserve it, procuring for them immediate payment of all arrears of pay and clothing which may have incurred since their departure, and assure them that they shall be recommended to the liberality of the legislature for the grant of a soldier's portion of land each, as proposed in my message to congress, and repair yourself with your papers, to the seat of government.

"To provide, on the accident of your death, against anarchy, dispersion, and the consequent danger to your party, and total failure of the enterprise, you are hereby authorized, by any instrument signed and written in your own hand, to name the person among them who shall succeed to the command on your decease, and by like instruments to change the nomination, from time to time, as further experience of the characters accompanying you shall point out superior fitness; and all the powers and authorities given to yourself are, in the event of your death transferred to, and vested in the successor so named, with further power to him and his successors, in like manner to name each his successor, who, on the death of his predecessor, shall be invested with all the powers and authorities given to yourself. Given under my hand at the city of Washington, this twentieth day of June, 1803.

"THOMAS JEFFERSON,  
"President of the United States of America."

While these things were going on here, the country of Louisiana, lately ceded by Spain to France, had been the subject of negotiation at Paris between us and this last power; and had actually been transferred to us by treaties executed at Paris on the 30th of April. This information, received about the 1st day of July, increased infinitely the interest we felt in the expedition, and lessened the apprehensions of interruption from other powers. Every thing in this quarter being now prepared, captain Lewis left Washington on the 5th of July, 1803, and proceeded to Pittsburgh, where other articles had been ordered to be provided for him. The men too were to be selected from the military stations on the Ohio. Delays of preparation, difficulties of navigation down the Ohio, and other untoward obstructions, retarded his arrival at Cahokia until the season was so far advanced as to render it prudent to suspend his entering the Missouri before the ice should break up in the succeeding spring.

From this time his journal, now published, will give the history of his journey to and from the Pacific ocean, until his return to St. Louis on the 23d of September, 1806. Never did a similar event excite more joy through the United States. The humbleness of their citizens had taken a lively interest in the issue of this journey, and looked forward with impatience for the information it would furnish. Their anxieties too for the safety of the corps had been kept in a state of excitement by lugubrious rumours, circulated from time to time on uncertain authorities, and uncontradicted by letters, or other direct information; from the time they had left the Mandan towns, on their ascent up the river in April of the preceding year, 1805, until their actual return to St. Louis.

It was the middle of February, 1807, before captain Lewis, with his companion captain Clarke, reached the city of Washington, where congress was then in session. That body granted to the two chiefs and their followers the donation of lands which they had been encouraged to expect in reward of their toil and dangers. Captain Lewis was soon after appointed governor of Louisiana, and captain Clarke a general of its militia, and agent of the United States for Indian affairs in that department.

A considerable time intervened before the governor's arrival at St. Louis. He found the territory distracted by feuds and contentions among the officers of the government, and the people themselves divided by these into factions and parties. He determined at once to take no side with either; but to use every endeavor to conciliate and harmonize them. The even-handed justice he administered to all soon established a respect for his person and authority; and perseverance and time wore down animosities, and reunited the citizens again into one family.

Governor Lewis had, from early life, been subject to hypochondriac affections. It was a constitutional disposition in all the nearer branches of the family of his name, and was more immediately inherited by him from his father. They had not, however, been so strong as to give uneasiness to his family. While he lived with me in Washington, I observed at times sensible depressions of mind; but knowing their constitutional source, I estimated their course by what I had seen in the family. During his western expedition, the constant exertion which that required of all the faculties of body and mind suspended these distressing affections; but after his establishment at St. Louis in sedentary occupations, they returned upon him with redoubled vigour, and began seriously to alarm his friends. He was in a paroxysm of one of these, when his affairs rendered it necessary for him to go to Washington. He proceeded to the Chickasaw Bluffs, where he arrived on the sixteenth of September, 1809, with a view of continuing his journey thence by water. Mr. Neely, agent of the United States with the Chickasaw Indians, arriving there two days after, found him extremely indisposed, and betraying at times some symptoms of a derangement of mind. The rumors of a war with England, and apprehensions that he might lose the papers he was bringing on, among which were the vouchers of his public accounts, and the journals and papers of his western expedition, induced him here

to change his mind, and to take his course by land through the Chickasaw country. Although he appeared somewhat relieved, Mr. Neely kindly determined to accompany and watch over him. Unfortunately, at their encampment, after having passed the Tennessee one day's journey, they lost two horses, which obliging Mr. Neely to halt for their recovery the governor proceeded, under a promise to wait for him at the house of the first white inhabitant on his road. He stopped at the house of a Mr. Grindler, who not being at home, his wife, alarmed at the symptoms of derangement she discovered, gave him up the house and retired to rest herself in an out-house, the governor's and Neely's servants lodging in another. About three o'clock in the night he did the deed which plunged his friends into affliction, and deprived his country of one of her most valued citizens, whose valour and intelligence would have been now employed in averging the wrongs of his country, and in emulating by land the splendid deeds which have honored her arms on the ocean. It lost too to the nation the benefit of receiving from his own hand the narrative now offered them of his sufferings and successes, in endeavoring to extend for them the boundaries of science, and to present to their knowledge that vast and fertile country, which their souls are destined to fill with arts, with science, with freedom and happiness.

To this melancholy close of the life of one, whom posterity will declare not to have lived in vain, I have only to add, that all the facts I have stated are either known to myself, or communicated by his family or others, for whose truth I have no hesitation to make myself responsible; and I conclude with tendering you the assurances of my respect and consideration.

TH: JEFFERSON.

Mr. Paul Allen, Philadelphia.

## Gen. Charles Scott,

Lately deceased, was, says the Kentucky Reporter, the last Revolutionary Officer of his grade. The inestimable worth of this veteran soldier and patriot is recorded upon materials more durable than marble; he will live in the memory of his country as long as history or tradition shall hand down to posterity the epoch of her liberty.

He engaged, at the age of 17, as a common soldier in the war which terminated by the peace of 1763. He was soon distinguished by his active vigilance and daring intrepidity.—He rose to a Sergeant, and for a considerable time was employed with a small party in traversing the western wilds, and procuring intelligence of the movements of the French and savages. General, then Colonel Washington, who commanded the Virginia troops, had him promoted towards the close of the war to an Ensigny. On the breaking out of the revolutionary war, and when Governor Dunmore fled, he was among the first who raised a volunteer company, composed of the most respectable Virginians, and pursued him. He distinguished himself at the battle of the Bridge, when Captain Fordyce was killed. General Washington, ever the friend of his country and of worth, soon procured him the command of a regiment in the Virginia continental line; he was always assigned the post of honour, being deputed on the most hazardous enterprises, and so well did he acquit himself, that he was the favorite disciple of his great master. A proof of this confidence was given in being employed to conduct the several campaigns against the Indians from this country.

It owes him much. It made him Chief Magistrate at an advanced age, as a testimony of its gratitude. How well he fulfilled our expectations, how true to what he believed our country's interest, no one here is ignorant. He retired from office amidst the plaudits of the state; not till he had roused her choicest sons, and awakened that spirit for the prosecution of the existing war in defence of our rights, which has shed a blaze of glory on the world. With the firmness of a hero, he had the affections of a child. He lived only for his country and his friends. He died poor, covered with honour. Reader, look over his life, and go thou and do like wise!

### DEATH AND CHARACTER

## OF COLONEL ISAAC HAYNE.

(From Ramsay's History of the Revolution in South Carolina.)

As soon as the American army obtained repossession of the country, the inhabitants after returning to their former allegiance resolutely put all to risk in support of independence. Though the British, in the career of their conquests, had inculcated the necessity and propriety of transferring allegiance from the vanquished to the victor, yet they treated with the utmost severity those unfortunate men, when in their power, who, having once accepted of British protection acted on those very principles in afterwards rejoicing their victorious countrymen.

Among the sufferers on this score, the illustrious Col. Hayne stands conspicuous. During the siege of Charleston that gentleman served his country in a corps of military horse. After the capitulation, there being no American army in the State, and the prospect of one being both distant and uncertain, no alternative was left but either to abandon his family, and property, or to

surrender to the conquerors. This hard dilemma, together with well founded information, that others in similar circumstances had been paroled to their plantations, weighed with Col. Hayne so far as to induce a conclusion that, instead of waiting to be captured, it would be both more safe and more honorable to come within the British lines and surrender himself a voluntary prisoner. Reports made of his superior influence and abilities, uniformly exerted in the American cause, operated with the conquerors to refuse him a parole, though they were in the habit of daily granting that indulgence to others of the inhabitants. To his great astonishment he was told, "that he must either become a British subject, or submit to close confinement." To be arrested and detained in the capital, was to himself not an intolerable evil; but to abandon both his family to the small pox, a disease then raging in the neighborhood, and which in a short time after proved mortal to his wife and two children, and to the insults and depredations of the royal army, was too much for a tender husband and fond parent. To acknowledge himself the subject of a King whose government he had from principle renounced, was repugnant to his feelings; but without this he was off from every prospect of a return to his family. In this embarrassing situation he waited on the author of his history, with a declaration to the following effect: "If the British would grant me the indulgence which we, in the day of our power, gave their adherents, of removing my family and property, I would seek an asylum in the remotest corner of the United States rather than submit to their government; but as they allow no other alternative than submission or confinement in the capital, at a distance from my wife and family, at a time when they are in the most pressing need for my presence and support. I must for the present yield to the demands of the conquerors, I request you to bear in mind, that previous to my taking this step. I declare, that it is contrary to my inclination, and forced on me by hard necessity. I never will bear arms against my country. My new masters can require no service of me but what is enjoined by the old militia law of the province, which substitutes a fine in lieu of personal service. That I will pay as the price of my protection. If my conduct should be censured by my countrymen, I beg that you would remember this conversation and bear witness for me, that I do not mean to desert the cause of America."

In this state of distress Col. Hayne subscribed to a declaration of his allegiance to the King of Great Britain, but not without expressly objecting to the clause which required him "with his arms to support the Royal government." The commandant of the garrison, Brigadier General Patterson, and James Simpson, Intendant of the British police, assured him that this would never be required, and added farther, "that when the regular forces could not defend the country without the aid of its inhabitants, it would be high time for the Royal army to quit."

Having submitted to their government, he readily obtained permission to return to his family. In violation of the special conditions under which he subscribed the declaration of his allegiance, he was repeatedly called on to take arms against his countrymen, and was finally threatened with close confinement in case of farther refusal. This open breach of contract, together with the inability of the late conquerors to give him that protection which was as a compensation for his allegiance, the Americans having regained that part of the State in which he resided, induced him, to consider himself released from all engagements to the British commanders. The inhabitants of the neighborhood, who had also revolted, subscribed a petition to Gen. Pickens, praying that Col. Hayne might be appointed to the command of the regiment. Having resumed his arms, and the tide of conquest being fairly turned in the short space of thirteen months after the surrender of Charleston, he was sent in the month of July, 1781, with a small party to reconnoitre. They penetrated within seven miles of the capital—took General Williamson prisoner, and retreated to the head quarters of the regiment. This was the same Williamson, who having been an active and useful officer in the militia of South Carolina from the commencement of the war to the surrender of Charleston in May, 1780, became, soon after that event, a British subject. Such was the anxiety of the British commandant to rescue General Williamson, that he ordered his whole cavalry on this business. Col. Hayne unfortunately fell in to their hands. Though he had conducted himself peaceably while under the British government, and had injured no man yet for having resumed his arms, for accepting British protection, he was, when brought to Charleston, confined in a loathsome provost. At first, he was promised a trial, and had counsel prepared to justify his conduct by the laws of nations and usage of war; but this was finally refused. Had he been considered as a British subject, he had an undoubted right to a trial—if an American officer, to his parole; but in violation of every principle of the constitution, he was ordered for execution by the arbitrary mandate of Lord Rawdon and Lieut. Col. Balfour.

The Royal Lieutenant Governor Bull, and a great number of inhabitants, both Loyalists and Americans, interceded for his life. The ladies of Charleston generally signed a petition in his behalf, in which was introduced every delicate sentiment that was likely to operate on the gallantry of officers or the humanity of men. His children, accompanied by some near relations were presented on their bended knees as humble suitors for their father's life. Such powerful intercessions were made in his favor as touched many an unfeeling heart, and drew tears from many a hard eye; but Lord Rawdon and Lieutenant Colonel Balfour were inflexible.

After his fate was fixed, he was repeatedly visited by his friends, and conversed on various subjects with the fortitude of a man, a philosopher and a christian. He particularly lamented that on principles of reciprocal retaliation, his execution would



probably be an introduction to the shedding of so much innocent blood. His children who had lost their parent, were brought to him in the place of his confinement, and received from his lips the dying advice of an affectionate father. On the last evening of his life he told a friend, "that he was no more alarmed at the thoughts of death than at any other occurrence that was necessary and unavoidable." He requested those in whom the supreme power was vested, to accommodate the mode of his death to his feelings as an officer; but this was refused.

On the morning of the fatal day, on receiving his summons to proceed to the place of execution, he delivered some papers to his eldest son, a youth of about thirteen years of age—"Present," said he, "these papers to Mrs. Edwards, with my request that she would forward them to her brother in Congress. You will next repair to the place of my execution—receive my body, and see it decently interred among my forefathers." They took a final leave. The procession began from the Exchange, in the forenoon of the fourth of August, 1781. The streets were crowded with thousands of anxious spectators. He walked to the place of execution with such decent firmness, composure and dignity, as to awaken the compassion of many, and to command respect from all. There was a majesty in his suffering which rendered him superior to the pangs of death. When the city barrier was past and the instrument of his catastrophe appeared in full view, a faithful friend by his side observed to him, "that he hoped he would exhibit an example of the manner in which an American could die!"—He answered with the utmost tranquillity, "I will endeavour to do so." He ascended the cart with a firm step and a serene aspect. He enquired of the executioner, who was making an attempt to get up to pull the cap over his eyes, "what he wanted?" Upon being informed of his design, the Colonel replied, "I will save you the trouble," and pulled it over himself. He was afterwards asked whether he wished to say any thing, to which he answered, "I will only take leave of my friends, and be ready." He then affectionately shook hands with three gentlemen—recommended his children to their care—and then gave the signal to the cart to move.

Thus fell in the bloom of life a brave officer, a worthy citizen, a just and upright man, furnishing an example of heroism in death that extorted a confession from his enemies, "that though he did not die in a good cause, he must at least have acted from a persuasion of its being so."

The regular officers of the continental army presented a petition to General Greene, requesting that he would retake for the execution of Colonel Hayne. By this they voluntarily subjected themselves to all the consequences, to which, in case of capture they would be exposed. General Greene soon after issued a proclamation, threatening to make British officers the object of retaliation. This encouraged the revolted inhabitants to continue in arms, and effaced every expression that was expected from the fate of Colonel Hayne. The British interest gained no permanent advantage, while pity and revenge sharpened the swords of the countrymen and friends of the much loved sufferer.

Had this execution taken place four or five months sooner, the policy of the measure, as tending to prevent a revolt, would have been some apology for it; but after Lord Rawdon was driven from almost the whole of his posts in the country, and the people had generally resumed their arms in favor of America, it had more the appearance of the revenge of a disappointed savage, than of the political severity of a conqueror.

## Joel Barlow, Esq.

The following Biographical Notice of our late Minister, Mr. Barlow, was prepared for some of the public papers of Europe, and has been forwarded to a distinguished citizen of this country by one of its authors. Translated from the French for the Richmond Enquirer.

Biographical notice of Mr. Barlow minister plenipotentiary from the United States of America to the Court of France.

The friends of humanity, on the two Continents, have just ground to lament the loss of Mr. Barlow.

He was born in the year 1757, at Reading, in the province, now state of Connecticut.

He was the youngest of ten children.

He studied first at Dartmouth college, New Hampshire, and afterwards at that of New Haven in his native state, Connecticut.

The war of the Independence of America broke out in the year 1776.

Mr. Barlow was as yet a student, and began to distinguish himself by pieces both in verse and prose, one of which was an elegy on the death of Mr. Holmer, a member of Congress and Supreme Judge of the United States court of appeals.

In the vacation he took up his musket and went to join his four brothers, who were in the American army, to fight along with them for his country's freedom. He was at the very warm action of York-Island, where the Americans losing the field, made an honorable retreat, after which they repaired their misfortune.

He was engaged in a course of law, when the fame of his learning and industry caused him to be appointed Chaplain of brigade in the army by the State of Massachusetts.

He received ordination which among the Presbyterians, is no more than a civil form, and an impediment at no time to the embracing of any other state.

In his capacity of chaplain he attended the army till the peace of 1783.

In the tent it was that he began his poem of the Columbiad, the only epic that the United have as yet produced.

By a zeal at once enlightened, pious and undaunted, he gained the friendship of the highest public characters in the nation both civil and military; departments by no means incompatible in the American Republic.

But a far more interesting to his heart was the connexion which he formed in 1781, with Miss Baldwin of New Haven, sister to the senator of that name.

After the peace, Mr. Barlow resumed the study of the law, and in 1785 entered the Bar, where he practised with considerable success, and acquired uncommon celebrity; the joint and natural result of extensive legal knowledge, and shining literary talents.

The first edition of his *Vision of Columbus*, he published in 1787, and in the same year he passed a second in England.

This raised the author's reputation still higher in America and spread it over Europe, which he had occasion to visit the following year.

A wealthy and respectable company had purchased from the United States between 3 and 4 million acres of land, on the banks of the Ohio.

A part of those lands they wished to sell to foreigners, and to divide the remainder among their stockholders.

Mr. Barlow was concerned in them; and he agreed to go to France to effect a negotiation to that purpose, which succeeded so well, that in seventeen years after, the colony of Ohio contained a population of seventy thousand inhabitants, being at this day an independent state forming a part of the general confederation.

To be in France at that period, and not sensibly affected by the revolution, was a thing impossible for Mr. Barlow; and while he admired the energy with which it was conducted, he was filled with detestation of the disorders it occasioned. He tried to soften its horrors, and compose the animosity of party political pieces, for which he has the honor in return, of being nominated a French citizen, together with his countrymen, the great Washington, General Hamilton and Sir James Mackintosh.

We have before us, at this moment, three pieces that he has published, which show how closely in his mind and heart were interwoven the love of his country, a real concern for France and the best principles of civilization.

The first is a letter of the 4th of February, 1799, to the Executive Directory.

The next is one to his fellow-citizens, of the 4th of March following, on the system of policy then pursued by their government, and the third letter is addressed to them, on certain political measures proposed for their consideration; that is of the 20th of December, 1799.

To it he has annexed a memorial on maritime laws, in which he lays down, with strength and perspicuity, the principles which France has been so long contending for against England.

He is surprised that the bary powers show themselves in this respect more civilized than the most celebrated people of Europe.

They recognize the principle, that the flag truly neutral ought to cover the merchandise. They do not make war without having declared it. And after the declaration, they allow a delay of thirty days in the Mediterranean, and a longer term on the ocean, before they commence hostilities.

These were facts known to Mr. B. He had then returned from Algiers, Tunis and Tripoli, to which places he was appointed minister plenipotentiary by President Washington, and in which, surmounting the extreme difficulty of treating between a free people and barbarian regencies, he had concluded, notwithstanding the opposition of England, the three first treaties, by which those governments bound themselves to respect the navigation and commerce of the United States.

On his return to America, he engaged, in 1805, in the plan, which Mr. Jefferson had conceived, of establishing a University at the City of Washington, for the purpose of affording the youth of the United States an education, suitable, comprehensive, and uniform; calculated to promote, by a correspondence of attainments, that harmony which it is so important to maintain between the different members of the Union.

His friend *Du Pont de Nemours* had already, in 1800, at the request of the same Magistrate, composed a work on the same subject and on the same principles, from which several extracts have been lately given to the public in the *Annals of Education* reduced by Mr. Guizot.

This assemblage of the united labours of several philosophers animated by the same spirit, will, it is to be hoped, be productive of general advantage. And it must be allowed that public education has already made a very remarkable progress in United America.

In 1811, his Excellency Mr. Madison, the present Chief Magistrate of the United States, appointed Mr. Barlow their Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of France. That choice, made by the American government, has had the approbation of the seventeen United States. It was determined by the known qualifications of the statesman, which Mr. B. combined with other advantages; he had rendered services to both nations; he was, by law, a citizen of both countries; he was desirous of being useful to both; he considered them as having the same interests, as national allies; in a word, he possessed the great advantage of not having forgotten, that American independence had been strenuously forwarded by French generosity and valour.

In his manner of negotiating, Mr. B. was uncommonly steadfast; distinguished by a primitive simplicity and firmness, which, though the European politicians might regard them as of the

other world, were by no means displeasing because they were accompanied with reason and candor.

The eloquence of his country has little of the loftiness of style, but is rich in observation and powerful in argument. It comes more to the point even than that of the English from which it is derived.

It descends less into particulars, and disposes them more judiciously in their proper place. It is supposed that the principal articles of the treaty were agreed upon and were sufficient to re-establish mutual good will, but that it was judged expedient on both sides not to conclude without having communicated those grounds to the American government. How far these opinions may be well founded or otherwise, nobody can tell; they are affairs of state. Mr. B. was called to Wilna to confer with the Duke of Basano upon them. Returning thence, he travelled right and day, trusting too much to the strength of his constitution, when the opposite extremes of the intense cold of the climate, and the excessive and no less dreadful heat of the small houses of Jews, which, in Poland, are the only taverns, produced a violent inflammation in his breast, of which he died at Zampowic, near Cracow—a victim to his duty, his courage and his zeal.

Such, generally, in times of turbulence and exigency, is the fate of illustrious men; and particularly of those who good fortune it is to be blessed with a companion of the first order, such as the disconsolate Madam Barlow.

Two passions, deep, noble, and honorable, receive twofold accretions or strength, the one from the other: so it is with the principle of *public spirit* and the *lasting affection* of a well matched couple. The man wishes to merit his reward; and the woman enjoys it at the risk of the most bitter woes. This is the expense at which the best and greatest of mankind match themselves. Of this they may assure themselves before hand! They will experience the sweetest comforts and the most afflicting distresses. But they will rank among the most exalted, most estimable of their species. It is necessary to be prepared to undergo both destinies. Let no one pretend to become a hero of history, if he feel not the courage of a hero of romance! And let none presume to imagine himself the latter, if he possess not the great sense, strong resolutions, masculine virtues and dignified character of the former.

O. & D. P. de N.

## Captain William Hall.

*From a Charleston paper.*

DIED—at the High Hills of Santee, on the second of February 1814, Captain William Hall aged about fifty-seven years.

Another of those characters, who were conspicuous in our revolutionary struggle, and from whom we derived our independence, as a free people, has descended to the silent tomb. At the commencement of our resistance to British usurpation, the subject of this notice was detained in England, from whence he made his escape, and arrived in Boston, where he immediately entered on board an American privateer, called the True Blue, commissioned as second lieutenant. During several cruises, the privateer was successful and considerably annoyed the enemy. He afterwards came to his native city, where he received a prompt and honorable call in the service of his country. On the second day after his arrival he was commissioned as lieutenant on board the Notre Dame, a brig of war, in the service of the state, carrying eighteen six pounders. She was quickly dispatched for sea, and in a few days after leaving port, fell in with a British brig of sixteen guns, which, after an action of twenty-five minutes, struck to the Notre Dame. She proved to be a valuable prize, loaded with dry goods. Lieutenant Hall was put on board the brig, as prizemaster, and after escaping from the Daphne frigate, in a lengthy chase, arrived safe in Georgetown. Captain Seymour, who then commanded the Notre Dame, resigned, and the command was given to Lieutenant Hall, who at the time was but twenty years of age.

Early in 1778 Captain Hall was ordered with the Notre Dame to join the squadron which sailed from this port, under the command of Captain Biddle, in the Randolph frigate of thirty-six guns, together with the ship General Moultrie of twenty-guns, Captain Sullivan; the brig Polly, Captain Anthony; and the brig Fair American, Captain Morgan. During the cruise they fell in with the Yarmouth, a British sixty-four gun ship, which Captain Biddle engaged, and whilst the different vessels were bearing down to the respective stations assigned them, the Randolph blew up. They were in consequence obliged to separate and make every effort to escape from a superior force. The situation of the Notre Dame was peculiarly exposed and dangerous, being under the stern of the enemy, and required the exercise of much prudence and skill to avoid capture, or destruction from the combustible matter which fell on board, and the severe fire to which she was exposed. The Notre Dame was chased for several hours. After having escaped from the enemy, she continued her cruise, and captured eleven prizes, three of which were of a Jamaica fleet under convoy; one of the prizes was a ship of twenty guns, captured near the Isle of Pine—carried by boarding. Captain Hall was employed in the expedition to retake Savannah, and took an active and conspicuous part in landing the troops from the French fleet under Count D'Estaing. He was in Charleston, when it capitulated to the British, and of course was made a prisoner; whilst in that character, and under parole, he was, with upwards of sixty others, sent to St. Augustine as hostages, where

they remained until regularly exchanged.

After the conclusion of the war, Captain Hall entered the merchant's service, and commanded several vessels out of this port. By his industry and assiduity, in a few years, he acquired an independent fortune, which enabled him to return from the sea, and enjoy the fruits of a laborious profession. Since his residence on shore he discharged with fidelity every public duty to which he was called. He served many years as one of the wardens of the city, and as a commissioner in different institutions under the corporation.

## Lieutenant Wilcox.

*From a Natchez Paper.*

DIED—on the fifteenth of February, 1814, First Lieutenant Joseph M. Wilcox, of the third regiment United States' infantry, about twenty-one years of age, a native of the state of Connecticut, but lately a resident of the state of Ohio.

Lieutenant Wilcox had volunteered his services to descend the Cahaba and Alabama rivers from the Cahaba towns, for the purpose of taking back two boats which were ascending the river with provisions for the troops under Lieut. Col. Russel. He started under cover of the night, with a corporal and one man of the third infantry, and one of Major Dale's militia, in a small canoe; in the dark they run on a log, upset the canoe and got nearly all their ammunition wet—they however righted the canoe and proceeded on: the next day they were driven on shore by about twenty Indians in two canoes—so soon as they reached the bank the militia man took to the canoe and could not be halted. Lieutenant Wilcox, with his two men, exchanged two rounds with the Indians and compelled them to retreat, leaving several of their party dead on the bank—they took with them the Lieutenant's canoe. The next morning he made a raft to cross the Alabama, or to float down under cover of the night as might best suit his purposes; in crossing the river the raft nearly sunk, wet all the ammunition they had save two cartridges, and lost one of their muskets, and the corporal broke his bayonet in the action of the day before. In this deplorable situation they were again attacked by a party of six Indians; they made battle, but for the want of ammunition they could not contend with such a superior force. Lieutenant Wilcox was shot through the body and Corporal Simpson through the knee—wounded as he was he made to the canoe of the Indians, and called to his only remaining man to bring the corporal in his arms to the canoe—he then jumped into the canoe with a view of killing an Indian which remained there for the protection of the canoe.

His object was to get his men in the canoe and endeavor to get off, but the Indians pursued them too close, and Lieutenant Wilcox and the corporal were both taken prisoners—the soldier made off unhurt.—Soon after the boats which he had been in search of, came in sight—the Indians fled, and left the victims with their hatchets and arms in the canoe. The were taken on board the boats and carried to Fort Claiborne, but both of them expired on the evening of the fifteenth. The private soldier got in safe, and from him the above information has been received.

To the misfortune of losing their ammunition and musket, and the dastardly conduct of the militia man, may be attributed the death of this gallant young officer and his brave corporal.

They were interred on the seventeenth of February at Fort Claiborne on the Alabama river, with the military honors due to brave and gallant men.

## General John Swift.

*From the Ontario Messenger.*

ON Tuesday the twelfth July, 1814, near Queenston, in Upper Canada, died the brave and gallant Brigadier General John Swift, a resident of this county. He was second in command in the corps of volunteers under General P. B. Porter and was inhumanly assassinated by a British soldier whom he had taken prisoner. The circumstances, as stated in a letter from an officer in the army, (one of General Brown's staff,) to his friend in this place, were as follows:

"On Tuesday the mounted volunteers at the suggestion of General Swift, was ordered to scour the country in every direction. At night, General Swift having intercepted some public documents, sent one of his men with them to General Brown with information that he was within a mile and a half of Fort George, had discovered the strength and position of their advanced picket, and was determined to capture it. The next we heard was, that having surrounded the picket, General Swift demanded a surrender. They all surrendered at once, excepting one, who refused. General Swift then presented his piece and said he would fire, the British soldier immediately exclaimed 'I surrender.' After General Swift had lowered his piece, the soldier fired, and shot the General through the left arm and breast General Swift observed, 'It was nothing,' and formed his men in order to meet a patrol of the enemy who had advanced. He had not proceeded far before he fell, and in less than half an hour expired. In him, the army lost a valuable member and his country a real patriot and an honest man. Since his junction with us he

has been noted for his zeal, enterprize, and intrepidity. He was this afternoon (13th) buried with all the honors which an admiring army could pay him."

To these encomiums on the character of our fellow-citizen, we most cheerfully subscribe. The commencement of the revolutionary war found General John Swift in the ranks of the immortal patriots of our country. He served in different capacities in the army during our revolutionary struggle, and was in many of the most daring actions. He resided in *Wyoming*, a place celebrated in our history for the incursions of the savages, and hurried measures, where he was engaged in all the difficulties and dangers of such a conflict. When peace returned he retired to agricultural employments, and was as useful and respectable there as he had been brave and dauntless in the field. From the present conflict he for some time kept aloof, until convinced that the essential and undoubted rights of his country were at stake, disclaiming the trammels of party, and devoted solely to that country whose independence he had bled to obtain, he left the endearments of private life, and volunteered his services in the field of battle. Deeply as we would lament his loss at any time, it is peculiarly distressing at the time and in the manner in which he fell. To have fallen in battle would have satisfied his noble spirit. As it is, he has exhibited an example which will have its effect; that of a warm and decided opponent of the present administration coming forward to support and engage in a war which he was convinced required and demanded the united exertions of all true Americans, to preserve their independence and to maintain their rights.

*"Peace to the soul of the Hero."*

*From the American.*

## To the memory of General Swift.

When a brave man sleeps in death, in the lap of glory, his Country mourns the hero's fate; the Muse strings her lyre, and beneath the yew and cypress, sounds her plaintive notes—joy gives place to sorrow, and nought is sung but the deeds of the warrior slain; a patriot nation bedews his grave with the tears of sincere regret; the patriot poet chaunts his praise, and the historian's pen engraves his deeds on the page of immortal fame.

### *The tomb of the brave—an ode,*

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE

## DEATH OF GENERAL SWIFT.

When darkness prevailed, and loud in the air  
No warbling was heard through the deep silence yelling,  
Till fiery, like lions just wild from their lair,  
Our Chiefs found the foe on their slumbers propelling;  
While the mantle of night  
Hid the Savage from sight,  
Undismayed were our warriors slain in the fight,  
But the laurel shall ever continue to wave,  
And glory thus bloom o'er the tomb of the brave.

Brave Swift, legitimate offspring of talent and fame,  
Though new to the war, rushed to battle undaunted  
And ere, bearing death, the dread rille's ball came,  
In the breast of the foe, thy weapon he planted,  
Gallant Swift adieu!  
Tears thy destiny drew,  
But vet o'er thy body shall tremble the yew,  
For the laurel shall ever continue to wave,  
And glory thus bloom o'er the tomb of the brave.

Great Pike, too bold from the fight to remain,  
Rushed on to the foe, every soldier's heart firing;  
But he sinks, in the blood of his foes, on the curtain,  
The pale lamp of life in its sockets expiring;  
Closed in death are his eyes,  
And lamented he lies,  
Yet o'er the sad spot shall no cypress arise,  
But the laurel forever continue to wave,  
And glory thus bloom o'er the tomb of the brave.

Long Warwick, M<sup>r</sup> Mahan, and Spencer, and Bacon,  
And Berry, mid darkness, their banners defended;  
But when day drew the curtain of night they were seen  
Covered o'er with the blood of the Savage extended;  
Though freedom may weep  
Where they mouldering sleep,  
Yet shall valor their death as a jubilee keep,  
For the laurel shall ever continue to wave,  
And glory thus bloom o'er the tomb of the brave.

Yet chiefs of the Britons, who gallantly fought,  
And fearlessly head the dread storm of war rattle;  
Who lived to see conquest so terribly bought,  
While your brothers were lost in the uproar of battle;  
Still fearless remain,  
And though stretched on the plain,  
You shall rise on the records of freedom again,

For the laurel shall ever continue to wave,  
And glory thus bloom o'er the tomb of the brave.

Ye sons of Columbia, when danger is nigh,  
And liberty calls round her standard to rally,  
For your country, your wives and your children to die,  
Resolve undismayed on oppression to rally;  
Every hero secure

That his fame shall endure,  
Till eternity time in oblivion immure,  
For the laurel shall ever continue to wave,  
And glory thus bloom o'er the tomb of the brave.

COLONEL D. AD to GENERAL MOREAU.

## Midshipman Cowan.

On James' Island, in the South Pacific Ocean, on the 10th of August, 1817, Midshipman JOHN S. COWAN, late of the United States' Navy. At the time of his decease, he was acting Lieutenant on board the United States' frigate *Essex*, to which post he had been temporarily appointed by his gallant commander, in consideration of his high, professional merit, and his enthusiastic devotion to the service of his country.—He possessed in an eminent degree the esteem and confidence of his commander, and of his brother Officers generally, and gave the strongest indications of future greatness; in his profession; promising at once to become an honor to his country and his family; but, alas! his destiny was otherwise ordered. An unhappy dispute with a brother officer, (Lieut. Gabel of the marines) led on to a duel, in which fell the subject of this article. The intelligence of this distressing event occasioned the deepest regret in Captain Porter; no previous intimation of any misunderstanding between the parties had been received by him or he would at once prevented the catastrophe that ensued. All that remained for him was to lament, what it was now too late to remedy, and to pay every mark of respect to his remains, which were entombed with the honors of war, on the Island before mentioned. In a strange and remote part of the world he fell, far from his kindred and his native soil; but his grave was hallowed by the tears of his countrymen, and his brave associates in arms. A neat and simple structure was raised to point out to the stanger who might visit the Island, the spot of earth where he remains rested; and on it were inscribed, by his friend, Lieutenant M<sup>r</sup> Knight, the following monumental lines:—

Sacred to the Memory  
Of Lieutenant JOHN S. COWAN,  
Of the U. S. frigate *Essex*,  
Who died here, Anno. 1813,  
Aged 21 years.  
His loss is ever to be regretted  
By his Country,  
And mourned by his Friends  
And Brother Officers.

## Colonel Richard M. Johnson.

*From the Democratic Press.*

In the progress of the present war, the brilliant exploits of the naval heroes of independent America have claimed for them distinguished and merited notice. Those of them who, covered with glory, have descended to the tomb, and those who live to receive the applause and honour of their country, have employed alike the pen of the biographer, the eloquence of the orator and the genius of the poet. It is the glory of our nation that instances of rival merit are not wanting in the military service. All the virtues which constitute the hero and the patriot have been there displayed with conspicuous lustre.

Why literary notice has not been extended to the latter in an equal degree we shall not now enquire; not however because we think the reason of difficult discovery. While a Pike, a Covington, and a Baekus, whose honours bloom around their sepulchres, and a Shelby, a Desha, a Pierce, a Croghan, and a host of compeers, who live to receive the grateful plaudits of their country, put in their strong claims for notice, our present object is to render an act of justice to a citizen, whom his country may justly consider as eminent in the camp and in the cabinet. That citizen is Colonel Johnson of Kentucky.

Colonel Johnson's father was one of the earliest settlers of that respectable state, who, with no other resources than a daring spirit and an independent mind, associated with a land of heroes to cultivate a luxuriant wilderness, and convert its ferocious and hostile inhabitants. Colonel Johnson was among the first-born white natives of this favoured and fertile region. His infancy was rocked in the cradle of alarm and the extremest danger, and his breast had learned to glow with the fire of heroism ere yet his years had ranked him a man, and nothing but opportunity was wanting to demonstrate his devotion to his country. The father having to struggle with narrow means to rear and educate a numerous family, could form no other prospect for his son than that of fitting him to win his way by toilsome and persevering industry. At the green age of sixteen, Colonel Johnson's active and aspiring mind began to form other schemes more suited to give it scope and usefulness. He now parted with his father, zi-

most against his will, entirely against his wishes, and, by alternate attention to business and study, qualified himself for the bar. In the mean time the independent and steady principles and zeal for the public good, which shone forth in the opening mind of young Johnson lay not unnoticed by his fellow citizens. Even before he arrived at mature age their free and unbiased suffrages placed him in the legislature of his native state the first native-born Kentuckian who had received that honour. On this theatre a new scene presented itself. Here he had to try his untried wings as a public debator, among a group of associates honourably distinguished for learning, experience and talents. Though, as a speaker, Colonel Johnson does not possess all the qualifications which form the accomplished orator, yet when his feelings, which have great susceptibility, are awakened, and his heart is engaged, he displays an animation and a force which will at all times command attention, and often leaves a deep impression. In the state legislature he acquired the esteem of many of his associates, and the respect of all. By his uprightness and activity he excited the best hopes of his constituents, and at the same time secured their confidence. Before his years made him eligible, he was chosen by them to congress. Entered on this new field, he found the foreground of opposition in the possession of men who joined to respectable talents great garulous powers and considerable experience. He took his station in the majority, among able co-operators, with a fearless though modest spirit, and though in the ardor of intemperate party debates his generous indignation was often aroused, he was never found forgetful of the respect due to others and himself. The firm tone of mind and the increasing reputation of Mr. Johnson procured for him, what unfortunately, but too often follows merit—envy, malice and party rancour assailed him at home. But there his was the good man's triumph. Both as a citizen and a public agent his assailants were taught to respect in him a steadiness and resolution no machinations could shake nor menaces intimidate. As a public debator he repelled the reproaches and refuted the calumnies of his antagonists with firmness, but also with decorum. Towards his constituents he was liberal and respectful. His generous aid was always commanded for his friends. No one more readily acknowledged the merit of others, or more cheerfully extended the hand of encouragement to his less experienced brethren.

At the commencement of the 12th Congress, when the disputes between this country and Britain had become incurable by any remedy but war, Colonel Johnson was among those who in argument assumed the responsibility of declaring for it with alacrity. In recounting the injuries England had done this country, he spoke of her instigation of the savages to hostility. "If," said Mr. John Randolph, in reply, "the gentleman from Kentucky will prove his assertions, I will join him in an expedition to Canada to avenge the wrong." At the succeeding session when proofs of the fact to demonstration had been multiplied, Colonel Johnson called on Mr. Randolph to redeem his pledge, but the call has as yet disregarded.

In the autumn of the year 1812, after Hull's shameful and traitorous sacrifice of his army, Colonel Johnson led a company of Kentucky volunteers under the command of General Harrison, to the relief of Fort Wayne. The foe having retired at the close of that campaign, the Colonel repaired to his seat in Congress, where he bestowed his usual unremitting attention to the subjects that came under deliberation, particularly on questions connected with the prosecution of the war, and on the celebrated question of remitting the merchant's bonds. Amidst these pursuits he found time, however, to add to his stock of military information. Before he left the seat of government he arranged with the Secretary of War, the plan of raising a thousand mounted volunteers to join the north western army, and carried away his commission in his pocket. On opening his rendezvous he had the gratification to realize his expectations in rallying his fellow-citizens around their country's standard. In the mean time he had been re-elected to Congress, and the session was about to open for the important purpose of laying taxes. His warmest friends seemed inclined to think he was bound to take his seat, and gave that opinion. He at the same moment was about to engage in a dangerous service, in a subordinate command, which might subject him to disagreeable responsibility and mortification. But his resolution was unalterably taken, and he repaired to the field, which for a long time promised few laurels. This time however was wisely employed in disciplining his corps, the important advantage of which was most happily illustrated in the battle of the Thames. The official letter of General Harrison to the Secretary of War, has made known how honorable a part the regiment has sustained in that conflict. The regulars of the enemy were vanquished at a single, though a desperate and hazardous charge. When the routed line of their savage allies was about to be rallied for a new conflict by their leader Tecumseh, Colonel Johnson seeing the necessity of a bold and instant onset, repaired to the spot where this force was assembling with a daring band of followers. Advancing, they received a most destructive fire from them, which deprived Colonel Johnson of his friend, the intrepid and venerable Colonel Wheatly, who fell by his side. After the fire but one man remained on horseback near the Colonel. This man escaped this imminent exposure unhurt. The Colonel himself was pierced with four bullets. At this instant he saw the savage chief (Tecumseh as since appears) present his rifle at his breast at not more than 12 yards distance. With a resolution rare in so great a peril, he faced his horse upon him and received the ball, by this change of posture, in his left hand. The savage drew his tomahawk, and the Colonel attempted to spur his horse to meet him. He wore a spur only on his left

foot, and having received three gun shot wounds on his side, he was unable to use it. His horse too pierced with many wounds, advanced slowly upon his adversary. In these moments of danger, he, with heroic presence of mind, preserved his right arm from exposure, by keeping it close to his side. In that hand he carried a well charged pistol. The eyes of his antagonist were fixed upon him with the fiercest intent, and his hand in the act to throw his deadly weapon at five yards distance. For a moment the savage shrank with terror at this unexpected danger, and that moment the Colonel lodged its contents in his bosom. He fell, and his warriors gave up the contest instantly. Colonel Johnson bow retired to his lines for in this moment of peril, he had been in advance, faint with the loss of blood, which streamed from five wounds. The horse he rode expired, pierced with 15 bullets, and his coat was literally torn to tatters by the balls of the enemy.

During the return of the army the Colonel was exposed to an inclement and stormy sky, in an open boat for four days, decending to Portage in the state of Ohio. His uncomfortable situation and the torture arising from his inflamed wounds was such as truly to put a hero's soul to trial. On landing, however, painful as his case was, he resolved to prosecute his journey home without delay. By this step he hazarded little less than in the battle, though happily he effected it without material injury. On his return he had the gratification to be every where received with the utmost kindness and attention. It was controversy among his fellow-citizens who should give fealty and comfort to him as he passed. On the 12th of November he reached his residence, where he received that welcome from parents and friends that is the reward of merit and virtue. His recovery from his wounds was so rapid that on the 12th of February, he set out for the seat of government attended only by his servant. He started under much debility of body, but he continued to acquire strength during his journey which he performed in seventeen days. As he passed along wherever he was known, he was rewarded as became the brave. Arrived at the capital of the Union, not the gallant and fortunate Perry was hailed with more flattering approbation or more marked distinction. The naval hero had achieved the wreath of triumph without a wound, though he passed through perils that made the event little less than a miracle; but the military commander equally successful in vanquishing his country's enemies, bore on his mutilated frame the honourable testimony of the mighty dangers through which he had passed to victory. By a resolution and presence of mind never surpassed, he slew his ferocious adversary hand to hand, while the latter had greatly the advantage in weapon. His valorous deeds reflected not more lustre on his character than did the modesty with which he sustained his country's applause. In this the two illustrious competitors for fame were equal. That constancy of soul which bore them through doubtful battle, was equally conspicuous under the well-earned praise bestowed upon them by their grateful countrymen. Of five wounds received by Colonel Johnson, four were severe and dangerous. He survives, a monument of the wondrous goodness of a Guardian Providence. Deep and severe as his wounds have been, there is room for strong hope that he will eventually recover comfortable bodily vigour, and that he may long be useful to his country.

June 18th, 1814.

## Major Montgomery.

From the Nashville Clarion.

While we congratulate the nation on the success which has crowned our arms, it is with no small emotion, that we record the untimely loss of the gallant Major LEMUEL P. MONTGOMERY, of the 39th regiment United States' Infantry, in the battle of Techojiski.

His loss will be deplored, while departed greatness commands a tear. This was the first military exploit of our hero. He was a youth of about twenty-five years of age, and had just attained a stand of eminence and distinction at the bar. Possessed of a mind bold and energetic, and a genius that had begun to expand itself in all the richness of intellectual refinement, with prospects in life the most alluring and flattering, he abandoned his professional pursuits for the more immediate service of his country, and sought for renown in the rude din of arms. Military distinction had been the subject of his reveries, and the pride of his ambition. From him the highest expectations were entertained; and his amiable and regular deportment through life, excited the warmest interest in his success.

The greatest bravery was displayed in the tragic scene which closed his existence. He led on the assault at the head of his division, with a promptitude and decision of character which cannot be surpassed. So soon as he reached the breastworks, with his pistol he dispatched an Indian on the opposite side; in the act of scaling the walls he huzzaced, and called on his men to press on—at that instant he received a ball through his head, which immediately terminated his existence; a placid smile reigned in his countenance, in the expiring moments of dissolution.

Another Montgomery has fallen! while virtue, patriotism and bravery are the pinions of immortality—the name of our Montgomery will be cherished in the bosoms of the good and great, and be handed to posterity as one of the heroes of the American Republic.

### Capt. Ambrose Spencer.

It is with pain we have to announce the death of Captain AMBROSE SPENCER, jun. late aid-de-camp to major-general Brown. He died on Friday last, of the wounds he received at the battle of Bridgewater.

*Albany Argus.*

A correspondent offers the following tribute to the memory of this highly esteemed officer.

“One who has well known this young officer, especially since he has been one of the aids of major-general Brown, and knows from the best sources, somewhat of his gallant conduct in the army, and particularly in the battle of Niagara, in which he was, cannot forbear to offer a tribute, however inadequate, to his character and actions. The general with whom he has acted and suffered, will hereafter do him justice. He possessed by nature the most energetic mind, the most generous feelings, and amiable dispositions, polished and elated by an excellent nurture and education; and cherished at home by a kind and indulgent father, and his fond relatives, he could find, but in his own breast, and his fond of his country, motives sufficiently strong to urge him into a career of danger. In the hour of a most bloody conflict with a brave and veteran foe, the generous and noble motives of his bosom have found an ample exposition. Faithful to his trust and to his country, he neither feared nor avoided danger. Though few particulars of his late scene are known, it is understood that the moment of victory had almost arrived, when he received two wounds in his body which have proved mortal, and was carried from the field of battle.

The example which he has presented to his young countrymen, of prompt and active patriotism, and bravery in the service of his injured and insulted country, ought to press deep into their hearts, and never to be forgotten. If his career on earth is closed, his friends and his country will remember, that though short, it has been glorious—and his name and his deeds will be engraven on that ever-enduring tablet which preserves and perpetuates the fame of the fallen patriots and heroes of our country.

### Captain A. F. Hull.

Among those who fell in the battle of Bridgewater, we lament to find recorded the name of Capt. ABRAHAM F. HULL, of the 9th regiment. Whether his death be considered in relation to his immediate friends, or as it regards the loss of a brave and valuable officer, the tear of pity will not cease to flow—the pang of regret will not be subdued.

In commemorating departed worth, little is gained by stating that it was adorned by a classical education, or heightened by civil pursuits, other than the knowledge that the gain of well founded usefulness to our country is blighted—the fond hope of patriotism is disappointed. But to the community, a more instructive example is exhibited, when the qualities of the soul of a soldier are developed—the best feelings of our nature made known.

A heart imbued with a high sense of honor; animated by the most generous sentiments; regardless of self, but ever anxious for others—such was that of Hull's.

Since the last campaign, by a too well known occurrence, Captain Hull had been placed in a situation, delicate in the extreme. To return to that army where the honor of a beloved parent had been drawn in question, or to sink quietly into a private life, did not admit of doubt. He returned to the scene of danger, and fell, like his classmate Brooks, in the arms of victory.

Of his last moments nothing is known; but he who could distinguish himself for bravery in the bloody contests at Cornwall and Chippewa, certainly could not do otherwise on the fields of Bridgewater.

To an early friend, grief may be pardoned; while his example is a proud and useful excitement to emulation.—*Boston Pat.*

### Major-General Izard.

The following letter, which embraces the outlines of General Izard's history, is from a gentleman who had the best opportunities of correct information on the subject of which he writes.—*Ken. Gaz.*

July 22, 1814.

DEAR SIR,

You requested me to give you a sketch of General Izard's history. I therefore beg leave to communicate such particulars as present themselves to my recollection, and which are as follows:—

General George Izard was born at Charleston, in the month of September, 1777, and is the second son of Ralph Izard, Esq. who was a gentleman of large fortune and high respectability in South Carolina. Mr. Izard having been charged by Congress, during the revolution, with a secret mission to one of the courts of Europe, carried his family to Paris, where they resided until the peace of '83. Here George commenced his studies under the care of a private tutor in the family, and showed great aptitude in the acquirement of classical learning. He was particularly distinguished for a turn for the mathematics, in which he made

great proficiency at an early age. His father having returned with his family to America, at the conclusion of the war, was, on the adoption of the federal constitution in 1789, elected to represent South Carolina in the Senate of the United States. He therefore removed to New-York, and entered George at Columbia College, where he was placed, on examination, at the head of his class, although the youngest boy in it. As he was always intended for a military life, his father obtained from the president in 1792, a subaltern's commission for him in the regiment of artillery and engineers, (as it was then called) with permission to send him to Europe for the purpose of qualifying him for his profession. He was accordingly sent to England, under the care of General Thomas Pinckney, who was appointed minister plenipotentiary to the court of St. James. By General Pinckney he was placed at a military school near London, until arrangements could be made for sending him to Germany, where the best military institutions were then supposed to be. He was after some time transferred to one of those institutions of great celebrity on the continent, where he passed two years. Great attention was there paid to the exercise of the body, in which the young American was soon found to excel; nature having endowed him with an uncommon portion of strength and activity. On Mr. Monroe's appointment as minister to France, his influence was used to obtain permission for young Izard to enter the corps of French engineers, and as the American government was then high in favour, the request was granted. This is said to be the only instance of a foreigner having been admitted into that corps. In this situation he had the best means afforded him of acquiring a knowledge of the most useful branch of military knowledge. Having completed his studies, and received from the officer at the head of the institution ample testimonials of approbation, he returned to America in the year 1797, and joined the regiment. On the commencement of hostilities between France and the United States, in 1798, captain Izard was appointed engineer for the harbour of Charleston, and erected with great despatch some work for its defence. In 1799, he was appointed aid-de-camp to the inspector-general (the late Alexander Hamilton) in which station he remained until the disputes between France and America were compromised by treaty. No active service offering at that time, captain Izard was indulged with a furlough to accompany our minister to the court of Lisbon, in the capacity of private secretary, but in reality to afford him an opportunity of travelling on the continent of Europe, various countries of which he visited. On his return to America in 1802, finding the army of the United States placed upon a very reduced establishment, captain Izard resigned his commission, married a lady from the state of Virginia, and fixed himself in the vicinity of Philadelphia, where he continued to reside until his nomination to the command of a regiment of artillery. With his subsequent rise you are acquainted. I have nothing to add but my warmest wishes for the general's success in discharging the duties of the important command to which he has been appointed.

### The late Colonel Wilcocks.

Communicated to the editors of the Baltimore "American," by a friend of the deceased.

"There crack'd a noble heart."—*Shaks.*

To the friends of the brave, if a sweet and consolatory reflection, that when they fall, in defence of their country, they sink into an honored grave, and honest fame rescues their memory from oblivion. Whilst kings are only recorded by number, or made memorable by crimes and desolation; whilst time breaks their sceptres and shakes their thrones; the names of the just survive the ruins, and history embalms their memory; posterity profit by their example, and their kindred feel a pride in having been related to the deceased. Such is my feeling, even while I discharge the "last sad office" to my departed friend.

Lieutenant-colonel Joseph Wilcocks, who fell at Fort Erie, in Upper Canada, on the 4th August, was a native of Dublin, where he was educated and lived to the years of manhood. An ardent friend of human rights, he became a member of the Society of United Irishmen, and endeavoured to bring about a reform of abuses. The task was beyond the night of that association—chronic errors in the state are like the fifth of the Aegæan stable—Heracleian powers are necessary to remove them. But failure in a laudable attempt is infinitely preferable to tameness under wrongs. Besides, men of true honour never calculate by the arithmetic of expediency—selfishness is pushed aloof—and the justice of the cause alone is weighed, whilst the examples of the great are ever present to prompt congenial minds to parallel actions.

—How shall I act in any case,  
But how would Brutus in any place,  
In such a cause would Cato bleed,  
And how would Socrates proceed?"

To a man governed by honour, and guided by reason, in matters of government, a British province must prove an unfit abode. Wilcocks, though adored by the people, who frequently elected him to represent them, was necessarily persecuted by the executive functionaries; and, finally, when denied the benefit of the laws by governors Core and Brock, he resolved to withdraw his allegiance from a government that had withdrawn its protection. He entered into the service of the United States, to which he took the oath of allegiance. His abilities were noticed and rewarded with a commission—and the hard-fought battles on the

Niagara attest the fidelity and courage with which colonel Wilcocks and his Canadian volunteers discharged their trust. Colonel W. was a most promising officer. His face, his person and mien, his manners and deportment, commanded respect and engaged affection. Sanguine and enterprising, his sanguine temper always inspired confidence in his companions, the surest presage of victory. As if evanish of his laurels, death cut short his career of glory. But the worthies in our second war for independence ascended the skies to mingle with the heroes of the first—our Pikes, our Covingtons, and Wilcocks are united with the shades of Warren, Laurens and Montgomery. May their spirit, like the mantle of the prophet, descend on their admirers! And if spirits above are moved by scenes below, our illustrious friends will be gladdened at the assurance that we swear by their glorious example, never to desert the cause for which they suffered, bled and died! We will pursue their path to partake of their honour.

Those only who dare for their country to fall,  
Those only shall sleep with the brave.

The following extract from general orders, issued at Fort Erie by the commanding general, Sept. 7, 1814, will be acceptable to the friends of the gallant deceased.

HEAD-QUARTERS, Fort Erie, 6th September.

General Order. The brigadier-general commanding has received the report of major Matteson, of the New-York volunteers, on whom devolved the command of the party engaged in the affair of the 4th instant, after the ever to be lamented fall of the gallant colonel Wilcocks.

With sincere pleasure the brigadier-general congratulates the army that the steadiness and valour which have marked the conduct of this division, during the whole campaign, were again most singularly manifested by the volunteers and regulars engaged on this occasion.

A party not exceeding 100 volunteers (the enemy being treble numbers) drove the enemy to his works, with comparatively a small loss, and made him suffer severely. Previous to this a detachment of 40 men from the 21st, under ensign Thomas, had successfully slain with the enemy.

The conduct of major Matteson on this occasion, excites the highest approbation of the brigadier-general; his coolness, courage and prudence, and the good conduct of his troops, were again conspicuously manifested. The New-York volunteers have, on this occasion, as well as every other that has occurred during the whole campaign, reflected honour on the state of which they are members. Captain Hale, of the 11th infantry, commanding picket No. 2, and ensign Thomas, commanding the regiment, conducted in a manner to the perfect satisfaction of the brigadier-general. The loss on our side, with the exception of the gallant Wilcocks, and lieutenant Roosevelt, is trifling; but on the side of the enemy, it was severe in the extreme; various deserters report that they had four officers and nearly 100 either killed or wounded; so great a disparity exists in the strongest light the difference between the coolness of troops, such as ours, in a just and honourable career, and of the enemy's thousands, who fight for objects which they care not for, and in a cause which they deprecate.

Major Matteson speaks in the highest terms of the courage and conduct of captains Hull, Harding, Knap and Satterly, who volunteered to command a company, and lieutenants Hadaway and Jones, and ensign Wickwire; he also expresses his highest opinion of the correct, brave and soldier-like conduct of brigade-major Doblin, quarter-master Green and adjutant Gilbert.

Lieutenant-colonel Wilcocks, whose services and bravery have excited the warmest interest of the army in his favour, and lieutenant Roosevelt, of the New-York volunteers, have added other names to the gallant heroes, who, during this unexampled campaign, have gloriously died on the field of honour. Colonel Wilcocks, at the moment he was mortally wounded, was charging and repulsing infinitely superior forces under the enemy's banners; the command devolving on major Matteson, he succeeded in driving the enemy to their works, and retired in good order to camp.

By command of brigadier-general Ripley.

R. JONES, assist. adj. gen.

## Colonel John B. Campbell.

Communicated for the Lexington Reporter.

A regard for the character and personage of Colonel John B. Campbell and a great surprise which has existed with the writer of the present article, on account of the remarkable silence which has pervaded his numerous friends, has induced him, though sensible of his incapacity to do justice to departed merit, to enter upon the arduous task of paying him the last tribute of respect.

It was my hope, that the duty had devolved upon some person more capable of portraying the character of this man, but for fear that too long an uninterrupted silence may consign him to unmerited obscurity I will enter upon the duty. Were it any wish, it is not in my power to submit a detail of his character from his infancy to the time of his death; it will suffice to say, that in his private capacity, he was a lawyer of no little respectability.

I will begin at the time when he first entered upon his public career, and when the superiority of his talents as an officer, first began to draw upon the world. At the commencement of the present war beholding with sorrow the insults and injuries which had been inflicted upon his country by an implacable adversary,

and frowning indignantly upon the sufferings of his unhappy countrymen in captivity and in torment, immediately on its declaration he applied for a commission in the army. In this he succeeded, and received the appointment of lieutenant-colonel of the 19th regiment United States' infantry. He had now arrived to the summit of his wishes. The time had now come when the natural bend of his mind could be exerted, and when he in common with his brother officers, could have the power of displaying his talents in the field, and avenging the numerous insults of his country. But in this he could not be said to be satisfied. He was placed as superintendent to the recruiting service. In this situation his patriotic bosom could not resist the emotions which agitated it, and the anxieties which it experienced. It could not resist inactivity, and having received an order from the war department to repair to more active duties, he entered the service of his country under the command of that estimable and gallant officer, William Henry Harrison. In leaving his peaceable abode in Christian county, (Ky.) he had many weighty concerns to baffle him; many important considerations to combat with. But notwithstanding the agonizing tears of a tender wife and numerous connections, which moved in some measure his calm breast, he was desirous to partake in the noble contest, and have his name enrolled with those of the heroes who have so emboldened and immortalized their country's cause; he was desirous to pave the way to the acquirement of that fame for which his breast so ardently sought, and which his relations had so justly acquired in the war of the revolution.

Here consisted his greatest fault—he was too anxious for military fame, and to acquire it, he would too often sacrifice any personal considerations.

No sooner had he joined general Harrison but his talents were appreciated by his commander, and his attachment manifested to him by a separate command being assigned shortly after to him on a secret expedition to the Massisima villages. Here if difficulties had been encountered, colonel Campbell and his gallant detachment did it. They left Franklinton in November, 1812, and on the 17th after having marched all night, arrived at one of the Indian towns, and instantly charged upon it. In this affair he killed 7 and took 37 prisoners, only with the loss of one man killed. He was attacked on the morning of the 12th December, by a party of Indians supposed to be between two and three hundred, in which action he lost about 3 killed and 25 or 30 wounded, and killed between 40 and 50 of the enemy, not making any calculations for those that were carried off the field. He writes to general Harrison from his camp on Massisima, two miles above Silver Hills, under date of the 12th December, and concludes thus—“I anticipate another attack before I reach Greenville; but rest assured, dear general, they shall be warmly received. I have a detachment composed of the finest fellows in the world, both officers and soldiers. Our return will be commenced this morning.” &c.

Fortunately for the colonel, his anticipations were not realized. The Indians had formed a plan of attacking him every night, which, if they had executed, the whole detachment would inevitably have perished; but fortune favoured him, and on his return he was received with all the applause which his fellow citizen could bestow. But his conduct was particularly noticed by his general, which was evinced in a general order, which follows—“The conduct of the colonel and his gallant detachment has been, in every respect, such as the general had anticipated. They have deserved well of their country, and have shed a lustre on the North Western army. In no part of their duty they have failed. The officers vied with each other in setting a proper example to their men, and the conduct of the men was marked throughout by cheerfulness, alacrity and obedience upon the march, and invincible bravery in the presence of an enemy. The detachment appears to have been worthy of their commander, and their commander worthy of them. Nothing can evince more clearly the merits of lieutenant-colonel Campbell, than the confidence and attachment manifested for him by his commander; an attachment not produced by any improper indulgence or weak compliances, but established upon a solid basis of a zealous and punctual discharge of his own duty, and a mild, humane, but determined extraction of obedience from his subordination. Troops thus disposed, and thus commanded, will be always invincible. Lieutenant-colonel Campbell's official report will be transmitted to the secretary of war; it will be published to the world, and the simple narrative of their actions will form the best eulogium upon the conduct of the troops. The general requests lieutenant-colonel Campbell, lieutenant-colonel Simrall, and major Ball and all the other officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, to accept his warmest thanks for their good conduct.” &c.

Shortly after, he obtained a furlough and visited his family, then residing in Russellville, (Ky.) On his arrival there, he was welcomed with a public dinner, and every mark of joy and respect, so justly due to his distinguished services, was paid to him. But not long was he permitted to remain inactive, enjoying the sweet solace of domestic tranquillity. His furlough having expired, he repaired again to join the standard of his country. Here nothing of importance transpired. He was shortly after brevetted a colonel for his gallant conduct at Massisima; and continued inactive, with only superintending the recruiting service at Chillicothe. After remaining here some time, in March he received an order to repair to Fort Erie. But, unable to remain inactive, in whatever situation he might be placed, he left Fort Erie on the last day of April, on an expedition to Long Point, or Dover, to destroy some manufacturing mills belonging to the enemy. On his return, he

\* Colonel Campbell, who so gallantly distinguished himself at King's mountain, was his uncle.

was very much reprehended by some of his fellow-citizens, as having willfully destroyed private property. On the 13th June, 1814, he left Erie for Buffalo, when he ordered a court of inquiry upon his conduct—On the 11th of June the court met. Brigadier-general Scott presided, and major Jessup and major Wood were members: here follows some extracts from the opinion of the court:—"That considering the important supplies of bread stuffs, which from the evidence, it appears the enemy's forces derived from the flour manufacturing mills at and near Dover, Colonel Campbell was warranted in destroying those mills, according to the laws and usages of war, and for a like reason the court think him justified in burning the distilleries under the said laws and usages. The saw mills and carding machine, from their contiguity to the other mills, were, as the court conceive, necessarily involved in one and the same building.

"In respect to the burning of the dwelling and other houses in the village of Dover, the court are fully of opinion that Colonel Campbell has erred; that he can derive no justification from the fact that the owners of these houses were actively opposed to the American interests in the present war, or from the other facts, that some of them were at the conflagration of Buffalo, &c.

"Acts of retaliation on the part of a nation proud of its rights, and conscious of the power of enforcing them, should, in the opinion of the court, be reluctantly resorted to, and only by instructions from the highest authority. That no such instructions were given in the case under consideration, is not merely inferred from the absence of evidence to that effect, but is candidly admitted by Colonel Campbell in his official report (which is in evidence) wherein he expressly states—'This expedition was undertaken by me without orders and upon my own responsibility.'

"The court in delivering the above opinion unfavourable to Colonel Campbell, are fully aware of the strong inducements to a just indignation which must have been present upon his mind at the time of his visit to Dover. The massacres at Raisin and the Miami were not forgotten, and the more recent devastation of the entire Niagara frontier, accompanied by many acts of savage barbarity, was full in remembrance. That these recollections should have swayed his judgment does not excite wonder but regret, and there is still left for admiration his kind and amiable treatment of the women and children of Dover, abandoned by their natural protectors.

"W. SCOTT, brigadier-general,  
and president of the court.

R. WATSON, captain 5th infantry,  
and commandant of the 11th regiment infantry, then stationed at Buffalo. This appointment was received with that manifestation of joy on the part of himself and family; that a removal from a state in activity to that of active operations would naturally excite in the patriot's breast. The warmest wishes of his soul were now fulfilled. His heart palpitates with animation at the lively scenes which seem to present themselves. He beholds before him the wide field of honour, of fame and of military glory; he embraces the opportunity and glides into their arms. The post of danger is the post of honour, and the post of honour is the soldier's need: he is now advancing when dangers will meet him and honours crown him.

At length the ever memorable 5th July approaches. Here is ample scope for the writer's pen; would to God mine were adequate to the task. That day which eclipses the proud trophies of the revolution, and which is to crown with success the American arms, while opposing the veterans of the celebrated marquis, appears—that day, which is to shroud in glory the fair characters of Columbia's sons, whose expansive dawn opens with brilliancy the rays which but yesterday had beheld the happy day of Columbia's deliverance, ends with success to American valor, and she is once more triumphant over the ranks of Britain. But, there a Rawson, a Scott and a Tiptley fought—there heroic spirits received the good auspices of Heaven, and victory perched upon the eagle's standard.

But it was there a Campbell fell! It was on the plains of Chippewa, on the 5th of July, 1814, that the fertile earth drank in profusion his precious blood. He was shortly after carried off the field, almost fainting with the loss of blood. His wound was a severe fracture of the knee pan, but not at first considered dangerous—he was unwilling that it should be amputated, and for some time resisted the pain, but at length it became essential that an amputation should take place, and he yielded. But, alas! he yielded too late. High fevers had occasioned considerable reduction in his flesh, and had exhausted his appetite, and he died! It was at Williamsville, near Buffalo, (N. Y.) on the 23rd August, 1814, that his patriotic, undaunted spirit winged its flight to more genial regions—and he left his memory to be revered by all who knew him.

We will conclude these desultory remarks, by adding a letter addressed to Joan Campbell, of Richmond, (Va.) from major-general Scott, dated

BALTIMORE, October 25th, 1814.

"Colonel John B. Campbell, of the 11th United States Infantry, died about the first of September, at the general hospital, Williamsville, near Buffalo, of a wound received in the knee pan, at Chippewa in the action of the 5th July. My own situation, at the time of his death, deprived me of the melancholy satisfaction of being the first to communicate the intelligence to his friends—and I am much concerned to hear that that office was not performed by some one about him at the time.

"The wound was received early in the action, at the head of his regiment, whilst advancing gallantly to his place in the order of battle; and was by no means considered as necessarily mortal. An early amputation would have saved his valuable life; but this was

opposed by the colonel himself from an extreme solicitude to preserve the limb. The operation was finally performed when the patient had become too feeble and exhausted—he died immediately after. I was at the time more than an hundred miles east of Williamsville. The latter particulars were reported to me by the very skilful surgeon who attended him.

"Colonel Campbell's death, though lamented by all who knew him, was felt by no one in the army more sensibly than myself—His services at Williamsville were very highly appreciated by government; and from his zeal and intelligence, there can be no doubt, had he lived, but he would have risen to the highest rank in the army.

"I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient servant,  
"W. SCOTT."

"John Campbell, esq. Richmond, (Va.)"

Here eulogium finishes its career. He died with the applause of his general, conscious of having effected the attainment of the object he first had in contemplation, that of being useful to his country, and leaving his name to be enrolled with those of her heroes. His eyes are no more open to behold, in common with the world, the series of victories in which it would have been his delight to have partaken. But although his loss may have been felt by his country and relations, yet it is something consolatory that, altho' it is laid in its silent subterranean tomb, his fame survives, his memory yet lives.

## Elbridge Gerry, Esquire,

LATE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

From the Boston Patriot.

Elbridge Gerry was born in the town of Marblehead, (Mass.) in the year 1746. His father was a respectable merchant, with a handsome fortune. He entered Harvard College early and received his first degree of bachelor of arts in 1762.

On leaving the seminary, he commenced business as a merchant; and his correctness, assiduity and extensive information enabled him to prosecute commercial pursuits with success. His mind however, was much occupied with the interesting politics of the then colony; and as soon as his age would permit, he was elected by his native town to the general court, and became an active and influential member. The business, in those days, was principally prepared in committees, and Mr. Gerry was associated with Adams, Hancock, Warren and others on most of the important ones. When hostilities commenced he was a member of the committee of public safety and supplies, and gained both credit and public gratitude by his talents and industry. An interesting anecdote is related of Mr. Gerry and some of his companions, which occurred the day preceding the battle of Lexington, which commenced the revolutionary contest. The committee had been sitting at Cambridge, and as Mr. Gerry, with colonels Lee and Orme, were far from home, they determined to remain until morning. In the middle of the night they were alarmed by the march of the main body of the British troops for Concord. When the troops came opposite the house, a detachment was unexpectedly ordered to surround it, and seize any of the committee who might remain. Fortunately, though with difficulty, Mr. Gerry and his companions escaped in their shirts, and concealed themselves till the search was over.

Mr. Gerry was the intimate friend of the illustrious general Warren—the night before the eventful contest of Bunker Hill, the patriots passed together, in the same bed, and with a melancholy presentiment of his fate, the last words addressed by the hero, the subject of our memoir, were,

"Dulce et decorum est,

"Pro patria mori—

"It is sweet and becoming to die for our country."

Mr. Gerry, about this time, was appointed judge of the admiralty, but declined accepting the office, declaring his wish to take a more active part in the service of his country. He was accordingly elected to the illustrious congress, who guided our nation to independence, signed the declaration of it in 1776, and continued a member during the whole war. In the elegant language of the writer to whom we have alluded,—"In congress, as in the state legislature, the assiduity, attention and extensive information of this gentleman, caused him to be placed on all important committees; and his advice and opinion was respected as the cool and deliberate decision of an unswerving patriot. No difficulty deterred him, no danger dismayed him, his mind unshaken, and his determination never for a moment wavered to protect the independence, and maintain the freedom of his country. In congress Mr. Gerry was the soldier's friend. Gen. Washington's dependence on no one with more confidence for the promotion of his plans, than on this gentleman, and his confidence was never disappointed. His speech in favour of compensation to the army, was considered one of the most powerful and splendid specimens of eloquence and patriotism. On all subjects of inquiry, Mr. Gerry was able and eminent. His clear and penetrating mind could unravel the perplexity of a system confused and entangled, and his invention and ingenuity draw forth the resources and ability of his country." To his great merit in the revolutionary congress general Washington, president Adams and other distinguished patriots have borne unequivocal and honourable testimony.

In the convention which framed the constitution, Mr. Gerry appeared as a member from Massachusetts. Although convinced that a more energetic system than the confederation was needed, yet the propositions of general Hamilton, of a monarchical and aristocratical cast, found in him a stern and strenuous opponent. Educated a republican, he would not bend to a single proposition, which tended to aristocracy. The result did not meet his wishes, and he was constrained to refuse his signature. It is remarkable, that some of the points for which he contended, have since been approved by the people and incorporated as amendments. Being chosen soon after as a member from Middlesex, he took occasion to remark in debate, that "the federal constitution having become the supreme law of the land, he conceived the salvation of the country depended on its being carried into effect." He continued in congress for two successive terms, and then declined a reelection.

To end the *enri generis* controversy with France, which comprised a war in fact on both sides, without a declaration by either, president Adams appointed Mr. Gerry, in conjunction with Messrs. Pickney and Marshall, to constitute a commission plenipotentiary to France in 1798. The acceptance of the office was a sacrifice of domestic comfort for a precarious chance of benefiting his country. We would, in a tribute to the patriot dead, tread lightly on such delicate ground as the motives of living statesmen. Suffice it to say, two of the ministers were supposed more willing to widen, than to close the breach. Mr. Adams, the ostensible idol of the then dominant party, shall be our witness of what was done by the illustrious object of our article. "He [Mr. Gerry, says Mr. A.] was appointed and approved, and finally saved the peace of the nation, for he alone discovered and furnished the evidence, that X, Y, and Z, were employed by Talleyrand, and he alone brought home the direct, formal and official assurances, upon which the subsequent commission proceeded, and peace was made."

When the American spirit was roused, and all parties united to resent the insulting attack by the British man of war *Leopard*, on the United States' frigate *Chesapeake*, on the 22d of June, off the Capes of Virginia, Mr. Gerry participated in the justly excited state of public sensibility, attended at the state-house in Boston, was called to the chair, and gave an evidence of his patriotism, and an epitome of his principles, in the memorable expression, that if a man had but one day to live, he should "devote that day to the service of his country."

With this exception, so honourable to his character for the period of his return from France until 1810, he spent his time in philosophical retirement and agricultural pursuits, at his farm in Cambridge. In the spring of that year he was rum as governor by the republicans of Massachusetts against Mr. Gore, and chosen by a handsome majority. Of his official conduct as governor, it is difficult to speak, without weakening, perhaps, that spirit of political asperity, which we hope may sleep forever. Suffice it to say, his speeches to the legislature were wise, patriotic and elegant; that he was a strenuous advocate of the union of the states, and a cheerful aid, and co-operation of the national government, for public purposes; that the first year of his administration was marked by a most liberal and unprecedented political toleration; and that in the second year, the appointments of a proportionate number of his political friends to public offices, was grounded on vacancies created by enacted laws, which laws, we verily believe, abstractedly considered, would be granted to be expedient by men of all descriptions. But we leave a topic on which we should fear to profane the obsequies of the dead by raising the spirit of altercation. The party opposed to him in the state prevailed. His country recognized his merits and his services, and elevated him to the second station in her gift. He conducted himself in that station with dignity and devoted attention to his duties, and he has died at his post in the discharge of his functions.

Of the private life of this gentleman, it is enough to say, he was respected, esteemed and beloved by those who knew him best. The sacrifices he made to public service were very great; and although we know not the fact, so well as to venture his positive assertion, we apprehend his patriotism might have left him,

*"Like rigid Cincinnatus, nobly poor."*

Our article has extended beyond our originally proposed limits. We will study brevity and conclude by saying, that while this patriot has descended to the grave "full of years, and full of honors," he has left his example as a legacy to his country; and if it be followed, if public virtue, at this trying time, become the order of the day, the American name may become even more illustrious, and the Eagle of the Union soar

*"Above all Greek, above all Roman fame."*

FROM THE WESTMINSTER MAGAZINE.

GENUINE MEMOIR OF

General Joseph Reed,

Who was in the service of the United States during the American revolution.

MR. REED was a native of New-Jersey, in North-America, and received a liberal education at the college founded at Princeton in that state, which has furnished a considerable number of eminent characters. He entered very early on the study of the law, and came to England to finish his professional education, when

he entered in the society of the Middle Temple. About the time of the stamp act he returned to America (not having been called to the bar here) and practised with considerable success. He bore some part in the proceedings respecting the stamp act, but at too early an age to be much distinguished. In 1770 he returned to England, and married the daughter of Dennis de Berdt, esq. merchant of London; a lady to whom he was contracted during his former residence in England.\* After a short stay he returned, and settled in Philadelphia, where he pursued his practice with reputation and success; having attachments in England, and dreading the fatal consequence of a rupture, we are assured he exerted himself in the work of conciliation, and particularly in a correspondence with persons then in power; a circumstance which afterwards subjected him to some suspicion and censure in his own country, though the intercourse was broken off on the commencement of hostilities in America.

During the winter of 1775, he had been appointed chairman of the grand committee of Philadelphia, and soon after president of the convention of the province, which were his first appearances in any public character. Upon the formation of the American army, he assumed a military character, and accompanied general Washington to the camp before Boston, as a volunteer, but served also as his secretary, in which capacities he acquired a great share of his confidence and friendship. In the spring of 1776, he was, at his special instance, appointed adjutant-general of the American army, on the promotion of general Gates, and bore an active part in this important campaign, particularly in the affairs at Trenton and Princeton, which changed the face of the war.— On these occasions, it is said, his knowledge of the country and its inhabitants, rendered his services very important. When the armies settled in winter quarters, he resigned his commission of adjutant-general, which was not so well suited to his active disposition, and in the spring following was appointed a general officer, with a view to the command of the cavalry; but the slowness in raising them, and the very detached parties in which they were employed, prevented his acting in this station. He continued, however, with the army, and was much consulted in the operations of the campaign. In the latter end of the year 1777, or early in 1778, he was appointed a member of congress, and employed in the arrangements of the army. At this time he signed the articles of confederation of the United States, as one of the delegates of Pennsylvania. On the arrival of the British commissioners, a certain governor, (Johnson) tempted him with the offer of 10,000 guineas, and the best office in the colonies to join the British interests, to which he replied, "he was not worth purchasing, but such as he was, the king of England was not rich enough to do it." This transaction occasioned a resolve of congress, to do no business with that commissioner.

This overture being publicly denied by that gentleman, was proved by the voluntary declaration on oath, of the person thro' whom it was made, with several particulars, and published both in Europe and America. In autumn, 1778, he was unanimously chosen president, or governor, of the state of Pennsylvania, to which office he was unanimously elected, with like unanimity, for three years, the time limited by law. During this time, there were great commotions and parties in the state, and particularly a most violent armed insurrection, which he suppressed, and rescued a number of his personal enemies from the most imminent danger of their lives, at the risk of his own; upon which he received the thanks of the legislature. He was also instrumental in quieting the remarkable mutiny of part of the army of 1781. Soon after he lost his wife.† Upon this, and the expiration of his public office, he returned into private life, and the duties of his profession. He was not considered among the opulent of the country before the war, and most probably must have suffered with others in its various effects. Mr. Reed was very fortunate during the war; for, though in almost every considerable engagement, and having three horses killed under him, he always escaped unhurt.

In the civil part of his character, his knowledge of the law was found very useful in a new and unsettled government; so that he found it in no small weakness and confusion; he left it at the expiration of his office, in as much tranquillity and energy as could be expected from the time, and the peculiar circumstances of the war.

\* This gentleman, Mr. De Berdt, was their agent for Massachusetts Bay, and distinguished for his warm and faithful zeal in behalf of America.

† A lady, in whom it is difficult to say, whether beauty, talent, or virtue, were most conspicuous.

FROM THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

Lieutenant John G. Cowell,

Late of the United States' Navy.

JOHN GLOVER COWELL was born at Marblehead, in the county of Essex, and state of Massachusetts, on the 11th September, 1786. His grand-father, the honourable John Glover, whose name he bore, was a brigadier-general in our revolutionary war, and possessed in a great degree the esteem and confidence of the immortal Washington. This brave man was induced, in the year 1778, by ill health, and the repeated solicitations of a numerous family, to request a dismissal from that service, to which he had



long been attached by the strongest ties of patriotism. The reply of general Washington to his letter communicating this request, is the highest eulogium on his distinguished merits as an officer. "Excuse me, sir," says Washington, "if I hesitate to give your concurrence in the desire you express of quitting the army. I have too high an opinion of your valor as an officer to do any thing which may contribute to your relinquishing that character. My earnest wish is, that you may continue in it."

This letter dissuaded general Glover from resigning his commission, and notwithstanding the many inconveniences he suffered, and the many domestic sacrifices he was compelled to make, he continued in the service of his country, till she was established in a respectable rank among the nations of the earth. He then left the honours of the field for the peaceful joys of domestic life. There was, however, but little happiness reserved for him here; the fatigue and duties of a soldier's life had so entangled a constitution naturally vigorous and strong, that the days of his retirement were one continued scene of sickness and confinement. He lived but a few years, and then descended to the grave, happy in the recollection that his country was free from the yoke of foreign bondage, and that her liberty was partly the effect of his brave and patriotic exertions.

The eldest daughter of this brave officer, was the mother of the subject of the following biographical sketch. She was married in the year 1778, to captain Richard Cowell, a man of whom his contemporaries speak in the highest terms of veneration. Early in the revolution, he held successively the command of several private armed vessels, and was celebrated in that capacity, for the many valuable prizes he captured, and for the undaunted courage and firmness which he manifested on every occasion. Many of his companions, who still survive, recount with admiration the gallant achievements of this heroic man; and the many signal proofs he gave of his coolness and intrepidity as a naval commander, entitle him to a very conspicuous rank among the heroes of our revolution.

At one time, while commander of a ship of sixteen guns, he fell in with an enemy's ship of twenty-two, and nearly double the number of men. Though aware of the vastly superior force of his opponent, he was determined to engage her, and after a desperate battle of forty-two minutes, succeeded in capturing her. On board captain Cowell's ship there was but one man slightly wounded, while the enemy had twenty-three killed and wounded.

In the year 1780, he had the command of another ship called the *Maryland*, mounting sixteen guns, a great part of which were small front-siders. While on a cruise, he fell in with a letter of marque ship of the enemy mounting twenty-four guns, and with a complement of men far superior in numbers to his own. Relying, however, on the spirit and bravery of his officers and crew, he laid his ship along side the enemy, and continued there for the space of six glasses. So near were they to each other in this situation, that the sponges were frequently taken from each other while in the act of loading, and one man is now living in Marblehead, who was nearly taken out of the port, at which he was stationed, by one of the crew of the enemy. This gallant and heroic action deserved a fortunate result; but the enemy, after having expended all his ammunition, hauled off from his opponent, and the disabled state of the spars and rigging of captain Cowell's ship, prevented his pursuing her. She was taken, however, soon after, in a sinking condition by a small sloop, and proved a very valuable prize.

These are but a few of the gallant actions which distinguished the naval career of captain Cowell. Would the limits of this notice permit, we could mention many others, whose splendor would not be rivalled by those of modern days. But having already trespassed on the patience of our readers, by giving a hasty sketch of the ancestors of lieutenant Cowell, we hasten to record a few circumstances of him, who in an eminent degree possessed the gallantry, firmness and bravery of his fathers. Lieutenant Cowell, at an early period, manifested a predilection for the life of a sailor. But his friends, unwilling that he should encounter its perils and dangers at so early an age, made every exertion to restrain his attachment, and accordingly placed him, when only eleven years old, at a store in Boston. Naturally aspiring and ambitious of distinction, he found that the dull routine of his present business was but badly calculated to realize his hopes of future eminence, and he again determined on carrying into effect his first resolution of becoming a sailor. He accordingly overcame the objections of his friends, and sailed at the age of eleven with captain Derby, from Boston, for the North-West Coast of America.

During this voyage, which exceeded three years, he applied himself closely to the study of naval tactics, and returned well qualified for the promotion, which he shortly after experienced. At the age of eighteen, he was mate of a vessel in the merchant service, and continued in this business till the close of the year 1807. While engaged in this service, his character as a scientific navigator and practical seaman, stood unrivalled; and from his having visited almost every country in Europe, his knowledge of the world was very extensive, and his deportment as a gentleman perfectly unblemished.

He resided at this period about a year with his friends, and being prevented by the first embargo from following his usual occupation, determined on petitioning for a berth in the navy. He accordingly received in January, 1807, a sailing-master's warrant, and was ordered to the command of a gunboat on the Portland station, whither he immediately repaired. The gunboat service, however, was to lieutenant Cowell excessively tedious; he could not bear the idea of being confined to the navigation of creeks and rivers; his aspiring mind sought for a more extensive field of action, and he earnestly wished to be removed from a service, which limited his exertions and darkened his prospects.

In this respect, he was soon gratified. The gun-boats on that station were dismantled, and he was ordered to the Chesapeake frigate, then commanded by captain Hull. He continued on board this ship till she was hauled up in ordinary at Charlestown, and though attached to her for only a few months, his superior qualifications as an officer, and his skill as a navigator, secured him the approbation and attachment of his gallant commander. Having now no immediate employment, he petitioned for a furlough, which was granted. After an absence of nearly eighteen months in different parts of Europe, he again returned, and was ordered to the United States' brig *Enterprise*, then lying at Norfolk. He continued on board this vessel for a few months, and was then transferred to the *Essex*.

It is not on board his ship that we are to consider with attention the character and services of lieutenant Cowell. No opportunity had yet been presented in which he could display to the world the leading features of his character; but it was reserved for the deck of his ship to be sprinkled with his blood, and for her officers to witness the gallant conduct and heroic death of their brave companion.

Early in 1812, lieutenant Cowell left his friends—and, as it has since proved, left them forever. He joined the *Essex* at New-York, and sailed in July on a cruise, in which she captured the sloop of war *Alert*. He arrived in the Delaware about the middle of September; but his time was so much engaged in attending to his ship, that he could not, at this time, revisit his family. He accordingly continued at Chester, and sailed the 27th of October, on a cruise, which terminated in her capture.

Soon after her departure, captain Porter, as a testimony of his regard for the distinguished merits of lieutenant Cowell, promoted him to the third lieutenantancy. This is only the third instance of a promotion's being made in our navy, from the grade of a sailing-master to that of a lieutenant; and if there ever was an officer who deserved this distinction, we sincerely think it was he, who at this time received it.

In the Pacific Ocean, lieutenant Cowell was ordered to the command of a cutter, at the time when the boats of the *Essex* captured the letter of marque ships *Policy* and *Georgiana*. His conduct in this bold achievement, as well as that of his brother officers, gave to their commander an earnest of that gallantry and firmness, which they afterwards so signally displayed.

Nothing remarkable occurred during the remainder of his cruise, till the 2d of March, when the *Essex* was attacked and conquered by a superior force of a frigate of 53 guns and a sloop of 23. The particulars of the gallant resistance of her officers and crew at this time, have been fully detailed in captain Porter's official letter, and they need no other record to establish their claim to the character of brave and intrepid heroes.

In the early part of the engagement, lieutenant Cowell received a slight wound; and having it dressed, repaired a second time to his station. He had been here but a short time, when a second shot badly wounded him in the leg. He continued at his post in this situation, till loss of blood rendered him insensible; he was then carried below and placed under the care of the surgeon. After the battle he was carried on shore, and his leg amputated; his wound, however, was soon ascertained to be incurable, and after suffering its pain with exemplary fortitude for the space of twenty-one days, he expired in the presence of his gallant companions. "He was buried," says captain Porter in a letter to his friends, "in the most splendid manner, and all the honour that could be bestowed and shewn upon the tomb of the brave, was shown to him. His worth must ever be remembered by his country, and her regret for the loss of so valuable an officer be commensurate to his merits."

\* In the Port Folio of September last, we find the following notices of the death of lieutenant Cowell, and of the honours paid to his memory:

"When lieutenant John Cowell had his leg shot off he was taken up to be carried below; but peremptorily refusing to go, he gave directions that he should be placed on the coamings of his hatchway, where he continued to give his orders with his usual composure, until he had lost so much blood, as to be almost insensible. When prevailed on at length to be removed to the cock-pit, he insisted on waiting his turn, before he would suffer his wounds to be dressed. This extraordinary heroism and generosity were the cause of so great a loss of blood, as proved fatal to that distinguished officer."

"The case of lieutenant Cowell excited in Valparaiso the liveliest interest. The whole city most feelingly and deeply sympathized in his suffering and lamented his fate."

"When that brave young officer died, captain Porter was absent on business at St. Jago, the capital of Chili. This, however, detracted nothing from the splendor of his funeral. His heroism had made every one his friend, and his mourner. He was buried with the most distinguished honours, both military and civil, that the place could afford. All the American and British officers, the crews of the *Essex* and *Essex Junior*, of the *Phoebe* and *Cerberus*, and of every other vessel in port, joined to swell the funeral procession."

"But the chief pomp that was displayed on this solemn and interesting occasion arose from the attention of the inhabitants of the place. It would be scarcely hyperbolic to say, that the ashes of the gallant Cowell were watered by the tears of all Valparaiso. The concourse of Spaniards, headed by the governor of the district, and a large military escort, was immense."

"Followed by this vast and magnificent procession, and attended by solemn music and lighted tapers, the remains of the hero were carried to the principal church in the city. Here, after having exposed to public view for two days, shrouded in elegant funeral apparel, they were interred in consecrated ground within the walls of the building, an honour never perhaps before conferred on a stranger in that part of the world."

Lieutenant Cowell has left an amiable widow and two children whose claims on the gratitude of our country, we trust, will not be disregarded. To them the loss will be irreparable; but if they find any consolation for the loss of an affectionate husband and father, it will be in the recollection, that his life, though short, was unblemished, and that his grave was hallowed by the tears of those brave companions who survived him. Theirs will be the happy reflection, that his name will ever stand high on the list of heroes, who have established the naval character of our country, and that his virtues and abilities will ever be cherished in the remembrance of her grateful sons.

## Lieutenant-Colonel Appling.

From the Georgia Argus.

AMONG the many heroic souls who have conspicuously distinguished themselves during the present just and holy contest, Lieutenant-colonel Appling, from this state, deserves to be particularly noticed. His conduct has been marked by a daring bravery and consummate skill that demands our warmest approbation.

Twice has it been the good fortune of young Appling to come in contact with the enemy, and twice has he proved victorious. "Twas near Sandy Creek, where our young soldier first 'blest his maiden sword," and emblazoned the scepterisms of fame with the splendid deed. He had been ordered to co-operate with captain Woolsey, of the navy, in escorting some naval stores from Oswego, destined for the fleet at Sackett's Harbor. At the head of 120 men and a few Indians, he safely reached Sandy Creek, where he was met by a vastly superior force of the enemy; the conflict was short, but decisive. After an action of only ten minutes, the enemy were routed on all sides, with the loss of 44 men killed and wounded, and 139 prisoners; among the latter were 2 post captains and 4 lieutenants of the navy—the loss on our part, was only one rifeman wounded! For this brilliant affair, Appling was promoted to lieutenant-colonel.

Shortly after, the enemy's forces on our northern frontier were rapidly augmenting. The governor-general of the Canadas having collected all the disposable force in Lower Canada, amounting to 15,000 men, "occupied the village of Champlain, with a view of conquering the country as far as Crown Point and Ticonderoga." He advanced as far as Plattsburg, with this comparatively immense force, where he had the mortification of seeing the Champlain fleet surrender to the brave Maedonough, and Wellington's veteran legions flying before the valor of 1500 American regulars and a handful of raw militia!! Here again was Appling, with "blushing honours" crowding thick around him—he attracted the attention of his general, and, first on the list of youthful heroes, he was recommended "to the particular attention of government."

While other states are bestowing honorary rewards on their valiant sons, Georgia should not withhold her meed of appreciation. We should foster the holy flame of patriotism with a peculiar regard—until the divine contagion spreads from breast to breast—and more forcibly emulates our sons to deeds of noble daring.

## Lieutenant Gamble.

Washington City, 27th October, 1814.

Messrs. Gales & Seaton,

Major William Gamble, the father of the late Lieutenant Gamble, who fell in the action on Lake Champlain, hased me the enclosed letter for perusal. I solicited the permission to offer it to you for publication. Although congress has already awarded a high testimonial to the revered memory of the deceased, by directing a medal, with appropriate inscriptions thereon, to be presented to the male relative next of kin to the fallen hero; nevertheless, it is desirable that his memory have the advantage of the high and unquestionable testimony of commodore Maedonough, under whose command he served, and under whose eye he so bravely and gallantly fell. Will you have the goodness to insert the letter of commodore Maedonough at length?

Your most obedient servant,

E. H. CUMMINS.

Copy of a letter from commodore Maedonough to major W. Gamble, dated

United States ship Saratoga, Plattsburg Bay,  
September 14th, 1814.

Dear Sir—It becomes my painful duty to acquaint you with the fall of your son, Lieutenant Peter Gamble, first of this ship, in the action with the British squadron on the 11th instant.

It will, I trust, be a consolation to you that your son fell while gallantly performing his duty to his country. His conduct, while attached to my command, merits my warmest approbation—his fall we deeply regret.

His body was interred with military honours at Plattsburg, with the other officers who fell on that day.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. MACDONOUGH.

Major William Gamble.

## Adjutant James L. Donaldson.

From the Baltimore Federal Gazette.

JAMES LOWRY DONALDSON, Esq., who was killed in the late action near North Point, on the 12th instant, was a native of Ireland, but has resided in this country from the time he was eleven years old. He was the third son of colonel William Lowry, of this city, his name having been changed by an act of the assembly of this state, in compliance with the wishes of a relation. Mr. Donaldson received a liberal education, and was bred to the profession of the law, which he was practising in this city with much reputation and success. For three successive years he received the highest proof of the confidence of his fellow-citizens, by being elected a delegate to represent them in the general assembly of this state, a station which, even his political opponents acknowledge, he filled with eminent ability.

Possessing a liberal and energetic mind and correct classical taste, he distinguished himself at the bar and in the senate as an orator, a civilian and a statesman; and his correct and gentlemanly conduct, ensured him the respect and esteem of his associates in both situations, even when differing from him in political sentiments. While his talents, integrity and activity raised him high in public estimation, his social virtues and friendly disposition endeared him to a large circle of acquaintances in private life, whose attachment to him increased with their intimacy, as it afforded them an opportunity of knowing his words and merit.—Among those who long and intimately knew and sincerely esteemed him, was the writer of this article; who, although differing from him in political sentiments, never found that difference to affect in the slightest degree that friendship which he believes to have been mutual.

Mr. Donaldson was about thirty-three years of age; he has left a widow and five small children, to whom his loss will be irreparable; a numerous family of relatives, and his extensive circle of friends will also severely feel his loss.

The twenty-seventh regiment, in which he acted as adjutant, were warmly attached to him. A few minutes previous to the commencement of the action in which he was unhappily slain, he addressed them in a short but extremely appropriate and animating speech, which contributed not a little, as many of them have since stated, to induce that brave and steady resistance of the enemy, so highly honourable to the regiment. While in the active performance of his duty, he received a musket or rifle ball through his head, which put an immediate period to his life.

## Lieutenant Stansbury.

Lieutenant JOHN STANSBURY, who fell in the late conflict between the American and British fleets on Lake Champlain, and which terminated so gloriously in favour of the former, was the second son of brigadier-general Tobias E. Stansbury, of Baltimore county, and was born March 23, 1783. He received a liberal education, and had chosen as his profession the practice of physic, for which his talents and manners eminently qualified him; but his constitution being delicate, a voyage to the West-Indies was recommended and undertaken. Finding that he enjoyed during his voyage much better health than before, on his return he expressed a wish to follow the sea, in which he was indulged by a fond father, and was bound apprentice to Messrs. William Wilson and Sons, merchants of this city, in whose service he continued in the European trade, until he attained the age of manhood. As soon as he ascertained that the conduct of Great Britain towards his country would compel a declaration of war, he applied for and obtained the appointment of midshipman in the service of the United States. Immediately after his appointment, he was placed under the command of commodore Deatur. With this distinguished officer he remained four years, and took part in the capture of the British frigate Maedonough. The good conduct of Mr. Stansbury on all occasions, and particularly in this action, could not pass unnoticed; he was soon after promoted to the rank of lieutenant, and ordered to Lake Champlain, where he assisted in the naval preparations, and was ultimately attached to the first Lieutenant to the brig Ticonderoga, captain Cassin; and on board this vessel on the memorable 11th of September, 1814, met his fate almost "in the arms of victory."

About twenty minutes before the termination of the action, when the fleets were nearly yard arm and yard arm, her commander had given an order respecting the springs on the cable, which not being quickly executed, could not escape the attention of Lieutenant Stansbury; he leaped upon the hammock nettings, a most exposed situation, and was in the act of laying the order obeyed, when a cannon ball struck him, and carried his body into the deep—his soul to eternity. Had this gallant and much-lamented youth enquired himself to the very line of his duty, to his command on the gun deck, he might yet have lived, the pride of his family and of his friends, although the result of the battle might have been different; but his manly heart would not permit him to consider whether it was his duty or that of another; it was sufficient that his commander's order was expertly executed; he obediently leaped into a post of danger and of death. His grateful country will not forget his merits. Before the action commenced, when his commodore's signal gave notice to the fleet that the enemy were to be fought, and that every man was expected to do his duty, at the request of his commander, he called the crew aft, pointed out and explained to them the signal which was then flying, and addressed the men in glowing and most encouraging terms,

which was answered by three hearty cheers." During the engagement he gave every evidence of the confidence, bravery and coolness of the American officer, and the following extract of a letter from the gallant commodore *Macdonough* communicating the death of *Mr. Stanbury*, speaks his character in short, but strong terms. "His amiable disposition and superior qualities as an officer endeared him to all his brother officers, and in him our navy has to regret the loss of a brave and excellent man." A. C.

*From the Port Folio,*

A BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIR OF

JACOB BROWN,

MAJ. GEN. IN THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAJOR GENERAL BROWN is, in the true signification of the term, a practicable man, calculated for the management of weighty concerns. It is apparent, as well from the native texture of his mind, as from the decision and general cast of his character, that he was formed by nature for a man of business. He is one of those privileged individuals, who, possessing capabilities peculiar to themselves, seem destined to attain to important ends, independently of the ordinary means of achievement. The favourite of nature rather than the dependant nursling of education, he has not required the constant result of experience and discipline to become wise and skilful, nor the usual course of gradation to rise to eminence. In most of his undertakings he has perceived, by the force of a strong natural sagacity, the shortest and readiest way to success, and has seldom failed to attain it, oftentimes creating extraordinary means of accomplishment where common ones were wanting.

Although enamoured of peaceful life, and eminently calculated for its business and enjoyments, his highest talent is perhaps, for war. His short but brilliant career has shown him to be possessed of all those qualities and fitnesses for command, that belong to the character of an able captain, and of which a daring courage is one of the lowest. Vigilant and enlightened, enterprising and full of resources; neither seduced into relaxation by the smiles of prosperity, nor shaken in his purposes by the frowns of adversity; prompt in deciding, vigorous and resolute yet cool in executing; sagacious in discovering the views of the enemy, dextrous and happy in concealing his own; thoroughly acquainted with human nature, not so much from the study of books, as from the more certain and instructive study of man; possessing so perfect a self-command, as to be able to meet, without reluctance, the severest privations and denials that are incidental to the life of a soldier: add to

these, a sense of honour lofty and chivalrous, a constitution of body peculiarly calculated for deeds of hardihood, capable of enduring heat and cold, abstinence and fatigue, vigilance and continued attention, in a degree that to most men would be overwhelming and impracticable.—Such is a summary of the character of him whose life and transactions we shall briefly detail:

Thus endowed by nature with those choice and lofty qualities, which bestow on their possessor a fitness for command, it is not, perhaps, to be regarded as a matter of surprise, that the subject of this article has attained to his present eminence with more rapidity, and much less aid from technical discipline, than are usually attendant on military promotion. It will hereafter appear that, from the condition of a private citizen, totally unversed in the science of arms, he rose, at four steps, and in little more than three years, to the distinguished rank which he at present holds. To render his advancement the more striking, he was upwards of half this time a militia officer, and the country was happily in a state of peace, two circumstances which concurred to prevent the display of his talents for war, and to retard the course of his military promotion. Under a different state of things, his career might have been still more rapid and signal.

Jacob Brown is by birth a Pennsylvanian. He was born in Bucks county, a few miles below Trenton, where his father was for many years a respectable farmer. His ancestors both paternal and maternal, had been for several generations of the society of Quakers, some of them conspicuous in the circle wherein they moved for good sense, piety, and moral worth: the former were among the earliest settlers of the colony, having emigrated from England with William Penn, and followed his fortunes to his infant establishment planted amidst the wilds and savages of the new world. Like Washington, therefore, and Green, Wayne and Paman, and the other distinguished heroes of the revolution, the subject of this memoir is purely American.

Of the early years of young Brown we know but little. All we are given to understand is, that, considering his opportunities, which were very limited, he pursued learning with zeal and perseverance and acquired it with facility. Nor do circumstances permit us to question the fact; for, at the early age of eighteen, we find him entrusted with the direction of a respectable school at Crosswicks in New-Jersey.

In that situation he continued, much to his reputation and not a little to his advantage, till about the age of twenty-one when he made a visit, on business, to the western country, and passed two years in what is now the state of Ohio, residing principally in the neighbourhood of Cincinnati. We are informed, but will not vouch for the fact, that he was there employed in the capacity of a surveyor of land. Soon after his return from that interesting section of the union, in which, wild and uncultivated as it then was, he still found resources for the improvement of his mind, he was induced to remove to the city of New-York. He there, at the particular instance of the society of friends, taught their public school for several years, with great credit to himself, and to the entire satisfaction of those who employed him. During this period his industry and exertions were strenuous and unremitting. While instructing others, he overlooked no source, he neglected no opportunity of self-improvement. With a view to cultivate his talent for public speaking, he joined a respectable debating society, of which he soon became a conspicuous member. The daily papers were also occasionally enriched by political essays from his pen, which attracted no inconsiderable share of attention. He, at one time, meditated entering on the profession of the law, but, on mature deliberation, relinquished his intention, believing himself to be better qualified for more active pursuits. Whether even now the busy scenes of military life did not present themselves to his view in distant prospect, might well be questioned. Nor is the presumption that they did the less probable.

The fortunes of most men who have figured in the world have been determined by accidental, oftentimes by trivial occurrences. This truth was manifested in the case of Mr. Brown. While resident in New-York, he became casually acquainted with a land agent, whose concern lay on the waters and in the vicinity of lake Ontario. Having negotiated with that gentleman a contract for a few thousand acres of what was then a wilderness, he set out in the year 1799, to form a settlement on his new purchase. By this arrangement a foundation was laid for the eminence and honours he has since attained, and the substantial benefits he has conferred on his country.

Placed on a new and spacious theatre of action, his energies were unfolded with the widening of his prospects. His activity and intelligence, his knowledge of men

and talents for business soon rendering him a leading character in all matters of public concern. By the wisdom and ability with which he conducted his affairs, his own interests and those of the proprietors of lands in his neighbourhood were alike promoted. By his influence in the legislature of the state, several salutary and important laws were passed in relation to the opening of roads, the erection and organization of new counties, and various other points essentially connected with improvement of the country. During this period, so necessarily replete with engagements and avocations according but little with studious habits, he was not inattentive to the cultivation of his mind, as preparatory to other and higher destinies. To add to his information in the science of government, and the further to mature his knowledge of man, considered in a civil and social capacity, he assiduously devoted a portion of his time to the study of ancient and modern history.

Among his other acquirements, having distinguished himself as an enlightened and practical farmer, Mr. Brown was elected in the year 1808, a member of the Agricultural and Philosophical society of the state of New-York. From about this period may be dated the commencement of his public character. In the course of the succeeding year, he was appointed to the command of a regiment of militia, the first military station he had ever filled. Applying himself now to the study of arms with the same ardour which had hitherto marked his peaceful pursuits, he soon manifested talents conclusive of the fact, that he was calculated for an officer of no ordinary standing. He was, accordingly, in the spring of 1811, promoted to the rank of brigadier general.

The present war having commenced in the year 1812, the country around lake Ontario being a frontier and important situation, was necessarily destined to become a theatre of early and active military operations. Arrangements were consequently made by government to meet the pressure of expected events. Of the first detachment of New-York militia called into the service of the United States, general Brown had the command of a brigade. It is but justice to him to state, that he was selected to this arduous and responsible situation, from the well known firmness and efficiency of his character, connected with his accurate knowledge of the country that was likely to become in a short time the theatre of war. He was not regarded as a sun-shine

parade-day officer, whose ruling passion was the vanity of being gazed at in military dress. He was considered as one qualified to meet the shock of battle, with the intelligence of a commander and the gallantry of a soldier. Nor was it long till events occurred to prove the correctness of public opinion.

The general's first command, being by far too extensive for the number of his troops, was, in an eminent degree, laborious and embarrassing. It embraced the whole line of frontier from Oswego to St. Regis, a distance of more than three hundred miles. Within this line was included the important post of Sackett's Harbour, the security of which, being essential to the success of interior operations, constituted the first object of his attention. Having fortified this in the best manner his time and scanty means would allow, he reconnoitered in person the shores of the St. Lawrence, and, with equal promptness and skill, provided, as far as practicable, for the defence of the country. His transportation, a short time afterwards, of a party of four hundred men from Sackett's Harbour to Ogdensburgh, manifested a firmness of purpose and an intrepidity of spirit, which but few even of the hardiest soldiers possess. The roads were impassable for baggage and artillery, and the enemy were in undisputed possession of the lake and river. On the subject of a passage by water, there existed but one opinion: an attempt as it was considered, as fraught with destruction. The general, however, having been ordered to proceed, was bent on obedience, and neither the front of danger nor the voice of remonstrance could shake his resolution. He, accordingly, embarked with his troops in the best flotilla he could provide for that purpose, and, determined to fight his way through whatever might oppose him, he arrived in safety at his place of destination. In this daring enterprize he actually achieved what the boldest might well have hesitated to attempt. While stationed at Ogdensburgh he so galled and harrassed the enemy, in their navigation of the St. Lawrence, that, impatient of further annoyance, they fitted out a formidable expedition for his capture or destruction. The number of men they despatched on this enterprize was upwards of eight hundred, commanded by some of their best officers, and provided with every thing deemed necessary to insure success. The American force opposed to them was less than four hundred. Notwithstanding this vast numerical difference, so judicious

were the arrangements of general Brown, and so deadly the fire with which he received the enemy, that he forced him to retreat precipitately, with considerable loss in boats and men, not one of his party having received even a wound. No further attempts were made to dislodge him, during his continuance at that post.

His term of service having soon afterwards expired, the general returned to his family at Brownville, and resumed, as heretofore, his agricultural pursuits. But with the talents and qualifications for war which he had recently exhibited, it was not to be expected, that in a time of danger, and on a frontier establishment, he would be suffered to remain in the enjoyment of repose. He was oftentimes consulted on military matters by the officers commanding in the district wherein he resided, to whom his advice was essentially serviceable, and who never failed to regard it with respect and deference. But on occasions of emergency, warriors must act as well as counsel. We accordingly, in the spring of 1813, find general Brown again in the field, and once more entrusted with the defence of Sackett's Harbour, which was menaced by a serious attack from the enemy.

All the regular troops, except about four hundred, who, from their recent arrival on the spot, were but little better than fresh recruits, had been removed from the harbour, to co-operate in the meditated reduction of Fort George. The furniture of the cannon having been carried off to complete the outfit for the same service, the batteries were nearly in a dismantled state. Nor could any efficient aid be derived from the co-operation of the fleet, in as much as that, with the exception of two small schooners, were all employed in the expedition up the lake. In fact, considering its exposed situation, and the vital importance of the post, Sackett's Harbour had been, to the astonishment of all military men, left in a most unprotected and perilous condition. To aid in its defence, general Brown embodied, with all practical promptitude, a few hundred militia from the adjacent district, who had scarcely arrived when the enemy made his appearance. The general's situation was critical in itself, and to the heart of a soldier trying in the extreme. It was his duty to meet the fire, perhaps the bayonets, of veterans, with a handful of raw, undisciplined troops, many of them but a few days from the bosom of their families, their domestic feelings still awake; and their habits of civil life perfectly unbroken, and none of whom had ever before

faced an enemy in the field. But his own activity, valour, and skill, aided by the determined bravery of lieutenant colonel Backus, of the regular army, supplied all deficiencies. Arrangements were made to receive the enemy with a warm and galling fire at his place of landing, and to contest the ground with him in his advance towards the fort.

The regiment of United States' troops were stationed in the rear, while general Brown, at the head of his new levies, occupied in person the first post of danger. On the second fire the militia broke and fled in disorder, but were rallied again by the exertions of their commander. During the remainder of the conflict, which was warm, and continued some time with varying success, the presence of the general was every where felt, applauding the brave, encouraging the timid, and rallying the flying, till his efforts were ultimately crowned with victory. In consequence of the firm front presented by the regulars, and the judicious disposition of a body of militia threatening his rear, the enemy, without accomplishing his object, was compelled to relinquish the contest, and retreat in great haste and some disorder to his place of embarkation. The annals of warfare afford but few instances where the success of a battle was more justly attributed to the talents and conduct of the commander in chief, than on the present occasion. To general Brown, in person, did the whole army concur in ascribing the merit and honour of the victory. His valour, activity, and skill, during the action, had rendered him conspicuous in every eye. This affair, although diminutive in itself, when compared with the gigantic battles of Europe, was, notwithstanding, important in its consequences, in as much as it saved from destruction our great naval depot on the lakes, and compelled the enemy to respect our arms.

General Brown, returning once more to private life, amidst the plaudits and congratulations of his fellow citizens, and accompanied by a pleasing consciousness of having contributed, not ineffectually, to the interests of his country, was offered, in reward of his services, and as an acknowledgment of his worth, the command of a regiment in the regular army. This offer the general unhesitatingly declined, from motives which were perfectly correct and honourable. The acceptance of it would have necessarily contracted his sphere of action, placed him below officers whom he might then command, and, as the regiment

in his offer was yet to be raised, a considerable time must have elapsed before he could possibly have taken the field. In plain terms, being possessed of the pride and ambition of a soldier, he felt himself entitled to a higher rank. Nor was it long till the government of his country concurred with him in opinion, and appointed him a brigadier general in the army of the United States.

The first service in which general Brown was engaged under his new appointment, was novel and arduous, and required for its accomplishment the exertions of not only a man of ample resources of mind, but of one accustomed to the management of important concerns. It was the superintendance and direction of the arrangements for transporting, from Sackett's Harbour down the St. Lawrence, the army commanded by general Wilkinson in the autumn of the year 1813, in the abortive expedition for the reduction of Montreal. For the completion of these arrangements from the time of their commencement, only three weeks were allowed, a space which would seem utterly insufficient for the performance of a service so complicated and extensive. But talents, system, and industry combined, are competent to every thing short of a miracle: and it was such a combination that enabled general Brown to perform satisfactorily this eminently difficult and responsible duty, in even less than the allotted time.

In the expedition down the St. Lawrence, and during the course of the winter that succeeded, the duties and services in which general Brown was engaged, were of the utmost importance to the operations and well-being of the army, and in all of them he acquitted himself with distinguished reputation. Firmness under misfortune, and indefatigable perseverance, when difficulties presented themselves, were among the conspicuous traits in his character. He manifested a spirit alike invincible in the presence of an enemy, and under the hardships incidental to military life. The example of activity, vigilance and hardihood which his conduct presented to both officers and soldiers, was not among the least of his benefits to the service.

In descending the St. Lawrence, general Brown commanded the elite of the army, and, at French Creek, repulsed, with his own brigade, a naval armament of considerable force, despatched from Kingston to impede his progress. On passing the British fort at Prescott he was officer of the day, and to his skill and conduct, or

that occasion, is to be attributed, in a great measure, the safety of the army. His command was soon afterwards detached in advance, on the difficult and highly responsible duty of opening and preparing the way for the main army. The report of general Wilkinson, touching the manner in which that service was performed, embraces all that can be said of the excellence of an officer. In the disastrous affair at Williamsburg on the 11th of November, he was not present; no part, therefore, of the misfortunes of that day are ascribable to him.

On the abandonment of Canada by the American forces, an event which soon afterwards succeeded—general Wilkinson being seriously indisposed, and the other senior officers exchanging the hardships of a camp, and the rigours of a northern winter, for the luxuries and pleasures of civil life in a milder climate—the command of the army devolved on general Brown.

From the inclemency of the season, and the want of all the comforts and most of the necessaries of subsistence, the condition of the troops was at first deplorable. But by the exertions of the commanding general, aided by general Swartwout, of the staff, it was soon ameliorated. Comfortable huts were provided, the erection of which general Brown superintended in person, while general Swartwout was indefatigable in procuring supplies of provisions and clothing: Thus passed the winter, though not without trying hardships, yet with much less suffering than could have been reasonably expected in an army abandoned to its fate by those who ought to have been present to provide for its wants. In a military point of view, moreover, its aspect was such as to command respect from a menacing foe. By his ardent and persevering devotion to their comfort and interests, and the wisdom and ability which he displayed in promoting them, not more in their encampment, than during their toilsome and exposing march on their return to Sackett's Harbour, general Brown rendered himself deservedly the idol of the army, and rose not a little in the esteem of the nation. As a reward for his past services, and in full anticipation that, should his life be spared, a higher distinction in arms awaited him, he was promoted to the rank of major general. In that capacity he entered on the succeeding campaign, which will long be memorable in the annals of America—in which, under the guidance and protection of a kind and all-wise

Providence, he was so highly instrumental in checking the pride of Britain by land, which our naval heroes had already so effectually humbled by sea, and in restoring to the arms of his country, the splendour they had attained under the auspices of Washington.

In the winter of 1813-4, the enemy having gained possession of fort Niagara, and being in considerable force on the opposite shore, a determination was formed to remove once more the seat of war to that frontier. Perceiving that the conflict would be arduous and sanguinary, and that the master spirits of the army alone could encounter it with any reasonable prospect of success, the executive appointed general Brown to lead the expedition, associating with him, Scott, Gaines, Miller, and others, whose names have become conspicuous for all that is noble in the profession of arms.

The preceding campaign being darkened by disasters, and having failed, as many supposed, from the inability of those by whom it had been conducted, general Brown and his officers were fully sensible of the deep stake, which both themselves and their country held on the issue of the present. Their hearts and minds were prepared, accordingly, to meet with firmness the force of the crisis. It is generally understood that their determination was, not to survive misfortune, which they felt assured the public would regard, under any circumstances, as the result of mismanagement, and tantamount to disgrace. They went resolved to conquer or fall, that glory or the grave might cover them from censure.

This campaign being destined to form a fresh epoch in the history of the war, presented from its commencement a new aspect. The movements of the army were conducted with a celerity, a silence, and a vigour, which had not been observed on any former occasion. Accordingly, general Brown had advanced on his march almost to Buffalo, before it was generally known that he had left his encampment at Sackett's Harbour.

A few days previous to his passage into Upper Canada, the commanding general thus writes to his friend: "I shall, with the blessing of God, pass the strait before me the first week in July—I do not see that this army is to be assisted by the fleet of either lake, commodore Sinclair being ordered to Mackinac: but I do not despair of success, and rely on the goodness of my

cause, and the kindness of that Providence which has never forsaken me.”\*

The first achievement of general Brown on entering the enemies' territory, was the reduction of fort Erie, the garrison of which surrendered with but little resistance. He then declared martial law, and made known his views in a proclamation essentially different from those that had been issued by some of his predecessors. Instead of being marked with empty boasts and threats which he was utterly unable to execute, it breathed the principles and sentiments of an upright man and an honourable warrior. It set forth that “men found in arms, or otherwise engaged in acts of hostility, should be dealt with as enemies, while those demeaning themselves peaceably, and pursuing their private business should be treated as friends: that private property should be in all cases held sacred, but public property wherever found, seized and disposed of by the commanding general: that plundering was strictly prohibited: that the major general did not anticipate any difficulty in this respect from the regular army, nor from honourable volunteers, who had pressed forward to the standard of their country, to avenge her wrongs and gain her a name in arms.” The proclamation further declared, that “profligate men who follow the army for plunder, must not expect to escape the vengeance of those gallant spirits who are struggling to exalt the national character.”

No sooner had the general made the necessary arrangements in relation to the occupancy and security of fort Erie, than he marched to attack the enemy, who lay entrenched in his works at Chippewa. This was by every one considered as a daring, by many, as a rash and hazardous measure. But something signal being necessary to redeem the reputation which had been lost in the events of former campaigns, difficulties and dangers and remonstrances were disregarded. They even increased the anxiety for action, inasmuch as they would add to the glory of victory. The general's plans and determinations were formed, and nothing that human resolution, aided by all the means in his power, was capable of surmounting, could restrain him from

boldly attempting their execution. The wished for moment at length arrived. The enemy venturing from behind his entrenchments, the battle was fought on an open plain, and though not of long duration, was severe and sanguinary. The result is well known. The soldiers and officers of Wellington, who had wrested the laurels from the veterans of France, were defeated by a detachment from the American army. The only troops engaged on the part of general Brown, were general Scott's brigade, and a corps of volunteers commanded by general Porter. The remainder of the army, although burning for combat, had no opportunity of coming into action. Scott's brigade, in particular, animated by the example, and directed by the skill of its galliant and distinguished leader, performed little less than prodigies of valour. Wherever that band of heroes—for such they were—directed their fire or pointed their bayonets, the boasted “conquerors of the Peninsula” fled or fell. Nor were the volunteers under Porter, wanting in achievement. They manifested great coolness and bravery, and participated not a little in the honours of the day. The British fought on ground deliberately chosen by themselves, as most suitable to their discipline and plan of action, and the number of troops they had engaged—all regulars—was considerably superior to that of the Americans. Notwithstanding this, their discomfiture was complete, and their loss very considerable. Their works alone, behind which they retreated, preserved them from certain and irretrievable ruin. Such was the chastisement they received in this affair, that although battle was soon afterwards offered them again, on their own terms, as will appear from an extract of a letter from general Brown, they felt no disposition to accept the challenge.

The general discovering that unfounded reports were in circulation respecting some of the results of this battle, as well as the relative number of the combatants, felt indignant at the ungenerous effort thus made to detract from the well merited fame of his army. To correct the honest errors that were afloat, and counteract the wilful misrepresentations that were but too industriously propagated on this subject, he loses no time in making public the following statement: “We have ascertained to a certainty that the loss of the enemy was nearer six than four hundred. Great injustice is done to my brave companions in arms, in overrating our numbers. The enemy had more regular troops than we had en-

\* It redounds not a little to the honour of general Brown, that the army which he led into Canada, equal, perhaps, to any one of the same number that ever took the field—had been prepared for public service under his own eye. Such was its discipline, and such the confidence of the soldiers in each other, that an officer of rank belonging to it was heard to declare that, only show the troops in enemy, and communicate to them the plan of attack, and they would fight and conquer without their commander. To be the prime instrument in forming such an army is, of itself, an act of distinguished generalship; and that distinction belonged to general Brown;



gaged, and that upon a perfect plain, without a stump or a shrub to interpose. Besides, general Ryal had planed his order of battle at leisure, and came from behind his works in perfect condition for action." Shortly after the action at Chippewa, the general thus writes to his friend from Queenstown. "Hoping and believing that the enemy would make another struggle in the field, if pressed on his strong ground, supported by his forts on the height, I left all my baggage under a strong guard, and passed on with three days provision in our haversacks. The enemy fled before us, abandoning his fort on the height, and burning his barracks. He has retired for the present to fort Niagara and fort George. I shall rest my army here for a few days, taking care that the enemy shall not escape by land, and with the hope of hearing from Commodore Chauncey. I am in no condition to invest forts George and Niagara, without his aid and my battering guns, which I expect him to bring me from the Harbour. My ability to face the enemy in the field I do not doubt, and I shall not hesitate to meet him presently should he again offer me battle—I have now seen the falls of Niagara in all their majesty, and my camp is situate in a country affording the most sublime and beautiful scenery. I can fancy nothing equal to it, except the noble contest of gallant men on the field of battle, struggling for their country's glory and their own."

From Queenstown, where he had been for a short time stationary, general Brown marched with a part of his army down towards fort George. His object in this movement, besides reconnoitering the enemy, was to be near to the shores of lake Ontario, hoping that he might there receive some intelligence respecting Commodore Chauncey and the fleet. Being disappointed in this expectation, he returned after a few days to his station at Queenstown. The enemy, in the mean time, were not inactive. Having received large supplies, and no inconsiderable addition to their numbers, they concentrated their forces in the peninsula between Burlington and Erie, and felt themselves in a condition to offer battle. The proposal was eagerly embraced by the American general and his brave associates.

The British army commanded by lieutenant general Drummond in person, aided by major general Ryal and other skillful and distinguished officers, fought again on its own ground. It had selected a spot favourable for action, not far distant from

the falls of Niagara. The Americans who were again the assailants, made the attack in the evening, led on, as at Chippewa, by general Scott. The battle raged for several hours with unabated fury, the troops having no other lights to direct their movements, and conduct their steps to mutual slaughter, but the dismal gleam of their own arms. The wonder of nature, the adjacent falls, might equal, but could not, in grandeur and magnificence, surpass the scene which this conflict presented. Never was there a field more obstinately contested, nor considering the numbers engaged and the duration of the struggle, a broader display of individual heroism. The enemy, although superiour in numbers at the commencement of the action, and reinforced by a considerable body of fresh troops during its continuance, were compelled to yield to American valor. Four times did their bravest troops charge, to regain their artillery, which had been wrested from them, and as often were they compelled to fall back in dismay. Their loss in killed, wounded and prisoners was upwards of a thousand men. Among the latter was major general Ryal and twenty other commissioned officers, some of them of rank. The loss on the American side, although somewhat less, was by no means trifling. General Brown was himself severely wounded, and among the slain was one of his aids, a youth of accomplished manners and exalted promise. The intrepid Scott, who was to be found only where slaughter was thickest and danger most threatening, received a wound which still deprives his country of his services in the field.

The severity of general Brown's wounds compelled him to a temporary retirement from service. But in the space of a few weeks we find him again at the head of his army, no longer indeed in the field, but within the walls of fort Erie. In the interim our troops in that fortress had been much harrassed and pressed by the enemy, now become superior in a still higher degree by reinforcements, and exasperated to madness by their late defeats. An assault of the works had been attempted, but was gallantly repelled by the American forces then under the command of general Gaines. Not long afterwards that excellent officer received a serious wound from the bursting of a shell, which obliged him also to retire for a time from the service of his country.

Menaced in front by a powerful enemy, and having a river of difficult passage in

their rear, the troops in fort Erie began to be considered in a very perilous situation. The solicitude for the safety of men, who, by acquiring glory for themselves had conferred it on their country became universal and great. For a time every eye seemed directed towards Erie, and every American heart felt a deep interest in the fate of those heroic spirits who had fairly conquered the "conquerors of the Peninsula." But to a commander whose mind is firm, collected, and rich in resources, difficulties are but the harbingers of fresh triumphs. While general Drummond was engaged in formidable arrangements intended for the destruction of the American forces, general Brown was still more actively and sagaciously employed in devising means for their safety and glory.

By the middle of September, the enemy had nearly completed a line of batteries to command the fort, which, when in full operation, would have rendered the position of the Americans at least unsafe, if not untenable. But general Drummond, while erecting this extensive work of annoyance, was little aware of the disaster and mortification he was preparing for himself, and the laurels he was cultivating for the brow of his adversary. On the 17th of September, the day before the fire from the batteries was to commence, another scene of glory opened on the American commander and his brave associates. His plan being matured, and his troops in readiness, their spirits wound up to the highest enterprize, general Brown made a sortie, not in the form of a "night attack," of which a distinguished British officer had so bitterly complained, but in the face of day, drove the enemy from his strong hold with the loss of more than eight hundred men, spiked his cannon, and destroyed his works. Thus was the labour of thousands, continued unremittingly for many weeks, frustrated in an hour by the skilful and well-timed enterprize of a commander, and the valour and heroism of a few gallant soldiers. The loss of the Americans, though considerable, was far inferior to that of the British. Several excellent officers fell on both sides.

For brilliancy and effect, this sortie challenges a comparison with any thing recorded in the annals of war. It is of itself sufficient to gain for a commander a name in arms. It resembled not a little the celebrated exploit of general Elliot, in the year 1781, against the battery erected by the Spaniards, with a view to the reduction of the fort of Gibraltar. To render

the discomfiture of the enemy the more signal, and his disappointment the more galling, the besieged general, in each instance, suffered the hostile work to be ready for operation, before the development of his plan for its demolition. In each instance, moreover, the success of the assailants was alike complete, and alike decisive of the issue of the siege.

While preparing for this enterprize, which he had for sometime meditated, general Brown writes thus to an intimate friend: "I trust the nation will not submit! I believe the pressure of the enemy cannot fail to make us great—and I pray God that my hopes may not be disappointed! My own fate, and the fate of the brave and good men around me, are very uncertain." Shortly after the destruction of his works, general Drummond retreated from before fort Erie, and fell back on fort George, leaving the American army in the enjoyment of security and repose, as the reward of their valour. The conflict in that quarter being now apparently at an end, general Brown was transferred from the Niagara frontier to the command of Sackett's Harbour, which constitutes, as we believe, his present station.

The achievements of the American army during the last campaign in Upper Canada, considering the circumstances under which they were effected, need no comment. They are their own best interpreters, speaking in a language which cannot be misunderstood. They announce in the commander, talents, perseverance and daring enterprize, and in his brave associates, patience and gallantry, invincible firmness and military discipline in its highest style. They will be selected hereafter by the hand of history, to enrich and emblazon some of her choicest pages. To triumph with inferior numbers, and in open conflict, over troops that had defeated the veteran legions of France, is of itself sufficient to consummate the glory of any commander: and such has been the fortune of general Brown.

We know it has been said by some, that the movements and measures of the last campaign, were characterized by rashness, and that their successful issue is to be attributed more to good fortune than to able generalship. We consider the charge as neither generous nor just. What might well be deemed rashness at one conjuncture, is wisdom at another; and that general who does not trust somewhat to fortune, will rarely become great. He may, indeed, save his forces, and acquire the reputation of a prudent commander. But, if he calculate

too nicely, he is not the man to gain for his country a name in arms, nor suddenly to revive, by deeds of valour, the hopes and prospects of a people broken in their spirits by repeated disasters.

It has been already stated, that, at the opening of the Canadian campaign, the reputation of the American land-arms was at a low ebb. To retrieve this, and arouse the spirits of the nation, something of noble and impetuous daring—something beyond the mere dictates of cold, calculating prudence and gray-haired wisdom, had become essential. The commander who would thus adventure—thus overstep the limits of common military discretion, would hazard his fame as well as his life. Of this general Brown was as fully sensible, as the sternest inculcator of wisdom and caution. But he was no less sensible, that the times demanded the risk, at least, of a sacrifice, and he was willing, should Heaven so order it, to be himself the victim. Hence the source—and wisdom herself will yet applaud them—of the hardy and hazardous measures he pursued. At another time he might, and, if we are not mistaken in him, would be, as circumspect in his calculations, as he has been heretofore venturesome: for such conduct, and such alone, belongs to the character of an able captain—to suit his plans, by corresponding changes, to the nature of the crisis, his own situation, and the exigency of affairs. Notwithstanding the prevalence of a contrary belief in the minds of many, such was unquestionably the conduct of Washington, that model of all that is praiseworthy in a commander.

In private life, as a neighbour, a friend, a husband and a father, general Brown is respected and beloved. In the character of a son, he is peculiarly exemplary. For many years his pious and assiduous attentions have been the support and consolation of his aged parents, one of whom is still living, to rejoice in his prosperity, and to pour forth now on the laureled head of the leader of armies, those benedictions which she once bestowed on the helpless infant.

*From the Analectic Magazine.*

### Anecdotes of the Battle on Lake Erie.

It is a trite remark, that general descriptions of battles present no distinct images to the mind. We read with little emotion of broadsides discharged, ships cut to pieces, and numbers killed and wounded; but when particulars are given us, when the imminent risks or piteous disasters of individuals are detailed, we fancy ourselves in their situations, and in a manner mingle personally in the conflict.—A mere outline of the battle of Erie was given some time since in the Biography of Commodore Perry; since then several circumstances have recalled us, which give a more vivid idea of the nature of the fight, and show the incessant and thickening perils with which that young officer was surrounded.

It was his lot repeatedly to see men swept away from his side; and even while conversing with him. One of these incidents

displays the coolness and presence of mind that prevailed among the officers, and indeed throughout the ship, enabling them even to jest with present dangers. The second lieutenant of the Lawrence, while standing beside Commodore Perry, was struck in the breast by a chain shot. The shot having passed through the bulwark, had no other effect than to knock him down, and lodged in the bosom of his waistcoat. He fell with an exclamation, and remained for a moment stunned by the violence of the blow.

Perry raised him up, and seeing no marks of a wound, gave him some cheering words, and told him he could not be hurt. The lieutenant coming to himself, put his hand into his bosom, pulled out the chain shot, and exclaiming "no str, but this is my shot," thrust it with great sang froid into his pocket.

In the course of the action Perry noticed a prime and favourite sailor, who was captain of one of the guns, very much embarrassed with his piece, which in consequence of the forelock being broken, was rather unmanageable and rebounded. Perry approached him, and in his usual encouraging manner, asked him what was the matter? The honest tar who had been showing, signs of infinite vexation, turned round, and as if speaking of a mistress, exclaimed reproachfully, "Sir my gun behaves shamefully—shamefully!" He then levelled it, and having taken aim raised up and squared himself in a fine martial style, when suddenly a cannon ball struck him in the breast, passed through him, and he fell dead, without a groan!

Lieutenant Yarnall, of the Lawrence, behaved throughout with great bravery and coolness. He was dressed as a common seaman, a red bandana handkerchief was tied round his neck, and another round his head, to staunch two wounds which he had received. From these the blood trickled down his face, and a splinter having passed through his nose, it had swelled to a hideous magnitude. In this frightful plight, looking like the very genius of carnage and ill luck, he came up to Perry in the hottest and bloodiest of the fight, and announced to him that all the officers of his division were killed. Perry ordered others in their place. Shortly after, Yarnall returned with a repentance of the dismal tidings that all the officers were shot down; "then, Sir," said Perry, "you must endeavour to make out by yourself, I have no more to furnish you!"

One circumstance which Perry relates deserves particular mention. It has in it something of sentiment that is above common life, and absolutely belongs to poetry. When in the sweeping havoc that was sometimes made, a number of men were shot away from around a gun, the survivors looked silently around to Perry—and then stepped into their places. Whenever he looked at the poor fellows that lay wounded and weltering on the deck, he always found their faces turned towards him, and their eyes fixed on his countenance. It is impossible for words to heighten the simple and affecting eloquence of this anecdote. It speaks volumes in praise of the heroism of the commander, and the loyal affection of his followers.

When Perry went off from the Lawrence to shift his flag to the Niagara, he stood up in the boat gallantly waving his sword, and was heard cheerfully to exclaim, "Pull away my brave boys!" so earnest was he that though the balls whistled round him he could scarcely be made to take a seat, and an old sailor, who had been in both battles of the Constitution, absolutely held him down.

Just after he had got on board the Niagara, and was on the quarter deck, a sailor who commanded one of the guns, seeing all his men shot down, turned with eagerness to Perry, and, laying both hands upon his shoulders, exclaimed, "For God's sake, Sir, give me some more men!" Such was the vivid animation that prevailed among all ranks—they had lost all sense of personal danger, and thought of nothing but victory.

When the Niagara dashed through the enemy's line, as she passed the Lady Prevost, Lieutenant Buchan, the commander of that vessel, was shot through the face by a musket ball. The vessels were then within half a pistol shot, so that every thing could be seen distinctly from one to the other. The crew of the Lady Prevost, unable in their crippled state to stand the fire of the Niagara, ran below; but their unfortunate commander remained on deck, and Perry saw him leaning on the companion-way, with his face on his hand, looking with fixed stare at his enemies. Perry immediately silenced the marines on the quarter deck, and running forward ordered the men to cease firing. He afterwards learnt that the strange conduct of Lieutenant Buchan was owing to sudden derangement caused by his wound. He was a brave officer, and had distinguished himself in the battle of the Nile.

While Perry was engaged at close quarters in the Niagara, Lieutenant Turner, a fine bold young sailor, who commanded the brig Caledonia, of three guns, spreading every sail endeavoured to get into action. His foresail interferred between him and the enemy, but, rather than take in an inch of canvass, he ordered his men to fire through it. Seeing the commodore engaged in the thick-set of the fight, he proposed to the commander of another small vessel, to board the Detroit; the other, however, prudently declined the rash but gallant proposal.

It has been mentioned that two Indians were on board the Detroit, stationed in the tops, to pick off our officers with their rifles. No sooner, however, did the ships come into close action, than they were dismayed by this new and tremendous species of battle, and slunk into the hold.—When the ship was taken they anticipated cruel treatment, if their nation was discovered, and borrowed sailors' clothes that they might pass for Englishmen. Thus disguised, they lay in close concealment for two days, when word was brought to Perry, that two Indians were concealed below who had not tasted food for eight and forty hours.

He had them brought up on deck, where they made a most uncount and ludicrous appearance, with their borrowed garments hanging about them. They expected nothing less than to be butchered.

ed and scalped, but notwithstanding, preserved the most taciturn inflexibility of muscle.—Perry, however, after putting a few good unnumbered questions to them, ordered them to be taken away and fed; a degree of lenity which seemed to strike them with more surprise than their stoic natures are apt to evince.

The only time that the coolness and self-command of Perry experienced any thing like a shock, was on seeing his young brother, a midshipman, knocked down by a hammock, which had been driven in by a ball. In the momentary agony of his mind he gave him up as slain, but had the delight to see him rise up perfectly unhurt.

Perry speaks highly of the bravery and good conduct of the negroes, who formed a considerable part of his crew. They seemed to be absolutely insensible to danger. When Captain Barclay came on board the Niagara, and beheld the sickly and part-colored beings around him, an expression of chagrin escaped him at having been conquered by such men. The fresh water service had very much impaired the health of the sailors, and crowded the sick list with patients.

We shall close these few particulars of this gallant and romantic affair; with the affecting fate of Lieutenant Brookes of the marines. It presents an awful picture of the scenes which the warrior witnesses in battle—his favourite companions suddenly cut down before his eyes—those dreadful transitions from the flush of health and the vivacity of youth, to the ghastliness of agonized death—from the cheering and the smile, to the shriek and the convulsion.

Brookes was a gay, animated young officer, remarkable for his personal beauty. In the midst of the engagement he accosted Perry in a spirited tone, with a smile on his countenance, and was making some observations about the enemy, when a cannon ball struck him in the thigh, and dashing him to the opposite side of the deck. The blow shattered him dreadfully, and the sudden anguish forced from him the most thrilling exclamations. He implored Perry to shoot him and put an end to his torture; the latter directed some of the marines to carry him below and consign him to the surgeon. The scene was rendered more affecting by the conduct of a little mulatto boy of twelve years of age, a favourite of Brookes'. He was carrying cartridges to one of the guns, but on seeing his master fall, he threw himself on the deck with the most frantic gesticulations and piercing cries, exclaiming that his master was killed; nor could he be appeased until orders were given to take him below, when he immediately returned to carrying cartridges.

Mr. Hamilton, the purser, who had worked at a gun like a common sailor, being wounded, was carried below and laid on the same mattress with Brookes. The wound of the latter was stanchcd, and he lay composed, calmly awaiting his approaching death. Hamilton observes that he never looked so perfectly beautiful as at this moment, when the anguish of his wound had imparted a feverish flush and lustre to his usually blooming countenance. He asked with great solicitude after Perry; and how the battle went. He gave a few directions respecting his own affairs, and while his voice was growing weaker and weaker, recommended his little mulatto to kindness and protection, directing into whose hands he should be placed. While he was yet talking, Hamilton's attention was suddenly attracted by some circumstance which occasioned him to look another way for a moment—the voice of his companion died upon his ear, and when he turned his face again, poor Brookes had expired!

### Additional Anecdotes.

(BY THE EDITOR OF THE MUSEUM.)

The means employed by our officers to take the brigs over the bar, were ingenious and deserve mention. Two large scows fifty feet long, ten feet wide and eight feet deep, were prepared—they were first filled with water and then floated along side one of the vessels in a parallel direction; they were then secured by means of large pieces of hewn timber placed athwart ship, with both ends projecting from the port holes across the scows; the space between these timbers and the boat secured by other pieces properly arranged; the water was then bailed from the scows, thereby giving them an astonishing lifting power.

On the morning of the 10th of September, at sunrise, the enemy were discovered bearing down from Malden for the evident purpose of attacking our squadron, then at anchor in Put-in-Bay. Not a moment was to be lost. Our squadron immediately got under way and stood out to meet the British

fleet, which at this time had the weather gage. At 10 A. M. the wind shifted from s. w. to s. e. which brought our squadron to windward. The wind was light, the day beautiful—not a cloud obscured the horizon. The line was formed at 11, and Commodore Perry caused an elegant flag, which he had privately prepared, to be hoisted at the mast head of the Lawrence; on this flag was painted in characters, legible to the whole fleet, the dying words of the immortal LAWRENCE,—“DON'T GIVE UP THE SHIP.” Its effect is not to be described—every heart was electrified. The crews cheered, the exhilarating can was passed. Both fleets appeared eager for the conflict, on the result of which so much depended.

The editor of this paper, in company with five others, arrived at the head of Put-in-Bay island on the evening of the 9th, and had a view of the action at the distance of only ten miles. The spectacle was truly grand and awful. The firing incessant for the space of three hours, and continued at short intervals forty-five minutes longer. In less than one hour after the battle began most of the vessels of both fleets were enveloped in a cloud of smoke, which rendered the issue of the action uncertain, till the next morning, when we visited the fleet in the harbour on the opposite side of the island. The reader will easily judge of our solicitude to learn the result. There is no sentiment more painful than suspense, when it is excited by the uncertain issue of an event like this.

The carnage on board the prizes was prodigious—they must have lost 200 in killed, besides wounded. The sides of the Detroit and Queen Charlotte were shattered from bow to stern; there was scarcely room to place one's hand on their larboard sides without touching the impression of a shot—a great many balls, canister and grape, were found lodged in their bulwarks, which were too thick to be penetrated by our earonnades, unless within pistol shot distance. Their masts were so much shattered that they fell overboard soon after they got into the bay.

The loss of the Americans was severe, particularly on board the Lawrence. When her flag was struck she had but nine men fit for duty remaining on deck. Her sides were completely riddled by the shot from the long guns of the British ships. Her deck, the morning after the conflict, when I first went on board, exhibited a scene that defies description—for it was literally covered with blood, which still adhered to the plank in clots—brains, hair and fragments of bones still sticking to the rigging

and sides. The surgeons were still busy with the wounded—enough!—horror appalled my senses.

Among the wounded were several brave fellows, each of whom had lost a leg or an arm—they appeared cheerful and expressed a hope that they had done their duty. Rome and Sparta would have been proud of these heroes.

The efficacy of the gun boats was fully proved in this action, and the sterns of all the prizes bear ample testimony of the fact.—They took raking positions and galled the enemy severely. (The *Lady Prevost* lost twelve men before either of the brigs fired on her.—Their fire was quick and precise. Let us hear the enemy.—The general order of Adjutant General Baynes, contains the following words: "His [Perry's] numerous gun boats, [four] which had proved the greatest annoyance during the action were all uninjured."

The undaunted bravery of admiral Barray entitled him to a better fate; to the loss of the day was superadded greivous and dangerous wounds: he had before lost an arm; it was his hard fortune to lose the use of the other, by a shot which carried away the blade of the right shoulder; a canister shot made a violent contusion in his hip: his wounds were for some days considered mortal. Every possible attention was paid to his situation.—When Commodore Perry sailed for Buffalo, he was so far recovered that he took passage on board our fleet. The fleet touched at Erie. The citizens saw the affecting spectacle of Harrison and Perry supporting the wounded British hero, still unable to walk without help, from the beach to their lodgings.

On board of the *Detroit*, twenty-four hours after her surrender, were found snugly stowed away in the hold, two Indian Chiefs who had the courage to go on board at Malden, for the purpose of acting as sharp shooters to kill our officers. One had the courage to ascend into the round top and discharge his piece, but the whizzing of shot, splinters, and bits of rigging, soon made the place too warm for him—he descended faster than he went up; at the moment he reached the deck, the fragments of a seaman's head struck his comrade's face, and covered it with blood and brains. He vociferated the savage interjection "quoh!" and both sought safety below.

The British officers had domesticated a bear at Malden. Bruin accompanied his comrades to battle—was on deck of the *Detroit* during the engagement, and escaped unhurt.

The killed of both fleets were thrown

over board as fast as they fell. Several were washed ashore upon the island and the main during the gales that succeeded the action.

Commodore Perry treated the prisoners with humanity and indulgence; several Canadians, having wives at Malden, were permitted to visit their families on parole.

The British were superior in the length and number of their guns as well as in the number of men. The American fleet was manned with a motly set of beings, Europeans, Africans, Americans, from every part of the United States. Full one fourth were blacks. I saw one *Russian*, who could not speak a word of English. They were brave—and who could be otherwise under the command of Perry?

The day after the battle, the funeral obsequies of the American and British officers who had fallen in the action were performed, in an appropriate and affecting manner. An opening on the margin of the bay was selected for the interment of the bodies. The crews of both fleets attended. The weather was fine—the elements seemed to participate in the solemnities of the day, for every breeze was hushed and not a wave ruffled the surface of the water. The procession of boats—the neat appearance of the officers and men—the music—the slow and regular motion of the oars, striking in exact time with the notes of the solemn dirge—the mournful waving of the flags—the sound of the minute guns from the different ships in the harbor—the wild and solitary aspect of the place—the stillness of nature, gave to the scene an air of melancholy grandeur, better felt than described—all acknowledged its influence—all were sensibly affected. What a contrast did it exhibit to the terrible conflict of the preceding day! Then the people of the two squadrons were engaged in the deadly strife of arms. Now they associated like brothers, to pay the last sad tribute of respect to the dead of both nations.

Five officers were interred, two American and three British. Lt. Brooks and midshipman Laub of the *Lawrence*; Captain Finnis and Lt. Stokoe of the *Queen Charlotte*, and Lt. Garland of the *Detroit*.

The graves are but a few paces from the beach, and the future traveller of either nation, will find no memento by which to distinguish the American from the British hero.

The *marines* of our fleet were highly complimented by the commodore, for their good conduct; although it was the first time the most of them had seen a square rigged vessel, being fresh from Harrison's army.

The Kentuckians proved, on this occasion, as was the commodore since, that they can fight on both elements.

### Captain Downie.

*From a late St. John's paper.*

Captain G. Downie, who fell in the late engagement on Lake Champlain, was the son of a respectable Clergyman in the county of Ross. At an early period of his youth, he entered into the navy as a Midshipman, and served on board the *Circé* frigate, at the memorable battle at Camperdown. He acted in the same capacity, for some time, in the *Melampus*, and afterwards in the *Apollo* frigate in the West-Indies for several years. In this station, his uniform good conduct and strict attention to his duty, received the most flattering approbation of his superiors, and recommended him to the particular notice of Admiral Montague, the commander of the Jamaica station, who promoted him to the rank of Lieutenant. On his return to England, for the recovery of his health, which had been much impaired, his promotion was confirmed by the Admiralty; and in 1804, he was appointed by Earl St. Vincent to the *Sea-horse* frigate, of 35 guns, then commanded by the hon. capt. Boyle. This was the commencement of Lieut. Downie's career as a distinguished officer, in May 1805, in a six-oared cutter, manned from the *Sea-horse*, he performed a most important service in the Mediterranean, by the capture of a Spanish convoy, laden with naval and ordnance stores, though under the protection of a battery, two armed schooners, and several mortar and gun launches. This gallant achievement was effected with infinite judgment, intrepidity, and spirit, by Lieut. Downie and his brave comrades, of which a most honorable report was made by captain Boyle, in his public despatch to the admiralty.

Captain Boyle was succeeded in his command by the late much lamented Captain J. Stewart, between whom and Mr. Downie, who was then 1st Lieutenant, the most confidential intercourse subsisted. The admirable discipline, order and regularity of the ships' company of the *Sea-horse* attracted the notice of Lord Collingwood, the commander in chief, who, to that high state of discipline, combined with the skill and gallantry of the officers, mainly attributed the splendid victory obtained by this single frigate in the attack and defeat of a squadron of Turkish ships in the Archipelago, in the night of the 5th July, 1805.

This was one of the most celebrated actions fought by a single ship during the war against a force so greatly superior. After a severe and sanguinary engagement of four hours, it terminated in the capture of the *Beder Zatter* of 52 guns and 500 men. Another frigate was sunk, and a corvette escaped. In this brilliant affair, which reflects so much lustre on the British flag, Lieutenant Downie bore a conspicuous share. Such was the tremendous fire of the *Sea-horse*, and such the obstinate bravery of the enemy that 165 men were killed and 190 wounded in the Turkish ship before her colours were struck! Lt. Downie was immediately put in command of the captured frigate, which he carried to Malta, and soon after he was promoted to the rank of master and commander, his commission being dated from the day of the action.

In the year 1810, Captain Downie was appointed by Mr. Yorke to the command of the Royalist sloop of war in the Downs. In this most useful though unprofitable service, Captain Downie, by his unceasing activity, vigilance, and perseverance, in all weathers, captured or destroyed so many of the enemy's privateers in the channel, that on the 1st of January 1813, he received from Lord Melville the great object of his ambition, the rank of a Post Captain in the British Navy.

Captain Downie, though a strict disciplinarian, yet always conciliated the attachment of his ship's company, by the temper and impartiality with which he noticed any neglect of duty. To preserve the health of the men was his first object, and this he attained in a great degree by rigidly enforcing a general observance of temperance and cleanliness.

This enterprising spirit and zeal in the prompt and vigorous discharge of every public duty, no doubt, pointed him out, among others, as eminently qualified for the arduous service on the Canadian Lakes. In April last he sailed with the expedition from Portsmouth, to join the fleet on Lake Ontario, as second in command to Sir James Yeo, where he remained till the end of August, when he was detached by that officer to take the command of the flotilla on Lake Champlain, for the purpose of co-operating with the army under Sir George Prevost.

On the 11th September he while gallantly leading his ship *Confiance*, to attack the American commodore, he was unfortunately killed, at the commencement of the action. Captain Downie was honoured with the friendship of many distinguished officers of high rank in service, by whom he was much esteemed. In private life, his

many amiable and estimable qualities endeared him to a numerous and respectable circle of friends, who sincerely lamented his untimely fall. Indeed, the death of an officer of such acknowledged talents in his profession, and of such high promise, may justly be regarded as a public loss.

*From the United States Gazette.*

Lieutenant FRANKLIN E. HOWELL, killed in the engagement on board the United States' frigate President, was a son of the late Governor Howell, of New-Jersey.—When about four years old he had the misfortune to lose his father, whose loss however, was in a great measure made up to him by Gen. Franklin Davenport of Woodbury, who took him into his family and treated him with all the affection of a kind and tender parent. Under the more immediate care and instruction of Miss Deborah Davenport, sister to the general, he received the rudiments of his moral and religious education, which had an abiding effect on him. His literary acquirements, in which he had made considerable progress, were obtained in the Woodbury Academy. He was entered a midshipman in the United States service, under Commodore Decatur, sometime in the year 1811, in which capacity his conduct was such as to acquire him the esteem of his equal and superior officers, and to recommend him to the attention of the government, who in the year 1814 conferred on him the rank of lieutenant. In his disposition he was amiable, in his deportment moral, in his manners unusually polite and gentlemanly, in his office firm and brave.—Such was this young gentleman, who fell in the late destructive war, at the early age of eighteen, in bravely defending the flag of his country. Thus have been blasted the fond hopes and pleasing expectations of many kind parents and friends, by this worse than useless war! He has left a large circle of relations, friends and acquaintances to lament his premature death; but while they mourn they have the consolation to reflect that he fell undauntedly discharging his official duty.

*From the Boston Patriot.*

It may be recollected that in the engagement between the U. S. ship Wasp, and the British brig of war Reindeer, two officers on board the American vessel were stated to have been dangerously wounded, viz. HENRY S. LANGDON, Jr. and FRANK TOSCAN, Midshipmen, of Portsmouth, N. H.—They have both since died of their wounds. The following particulars concerning the

former of these young gentlemen are contained in a letter from an officer of the Wasp:

He was stationed in the foretop, and there commanded a body of marines, from whose musketry the enemy suffered severely during the engagement, as they themselves acknowledged. About the middle of the action, the Reindeer shot athwart the Wasp's bows, so that the foresail of the latter was in the way of her own men, and prevented the effect of her fire. Unwilling thus to seek respite from danger, or that the enemy should profit by their inactivity, the men, cheered by his example, swung themselves upon the foreyard, and presenting their muskets under the foresail, poured a deadly and destructive fire upon the Reindeer's deck. In this hazardous situation he received a musket ball in the breast, which proved to be mortal, but did not then deter him from duty; he refused to be taken on deck, or to quit his post, until the action was over, and, with a veteran composure to the last, kept encouraging his men to *keep cool and take good aim.*

He lingered until the arrival of the Wasp at L'Orient, and there laid down for his beloved country, a life, which, if spared, would have been devoted to her service; leaving to be lamented, by his afflicted friends, the loss of the greatest worth and goodness of heart, combined with the most amiable disposition and pleasing manners."

*From the Delaware Gazette.*

Com. Thomas Macdonough,

The hero of Champlain, was born at the Trap, in New Castle county and state of Delaware, in Dec. 1783. His father, Dr. Thomas Macdonough, was born at the same place and was practising physic there, at the beginning of the revolutionary war. At the particular request of his friend, col. Haslet, who was killed at Princeton; he took the command of a battalion of the Delaware regiment. After his tour of duty was performed, he returned to his native state, where he took the command of a regiment of militia, and where he was afterwards appointed an associate judge in the court of Common Pleas, in which office he continued until his death in 1795. The Doctor's father, James Macdonough, was a respectable inhabitant of the county, and died at a very advanced age in 1782. Dr. Thos. Macdonough left four sons, James, Thomas, Samuel, and John—James, the elder, entered as a midshipman on board

the Constellation with Capt. Truxton; and, after distinguishing himself under that gallant commander, returned to his native state, disabled by the loss of a leg, sustained in the capture of the Insurgent. At his return Thomas was peaceably employed in a store, in Middletown, in his native state; but catching from James the soldier's flame he entered, as his brother had done, as a Midshipman in the naval service of his country. He was then about seventeen years of age; and, in a profession thus voluntarily and ardently embraced, he was not likely to remain long undistinguished. *A speck of war* only was seen in our political horizon, and against the Tripolitans the opportunities for enterprise were very rare. The e, however, when they did occur, were embraced by our naval heroes with an eagerness, and executed with an intrepidity and skill which not only astonished the world, but even themselves.—Sympathy which give a single force to their united action, and a generous emulation, which stimulated their courage almost to desperation, gave to Great Britain an ominous presage of their future greatness: to their country the fondest and proudest hopes, and made their Barbarian enemy exclaim, 'they are more than mortals.' Among such as these Macdonough was eminently distinguished, and by his conduct in the destruction of the Philadelphia, and the subsequent capture of a Tripolitan gunboat, by the side of Decatur, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

Without the patronage of friends, our young hero advanced by his courage and conduct from the humble birth of a midshipman to a command which covered the heart of the nation; a command by the experience of former wars proved to be of vital importance—where every thing was to be created by his genius, and protected by his vigilance.

In a very gloomy moment he answered the hopes of his countrymen, and in a radiance of glory disvelled the menacing storm. But it was not he! It was the Lord of Hosts who stopped to show to an offending nation, in a moment of despondence, that he will listen to the prayers and nerve the arm of a christian Hero. An habitual respect for the christian religion is often mistaken for Christianity, and pressed in to service to adorn the character of the Soldier—not such are the claims of Macdonough. His religion appears to be of that vital nature which reaches the heart, tempers the affections, and regulates the actions. It may be said in spiritual, as in temporal affairs, that he has fought the

good fight and came off more than conqueror. In a letter to a relative in Delaware written in June last, after expressing his warm regard for the place of his nativity, and friends of his youth, and promising to visit them if God should spare his life to the close of the present season, he declares the happiness he derives from his reliance upon the merits and atonement to Christ, and earnestly recommends to them a religious life as the only one which good sense would point out to those convinced that there is another world. To his brother's widow, left in slender circumstances, he tenders liberal pecuniary aid, and delicately releases her from all obligation on that score, by declaring that it is his religion which makes him the widow's friend. A victory obtained under the command of such a hero, ought to inspire us with the hope, that God will stay his avenging hand, if the people will look up to and acknowledge him to be their God. Let the example of Macdonough teach those to whom the nation has confided its sword, that Religion does not unnerve the arm of the brave, nor lessen the authority of its votary. Before he went into action, he prostrated himself, with his crew, before the most high, and confiding in the Almighty, they fearlessly met the enemy.—When he saw the hostile fleet approaching, he observed to those around him, "they are superior to us in force, but by the blessing of God we can beat them." And so indeed he did. The world has often been called upon to witness the prodigious effect of religion in exalting the human energies. Without recurring to the memorable æras of Joshua, David and Maccabeus, when a religious dependence on the Lord of Hosts excited to almost supernatural valor, or to histories of the Romans, Greeks and other Pagan nations, whom favourable omens, by inspiring with even superstitious sense of the protection of Heaven, were sure almost to lead to victory, or the combats under the banners of the Cross for the tomb of our Saviour, in which were strikingly displayed the triumph of religious enthusiasm over the greatest privations and dangers: we see in our day, the striking effects of religion upon an army, which we call barbarians, but to which enlightened Europe now owes its deliverance.

The army, although composed principally of raw levies, yet inspired by a religious confidence, has triumphed over the best appointed and disciplined army, led by the most distinguished captain of the age. The Russian Gen. Suwaroff knew



the power of religion in the day of battle, and always availed himself of it with an irresistible effect, and in the solemn address of the renowned Kutusoff, and procession of the holy cross, at the battle of Borodino, who does not see the soul of that valor, displayed by the Russians, in that most sanguinary of all conflicts.

Let, then, every officer, inculcate, by precept and practice, a regular attention to the duties of religion, and God will reward it by a gift of more than mortal strength and valor.

Various forms of religious duties have been ordered in all armies, from a conviction of their utility; but they can never be effectual, unless they are felt as more than forms, by officers and soldiers.

### Life of Colonel George Croghan,

BY A LADY OF FRANKFORT.

To the Editor of the Post Office.

Frankfort, July 22, 1814.

Sir—Upon receiving the letter which you did me the honor to address to me by Mrs. B, I immediately took such measures as were necessary to procure the information you requested. I now transmit to you the result of my enquiries, regretting that it was not in my power to do it sooner.

At the time when Col. Croghan and myself were inmates of the same house, he was in his fourteenth year. No incident occurred during that early period, sufficiently interesting to find a place in his history; yet even then, his conduct exhibited a happy combination of those talents and principles which have already procured him the admiration and gratitude of his country.

Though ingenuous in his disposition and unassuming and conciliating in his manner, he was remarkable for discretion and steadiness. His opinions when once formed, were maintained with modest, but persevering firmness; and the propriety of his decisions generally justified the spirit with which they were defended. Yet though rigid in his adherence to principle, and his estimate of what was right or improper, in cases of minor importance he was all compliance. I never met with a youth who would so cheerfully sacrifice every personal gratification to the wishes or accommodation of his friends. In sickness and disappointment he evinced a degree of patience and fortitude which could not have been exceeded by any veteran in the school of misfortune or philosophy. Were I asked, what were the most prominent features of his character? or, rather what

were the prevailing dispositions of his mind? at the period of which I am speaking, I would answer, *decision and urbanity*; the former resulting from the uncommon and estimable qualities of his *understanding*—the latter from the concentration of all the "sweet charities of life" in his heart. Thus far from my own observation. I have seldom seen Col. Croghan for the last eight years; but subjoin the testimony of those to whose observation he has been exposed during the whole of that period.

An intelligent young gentleman, who was his associate in study and in arms, has given me a brief sketch of his military career; which I herewith transmit; together with such corroborative and additional circumstances, as I have collected from other sources, and which in substance, amount to this.

"Lieutenant Colonel George Croghan was born at Locust Grove, near the falls of Ohio, on the 15th of November, 1791. His father Major William Croghan left Ireland at an early period of his life; was appointed an officer in our revolutionary army, and discharged his duties as such to the satisfaction of the commander in chief. His mother is the daughter of John Clark Esq. of Virginia, a gentleman of worth and respectability, who exerted himself greatly and contributed largely towards the support of our just and glorious contest. He had five sons; four of whom were officers in the revolutionary army. General William Clark who, together with Captain Lewis, explored and is at present governor of Louisiana, was too young to participate with his brothers in the achievement of our liberties but his conduct since is a sufficient demonstration of the part he would have taken had he been riper in years. The military talents of George R. Clark have obtained for him the flattering appellation of "the father of the western country."

"Col. Croghan has always been esteemed generous and humane; and when a boy, his manly appearance and independence of sentiment and action, commanded the attention and admiration of all who knew him.

"The selection of his speeches for scholastic exercises tended in some measure to mark his peculiar talent. They were of a nature entirely military. He read with delight whatever appertained to military affairs, and would listen for hours to conversations respecting battles. His principal amusements were gunning and foxhunting. He would frequently rise at twelve o'clock at night, and repair to the woods alone (or with no attendant but his little

servant) either to give chase to the fox, or battle to the wild cat and raccoon.

"Nothing offended him more, than for any one, even in jest, to say a word disrespectful of Washington.

"While in the state of Kentucky, his time was principally occupied by the study of his native tongue—geography—the elements of geometry—and the Latin and Greek languages. In these different branches of literature he made a respectable progress.

"In the year 1808, he left Locust Grove for the purpose of prosecuting his studies in the university of William and Mary.— In this institution he graduated as A. B. on the 4th of July, 1810; and delivered, on the day of his graduation, an oration on the subject of expatriation. This oration was deemed by the audience, concise, ingenious and argumentative, and was pronounced in a manner which did great credit to his oratorical powers. The ensuing summer he attended a course of lectures on law, and upon the termination of the course, returned to his father's, where he prosecuted the study of the same profession, and occasionally indulged himself in miscellaneous reading. Biography and history have always occupied much of his attention. He is an enthusiastic admirer of the writings of Shakspeare, and can recite most of the noted passages of that great poet and philosopher. He admires tragedy, but not comedy. He is (as his countenance indicates) rather of a serious cast of mind; yet no one admires more a pleasant anecdote, or an unaffected sally of wit.— With his friends he is affable and free from reserve—his manners are prepossessing—he dislikes ostentation, and was never heard to utter a word in praise of himself.

"In the autumn of 1811, was fought the battle of Tippecanoe. This was the first opportunity that offered for the display of his military talents. He embraced it with avidity—he left his father's house in the character of a volunteer, and was appointed aid to Gen. Harrison. On the 7th of November, an attack was made on the troops under the command of that officer; the enemy were repulsed with valor; and during the engagement young Croghan evinced the greatest courage, activity and military skill. His services were acknowledged by all; and he exhibited such proofs of a genius for war, that many of his companions in arms remarked that "he was born a soldier." A cant saying among the troops at Tippecanoe, was, "to do a main business;" and during the battle, he would ride from post to post, exciting the

courage of the men by exclaiming, "now, my brave fellows, now is the time to do a main business." Upon the return of the troops from Tippecanoe, they were frequently met by persons coming to ascertain the fate of their children or friends. Among the number of these was a very poor and aged man, whose son was slain in battle. Col. Croghan having ascertained the situation of the old man, and observing his inability to perform much bodily labor, regularly made his fires for him every morning, and supplied him with provisions, clothes and money. Many acts of this kind are related of him, by the soldiers and officers of Tippecanoe.

"After the battle of Tippecanoe his military ardor greatly increased, and upon the prospect of a speedy declaration of war, he expressed a desire to join the army.— Recommendatory letters of the most flattering kind were written by Generals Harrison and Boyd to the Secretary of War; and upon the commencement of hostilities against G. Britain, he was appointed Captain in the 17th regiment of infantry. He was stationed some time at Clark cantonment, near the falls of Ohio; but had not been long in command there, before he was ordered to march, with what regulars he had, to the head quarters of the north-western army, then at Detroit. His countenance beamed with delight upon receiving this order. There were large bodies of militia and volunteers on their march to Detroit; but before they had proceeded far they heard of Hull's surrender.

"Shortly after this, the command of the north-western army was given to general Harrison. Colonel Croghan commanded a short time at Fort Defiance on the Miami, but upon the defeat of Gen. Winchester, he was ordered to Fort Meigs. His conduct during that memorable siege, is handsomely noticed in General Harrison's official report, and he was shortly afterwards promoted to a majority, and stationed with his battalion at Upper Sandusky. While there, he received information, by express, of an attack upon Lower Sandusky. It was late in the afternoon when the intelligence reached him—the road between the two places was intolerably bad—the distance 36 miles, and the rain descending in torrents; yet he proceeded at the head of his battalion to its relief, and continued his march until 12 o'clock at night, by which time he had advanced 20 miles. It then became so dark that he and his men were obliged to lie down in the road and wait the return of light, rather than run the risk of losing their way.

He arrived at Fort Ball, 12 miles distant, before sun-rise the next morning, having waded through mud and mire frequently waist deep, and having been exposed to a heavy rain during the whole night. He was there informed that the report of an attack upon Lower Sandusky was unfounded, but after remaining a few days at Fort Ball he proceeded thither, having received orders to take the command at that post. He arrived there about the 15th of July. A few days after this, Fort Meigs was besieged by a large British and Indian force. No doubt was entertained that the enemy would visit Sandusky: accordingly Colonel Croghan laboured day and night to place the fort, which had received no advantages from nature or art, in a state of defence.—The necessity of cutting a ditch round the fort, immediately presented itself to him. This was done—but in order to render the enemy's plans abortive, should they even succeed in leaping the ditch, which was 9 feet wide and 6 deep, he had *large logs* placed on the top of the fort, and so adjusted that an inconsiderable weight would cause them to fall from their position, and crush to death all who might be situated below. This improvement in the art of fortification took place but a few days before the attack. It is novel, and originated with himself.

A short time before the action, he wrote the following concise and impressive letter to a friend. "The enemy are not far distant—I expect an attack—I will defend this post to the last extremity—I have just sent away the women and children, with the sick of the garrison, that I may be able to act without incumbrance—Be satisfied—I shall, *I hope*, do my duty.—The example set me by my revolutionary kindred is before me—let me die rather than prove unworthy of their name."

"In the afternoon of the first of August the attack upon Fort Sandusky was commenced. The particulars of that memorable and brilliant transaction can be collected from General Harrison's official account, dated "Seneca Town, August 4th, 1813," and a lucid statement of the motives most honorable to him, which influenced the conduct of Col. Croghan on that occasion, are contained in an "extract of a letter from himself to his friend in Seneca Town, dated the 27th August, 1813."—These, and several other interesting particulars, will be found in public prints which were issued between the 14th of August, and the 16th of September.

"The conduct of Col. Croghan after the battle, was such as might have been expect-

ed from his behaviour during its continuance. The wounded were treated by him with the greatest tenderness—with considerable peril he supplied them with water, by means of buckets let down by ropes from the outside of the pickets; and during the night, when he could not open the fort with safety, he had a communication made with the ditch, by means of a trench dug under the picketing, through which the wounded were conveyed into the fort.

Col. Croghan accompanied Gen. Harrison to Malden, but as the brigade to which he was attached was stationed there, he did not participate in the battle of the Thames. He is remarkable as a disciplinarian, and his orders are given with more promptness, precision and energy, than are usually met with even in more aged and experienced commanders."

The following extract of a letter, written by a fellow student and fellow soldier of Lieut. Col. Croghan, is here introduced as throwing additional light on the military character of that distinguished young officer.

Lieut. Col. George Croghan is a native of Kentucky, and the second son of Major William Croghan, near Louisville. He is the nephew of the gallant hero and accomplished General George Rogers Clark, the father of the western country, and of Gen. William Clark, the present enterprising governor of Missouri. His father is a native of Ireland, and having early embarked his fortunes in America, was a distinguished officer in the war of the revolution.

Lieut. Col. Croghan was born on the 15th November, 1791, and received all the advantages of education the best grammar schools in Kentucky could afford, until in his 17th year, when he commenced a scientific course in the ancient college of William and Mary in Virginia. Both at school and at college he was remarked for an open manliness of character, an elevation of sentiment, a strength of intellect, connected with a high and persevering ambition.

In July 1810, he graduated at William and Mary College, and soon after commenced the study of the law. With this view he continued to visit that university till the fall of 1811, when he volunteered his services in a campaign up the Wabash. A short time before the action at Tippecanoe, he was appointed aid-de-camp to Gen. Bowler, the second in command: and, although from his situation, he was not enabled to evince that activity which has since so much distinguished him, he exhibited a

soul undaunted in one of the most sanguinary conflicts of the present day, and accordingly received the thanks of the commanding general.

In consequence of his services on the Wash expedition, he was appointed a captain in the provisional army directed to be raised and organized in the spring of 1812. In August he marched with the detachment from Kentucky, under Gen. Winchester, destined to relieve Gen. Hull in Canada; and to those acquainted with the movements of that gallant but unfortunate little army, the caution, zeal and military capacity of Captain Croghan was conspicuous. Upon visiting the various encampments of the army on its march along the Miami of the Lake, both before and after the attack on Fort Wayne, the ground occupied by Captain Croghan was easily designated by the judicious fortifications erected for the night. On the movement of the army towards the Rapids, he was entrusted with the command of Fort Winchester, at the junction of the Auglaize and Miami river, where he manifested his usual military arrangement. After the defeat at the river Raisin he joined Gen. Harrison at the Rapids, previously to the erection of Fort Meigs.

It is creditable to the discernment of Gen. Harrison, that he relied with the utmost confidence on the judicious arrangements of Captain Croghan, in the trying, brilliant and ever memorable siege of Fort Meigs. In the sortie under the gallant soldier, Col. Millar, on the 5th of May, to the companies led by captains Croghan, Lagan and Bradford, was confided the storming of the British batteries, defended by a regular force and a body of Indians, either of them superior in number to the assailants. Here Captain Croghan's gallantry was again noticed in general orders.

At a very critical period of the last campaign, that of 1813, young Croghan, now promoted to a majority, was appointed to the command of Fort Sandusky, at Lower Sandusky. On his conduct in the defence of that post, the official documents of the time, and the applause of a grateful country, are the most honorable commentary. The character of the campaign was changed from defensive to offensive operations, and its issue very materially influenced by the achievement. For its valor and good conduct on this occasion, Major Croghan was made, by brevet, a lieutenant colonel.

Concise and eloquent eulogium on the character of Adjutant THOMAS POE, late of the Pennsylvania Volunteers, by Lieut. D. Cornyn, of the U. S. army.

#### ADJUTANT THOMAS POE.

The famous battle of Bridgewater, did not consign to the grave of glory a hero more intrepid than this gallant and distinguished patriot; warmed by the love of country, cherishing correct principles, and animated by the example of the revolutionary veteran his father, he spiritedly grasped the gleaming arms of battle, and Erie, Chippewa and Bridgewater, bear illustrious and honorable testimony to the high and daring virtues of his manly soul; his career of glory was short but brilliant—why did I say short? Posterity will rank him among our dearest sons, and secure to his memory an imperishable and exalted fame.

Yes, once amiable, gallant and beloved Poe! The silent grave that covers your brave remains, cannot enshrine your glory—Sacred be that ground where sleep our hero's bones! Often will the traveller of unborn generations stay his weary course and reverently stoop with the descending sun, over the tombs of the warriors of Bridgewater, his eyes suffused with tears of admiration, gratitude and love—and for them will the fair bosom of female sensibility and beauty, heave throughout every age, the affectionate and tender sigh.

The historian, the painter and the bard, will put genius in requisition, to emblazon the honor of that immortal day, which gave victory to inferior numbers of the sons of freedom, over the victors of renowned but fallen France. Poor Poe! Dear lamented youth! Your noble heart poured forth its generous and crimson current to secure the glories of that imperishable and Spartan battle—A battle, the recollection of which will be as terrible to Albion's haughty sons, during endless time, as is the stupendous and frightful cataract, in the vicinity of which it was fought, to the astonished vision of the traveller. Your death indeed is enviable—how inglorious the multitude lies down—You rest with heroes and your fame is now eternal—Happy lot!—made sacred by a glorious cause.—Reader, here is the character, the brilliant eulogy, given of this amiable and youthful hero, by an officer, who witnessed both his valor and his fall.

Adjutant Thomas Poe was mortally wounded and survived but a few hours.—He was brave—he acted the soldier and

the gentleman upon all occasions, and his name will be found recorded among the heroes of the age, for generations to come.

Peace to your manes, patriotic soldier!  
Your name will have friends as long as  
Freedom lives. August 16, 1814.

## SPEECHES ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS.

A SKETCH OF THE

### Hon. Mr. Holmes' Speech,

*In the Senate of Massachusetts, against the proposed amendment of the Constitution of the U. States, to exclude the Slave Representation.*

MR. PRESIDENT—Were there no other objections than the manner and time of introducing this amendment, these alone would be sufficient. It has been recommended by an association of men who were probably selected for very different purposes, and who could derive no authority from the law or constitution, I have denied and I still deny that the members of the Hartford Convention had more power than so many unauthorized individuals, to act, recommend or advise. And these individuals would be entitled to more respect did they not assume a tone and consequence to which they are not entitled.

I did hope that the committee of this Legislature who reported this and the other amendments, would have favored us with some reasons for its adoption. But this they have failed to do, either in the preamble to the report, or when called upon at the board. It seems that amendments to the Constitution are to be introduced and passed with as little ceremony as the most trifling resolve—And this too in a time of war and party rancour.

A constitution or charter of government should obtain a character for stability. It should be the offspring of calmness and discretion. It is not made for a day or year, or to gratify a party. Why then, sir, are we called upon at *this time*, to alter that charter, which was the result of the greatest wisdom and the purest patriotism—the effect of compromise, produced by mutual concession, and candour and forbearance?

I regret, sir, that I have not the aid of the Hon. President of this Senate, as I once before had, in opposing innovations upon the Constitution under the pretext of *amendment*. I very well remember, that some ten or twelve years ago, in the other branch of this Legislature, that I witnessed the talents and zeal of the President, in offering an amendment to the Constitution upon general principles. We then united in deprecating innovation in the national charter: upon frivolous pretences, and without the most pressing and palpable necessity. We urged that such amendments would diminish and destroy that habitual attachment for the Constitution which was essential to its preservation. And we feared that by frequent alterations, the energy of the system might be impaired and our government become the football of every faction. But times are changed—And gentlemen cease to reverence that Constitution, as soon as it ceases to secure to them power and controul.—Had the present minority been the majority in the United States, I am inclined to believe that we should hear them loud in their denunciations of all these *innovations* which you proffer in the name of *amendments*. I well know that the opinion of Washington is of little authority with the present majority of this state. But if

gentlemen can be induced to look at and respect his opinion, they will find in his farewell address, an excellent text on the subject of amendments to the Constitution.

Have these few gentlemen who met at Hartford, the vanity to presume that they have more wisdom, to discern the general good, and more influence to reconcile conflicting interests, or subdue inveterate prejudices, than the sages who framed this Constitution with a Washington at their head? Could this Constitution ever have been adopted, had not the necessity been most urgent and the danger most imminent? We had just emerged from the war of the revolution. The tempest had subsided, and in the sunshine of peace we had hoped to enjoy the fruits of our patriotic labours. But, thirteen free and independent States, varying in size, power and habits, intoxicated with the attribute of sovereignty and flushed with the prospect of liberty, were to be united under one federal head. How was this to be effected, and upon what terms? Each by the confederation had had an equal vote. These States were now to adopt a government, where these differences were to be reconciled. Was the state of Massachusetts to be put on a level with Rhode-Island? Was Virginia to stand on equal ground with Delaware? This would be outrageous. Were the voices of these little States to be in proportion to their members? By this their sovereignty would be extinguished and their names forgotten. Besides, different habits and prejudices were to be combated—State pride and State jealousy were to be overcome, and the different local feelings and interest of the several sections of the Confederate States, were to be consulted. To see a people who had but just achieved a revolution, and had begun to realize the benefit of independence, without an energetic government, torn by feuds and jealousies, and in imminent danger of losing that freedom, which had been gained at so much expense of treasure and blood, was afflicting and humiliating. The friends of liberty began to despond. Some, there were, (now high in the ranks of the opposition) who began, it is said, to think of a *master*, and a letter was written to a *Prince of Prussia*, inviting him to come to America, and take upon himself the government of these States. But heaven averted the danger. A Constitution was proposed in the spirit of concession and compromise. The influence of the great Washington prevailed. No one else could have effected the compromise. He is entitled to our gratitude, and so is the present Chief Magistrate of the United States, without whose influence, perhaps, Washington would never have accepted a seat in the Convention. The difficulties were overcome, and the principle agreed to, that the Legislature should consist of two branches, in one of which the States had an equal vote, and in the other the people. Here was the compromise.—The small and large States had a check upon each other, equal to the influence for which each had contended.

Beware how you touch this sacred charter of your government. Approach it with fear and trembling. Put off your shoes from off your feet, for the ground on which you tread is *holy*.

The clause to be amended was equally the effect of compromise. The people of the south probably contended that their representation ought to be in proportion to their inhabitants. They might well contend that holding slaves was a *municipal regulation* with which we had no concern. That they had as good a right to disfranchise their black population as we had our children or servants. That

these blacks were *human beings*, and though they had no rights of suffrage, still there were many persons in the Northern States in the same situation, and that whether they were to remain *slaves* or be manumitted, depended exclusively upon the laws of the States holding them. It was probably contended on the other hand, that these slaves were a species of *property*, having *few* or no civil rights; and that they ought not to be counted at all. At last it was agreed that *this* dispute should also be compromised. *Direct taxes* were to be apportioned according to representation.—We consented that the slave-holding States should count *three fifths* of their slaves in making up their representation, provided they would consent to be taxed in the same proportion.—And this article so modified, was accepted and considered as a very advantageous to the Northern States. To prove this, sir, I will refer you to the letters of the late General Hamilton, published in “the *Federalist*,” and will read you some remarks of certain members of the Convention of this state on the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. [Here Mr. H. read parts of the speeches of Messrs. Dawes, Dana, Gore, King, and Jones, who contended zealously and eloquently for this article, and that it was very much in favour of the Northern States, and proceeded.]

Well, sir, has there been any unexpected result from the operation of this article? Has any construction been put upon it different from its meaning or intent? I have heard of no complaint of this sort. Have the slave-holding States taken an undue advantage of that clause in the Constitution which admits their *importation* until 1808, and leaves it discretionary with Congress to admit or prohibit it *afterwards*? I believe not. Unless I misrecollect, Congress passed a law to prevent this importation, *before* the Constitutional prohibition had elapsed, to *take effect* the moment the Constitution would admit of it. And I believe further, that the Southern members *generally* supported and voted for the *act*. And if I mistake not, the principal opposition to that act came from *NEW-ENGLAND*! Surprising as this is, I think it is *true*. A Mr. Brown of Rhode-Island, in, I think, the only speech he made while a member, opposed the law which prohibited the *slave trade*. Rhode-Island, the great commercial State of Rhode-Island! which is hankering after an *equal* representation of the people in Congress, has, since the adoption of the Constitution contributed more to the increase of the slave representation, by an infamous traffic in human flesh, than any other State in the Union. Notwithstanding, it was not in the power of Congress to prohibit the importation of slaves until 1808, still their increase has not been equal to that of the free inhabitants. This is easily proved. In 1800, the whole number of free inhabitants was 4,406,817, slaves 896,849. In 1810, the free population was 6,048,539; slaves 1,191,361.

*Free Pop.* 1800, *Slaves* 1800, *Free Pop.* 1810.  
As 4,406,817: 896,849: 6,048,539: 1,230,962.  
the proportion of slaves for 1810—So that the actual number is less than proportionable, or has relatively diminished 39,598 in ten years; eight years of which period, Congress had no power to prohibit their importation. It is therefore manifest that this pretended evil is rapidly diminishing.

But, sir, I do not regret that this subject is brought under discussion. It has been magnified and made the cause of great deception. Some have believed that the slaves have actually been *voicing* away our rights and property. Let us strike out the whole number of slaves, and divide the 182 representatives equally among the *free* inhabitants of the United

States. Instead of diminishing the number, let us suppose that Congress, as they might constitutionally do, had apportioned the 182 among the free inhabitants.

<i>Free Pop.</i>	<i>Rep.</i>	<i>Free Pop. of N. England.</i>
As 6,048,539:	182:	1,471,975: 44 & a fraction

But their present number is 41 and a fraction—Hence New-England would gain three Representatives from the other States, and her proportion of the present direct tax would be increased about \$99,000 annually. But of these three, Massachusetts and Rhode-Island would gain *none*. There are five New-England States, and you have three additional representatives. Rhode-Island, to have one, must increase her population a third, which would be out of proportion. Massachusetts, in the last apportionment, had a very small fraction, and she would not get one. Connecticut, New-Hampshire, and Vermont, would each gain one with the additional taxes; and poor Massachusetts and Rhode-Island, who have been to all the trouble and expense, and made all the noise, would be left *as they were*.

But we have now an equivalent, without the additional burden of the taxes. It is clear that between the periods of taking the sensus, that portion of the United States which increases the most rapidly, loses its equal representation in the same proportion as it gains in population, therefore all the other States gain in population more than in proportion to New-England, the *latter* is gradually gaining in representation during the period of ten years. For example—if 5,303,666, the population in 1800, gain 1,936,237, in ten years, what ought 1,233,011, the population in New-England in 1800, to gain in the same time? The answer is 450,141, but the actual gain was 238,962, *only*, being 211,79, less than their proportion. This, consequently is their relative *loss* of population.—The gain in representation being correspondent, it follows that New-England, at the expiration of ten years, had gained six representatives.—But as this gain was gradual during the whole period, one half of this number is the average gain. So that it results that by the operation of this principle, New-England *gains* three representatives, and *loses* three by the slave representation, which exactly balances the account. But it is not to be supposed that the New-England States, especially the large state of Rhode-Island, would be satisfied with an equal representation in *one* branch of the Legislature, and not in the *other*. In vain would they seek relief from equality in the *House*, so long as inequality could oppress them in the *Senate*. How stands the case there? As the whole free population of the United States is to the whole number of Senators, so is the free population of New-England to *eight* and a fraction—the number of Senators to which we should be entitled. But we *now* have, and *always* have had *ten*. You will see by this, sir, how much reason New-England has to complain. *Equally* represented in the House, and *over* represented in the Senate, and yet complaining of inequality. Rhode-Island is dissatisfied. What would become of her, were she to be made the subject of that equality for which she contends? What good reason can be given for disturbing the public tranquility with such unnecessary and unsavory propositions? Is it to increase present embarrassments? Is it to continue local jealousies, already too much excited?—We are told by the Report of those Convention gentlemen, that we must *persist* and *persevere* until the object is effected. You expect then that the United States will yield to your importunities by this seeming threat? The call for this amendment is to

be incessant. Our rights have been abridged. The minority cannot control the majority. I repeat it, beware that you touch not the constitution with unhallowed hands. Will you say that we have polluted it? that we have broken it? Who is the judge? Take the *beam* from your own eye, and then you may, perhaps, see a little better to extract the *mote* from the eye of a brother. The gentleman from Essex [Mr. White] has said generally, that we had broken the constitution. This, for three years, has been your song. The constitution is violated: the compact is dissolved.

The doctrine of this Senate once was, that the Legislature had no right to declare a law of Congress unconstitutional. I have before me the journal of the Senate of 1799, containing a report in answer to certain resolutions of Virginia, declaring the *alien and sedition* acts, as they were called, *unconstitutional*, in which the Senate unanimously, except one, declare, that the decision on the constitutionality of a law of Congress, belongs *exclusively* to the judiciary of the United States. [Here Mr. H. read the names of the senators who voted for this report, among which were TIMOTHY BIGELOW and JOHN C. JONES. He then read several paragraphs of the report, one of which is as follows:—“This Legislature are persuaded that the decision of all cases in law and equity arising under the Constitution of the United States, and the *construction* of all laws made in pursuance thereof, are *exclusively* vested by the *people* in the judicial courts of the United States, that the *people*, in that solemn compact which is declared the supreme law of the land, have *not* constituted the State Legislatures the judges of the acts or measures of the federal government.”

Sir, were we to look back two or three years, we should, I apprehend, find much in our own journals in contradiction of this doctrine. We undertake to decide upon the constitutionality of a law of Congress, with as much assurance as if we were wiser than all who have preceded us. I am not clear, sir, that the doctrine of this report does not go too far. I apprehend that a case may happen when it would be proper for the Legislature of a State to declare a law of Congress unconstitutional. But it must be an *extreme* case. The States are parties to the compact, and so are the people. Our Constitution is a *compact*. It is a contract in which *all the states* agree with *each state*, and also in which *all the citizens* agree with *each citizen*. In the case in which a citizen may resist a law as *unconstitutional*, a state might perhaps do the same. Should Congress palpably and grossly violate the Constitution and refuse redress—should the judicial power become corrupt, and support the oppression act—should an attempt to impeach these wicked Legislators fail, and an attempt to remove them by election be unsuccessful, as a *last and dreadful resort*, the individual in the *one case*, and the State Legislature in the *other*, as parties to the compact, *might* pronounce this law unconstitutional and act accordingly. But for gentlemen calmly to tell us over and over again, that the *Constitution* is broken by Congress, and the *compact is dissolved*, is heresy, bordering on inveterate madness. I fear, sir, I have wandered from the subject. I should not have indulged in these general remarks, had I not been led to them by the suggestion that the proposed amendments were rendered necessary by some supposed infraction of the Constitution. I did intend to have taken another view of the subject, but as the hour of adjournment is arrived, I will not further tire the patience of the Senate.

## SPEECH

*Of the Hon. Mr. Holmes, on closing the Debate on the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the U. States.*

MR. PRESIDENT.—Our fathers fought and bled for us—they achieved our independence. Assailed by foes without, and traitors within, their struggle was great, but they triumphed. Our trials and distresses and the barbarities of the enemy, are still fresh in the recollections of many. Peace came—but it brought us no safety. We were without government—distracted and torn by discord, the patriots of the revolution effected the adoption of the constitution, and *liberty was safe*.—The advocates of this constitution, in Massachusetts, were happy under it, so long as their political friends had the management of the government. They rallied round it, were determined to defend it, and affected to become its exclusive guardians. All was right; the constitution was perfect, and its administrators infallible, while these paragons of wisdom were in *pay*. These disinterested patriots in office, *saw* that the country was prosperous, and *felt* that the people of the United States were the most happy people on earth. But, says the gentleman from Suffolk, (Mr. Sargeant) another king rose up who knew not Joseph. Mr. Jefferson was made President. All is reversed—the sun of prosperity is instantly obscured by a cloud—the administration is base, the constitution is intolerable, and the people a “many headed monster.” Notwithstanding the prosperity of the nation, during Mr. Jefferson’s administration, was unparalleled, and our commerce increased beyond the expectation of the most visionary theorist, still all was wrong. The administration were attacked—no energy, no spirit, no national honor—insipid, pusillanimous rulers, who could not be “kicked into a war.”—Despised and trampled upon by all the powers of Europe, and yet dare not resent! Such was then the language of the present meek, consistent “friends of peace.” After the most unprecedented attempts to drive these rulers from the government; after compassing sea and land to make proselytes, and being discomfited in every attempt—we find these same men wishing to undermine the constitution, under the pretext of *amendments*.

An unauthorized and unconstitutional assemblage of individuals at Hartford, have proposed a string of alterations, and we are to adopt them without any substantial reasons offered, except that these very wise men recommended them. We are told, sir, with great composure, that it is enough that men of such wisdom have proposed them for adoption. And the gentleman from Essex, (Mr. White) asks, do the minority of this Senate expect that wisdom will die with them?—No, sir—Nor do we apprehend that it will expire with the members of the Hartford convention. If it should, it would have few mourners. *You* would not mourn, because you would expect to be the *heirs*, and *we* should not, because we have no relationship with the *deceased*.

But, sir, if gentlemen will pardon us, we will venture to question the great wisdom of adopting any of these amendments at this time. We have called upon gentlemen, not only to show these amendments reasonable, but to shew, as they ought, that they were *indispensable*. How have they succeeded? What evils have grown out of the constitution, which these alterations would have prevented? One gentleman (Mr. Thorndike) tells us very gravely,

that the war would not have been declared had it not been for the *slave representation!* And he taxes our gravity while he attempts to prove it in his way—He *states*, but does not prove, that Mr. Jefferson was chosen by the slave representation. He then proceeds—had not Mr. J. been chosen, he would not have been *re-chosen*; and had he not been re-chosen, Mr. Madison would not have been *chosen*, and so there would have been no war—Wonderful! Wonderful!! I would ask the hon. gentleman, if in his wisdom he can tell what would have been the effect, had not Mr. Jefferson been chosen? Mr. Adams, to be sure, would have been the president—And this same Mr. Adams, is esteemed by that gentlemen and his friends, ten times worse than Mr. Jefferson. What vile things he would have done, God only knows.

We are told, too, that this war would not have happened, had it not been for the facility of admitting new states into the union. No proof of this. What had Louisiana to do with declaring war?—Louisiana, sir, is expending her property and blood to preserve the rights and honor of the country.—But I find that while there was a prospect of New-Orleans being *conquered*, your party has changed their tone, and admitted its vast importance to the union. Yes, sir, gentlemen who have property at New-Orleans, can very particularly, wish for its defence. And, I am grieved and mortified to find, that the best blood in the western country is to be spilled to defend the property of our northern merchants, while these very merchants are throwing every stumbling block in the way of prosecuting the war, abusing these *back-woodsmen*, and denouncing New-Orleans as a curse to the nation.

But we should have had no commercial restrictions nor war, had it required the concurrence of two thirds of both houses of congress. Readily admitted. Should these alterations succeed, we shall have no war with England. Her influence in this country is such, that nothing but a miracle could produce a war with her, should these alterations prevail. No, sir—No aggressions, however unprovoked or outrageous, would produce a war. More than one-third in the senate, *might* be less than one-fifth of the nation; and more than one-third in the house might be the representatives of *three states* out of *eighteen*. In either event, there would be no war. Is it too much to say that Britain could always be sure of a third in one or the other branch of the legislature? Look at what has happened and then judge. Where is the instance where your party has condemned Britain in any act of aggression against us? Have you not rather, most unqualifiedly, just tied her in every thing? Amidst all her atrocities, barbarities, and *vandalisms*, who of you has *doubted* but that she was *right*? Freebooting, conflagrating, rapine and massacre—all, all, excused and even justified. Show me the man of your party who is an exception, and I will ask his pardon. Let, therefore, her means of influence be what they now are, and human nature must radically change, before any British outrage would be repelled or avenged. These alterations, then, go to the destruction of our liberties, and the subjugation of us to British power. Had these Hartford gentlemen intended to bring us to the footstool of the British throne, they could not have devised a more effectual method than *this*.

Are you not contented with your frequent usurpation of federal powers? Is it not enough that you have made a most dangerous and fatal inroad upon the constitution, by denying the power of the president over the militia? Will it not satisfy you that

you also denied the general government the power to obtain an army except by voluntary enlistment, and that you are about to *repeal* a law of congress for the enlistment of minors? After these infractions of the constitution, we should have supposed that gentlemen would have been satisfied, without further fettering the general government.

Passing over the proposed exclusion of naturalized foreigners from office, upon which enough has been said in debate upon that article, let me ask why is it necessary to confine the president to one term, and to prevent the selection of a successor from the same state? The gentleman from Essex (Mr. White) has read much from the debates in the Virginia convention, to what purpose, I confess, I could not perceive. Surely the gentlemen would not cite the objections of the *minority* in Virginia against the constitution, as evidence that a different one ought to have been adopted. The objections of this *minority* were overruled. The argument of the *majority* prevailed, and Virginia agreed to adopt this constitution. We cited the arguments of the *majority* in the Massachusetts convention, which adopted the same constitution; but we never thought that the reasoning of the *minority* was of *any authority*. It is the argument of a man who has a bad cause. The same gentleman labored hard to prove that the amendment was to be an offset to that adopted some years since for *discrimination* in the choice of president and vice-president. But he failed—he stated that that amendment was an injury to the small states, and *this* was a remedy. It is true, sir, that that amendment diminished the probability of *no choice by the people*, in which case the states would have an equal vote in the last resort. But how does the proposed alteration help the small states? Not in the least—though the second choice is not to be in the same state, still each choice may be kept in the large states in spite of your proposed alteration. I am sure that no one but that gentleman ever thought of *this reason for this alteration*. The true reason is that you wish to control the voice of the *majority*—you find that for some cause, which I do not wish to mention, your power and influence have departed. The people are disposed to confide in men whom they judge to be friends to their country. This does not suit your schemes of power—and this amendment is to abridge their rights.

All these alterations go to impair and finally to destroy the constitution—In the preamble to the resolution for the appointment of the delegates who have recommended this alteration, you have stated that the constitution was unfit for *peace or war*—and one of this Senate, in debate, stated that it wanted more *energy*, and that the executive should have *more power*.

Is this the way you are to give it energy? What with the construction you have hitherto given it, and the alterations, it will not be worth having. It would be indeed unfit for peace or war. It is then taxing our charity too much, to request us to believe that you are for *improving* this instrument.—Are you not rather pursuing the very course which Washington predicted? Attempting, by alterations in the name of amendments, to *undermine* what you dare not violently attack? In debate on the report for the appointment of your delegates, it was openly avowed that you must have redress, even by *violence*. The constitution was scouted as *rather worm eaten*. The leading paper of your party, edited by a member of this legislature, and a man who voted for your delegates, has been uniform and explicit, in declaring that there must be *resistance*. Look at



the Crisis, for which the editor is responsible—I ask, is it scandal in us to say that the object of the opposition was a severance of the union. But violence was thought dangerous, and it was best to *undermine*. Hence, perhaps, these alterations are proposed at this time. I regret that I cannot perceive in them any thing but hostility to the constitution. The prediction of Washington is verified. Put constructions upon the instrument unfavorable to its energy, adopt the alterations which you here propose, and your government is the foot-ball of every faction, and its destruction is certain.

The want of these alterations has produced the war! This fatal, disastrous, disgraceful war. Sir, I hope the time will never come when the American people will look upon war as the *worst* of evils. This war has not been disastrous nor disgraceful.—It is an additional slander upon the brave men whom you refuse to honor to thank for glorious deeds, to say that the war is disgraceful. We are told that Mr. Madison recommended this war to save his popularity.—What a discovery! We had been at peace for thirty years—our habits, our interests and our inclinations, endeared us to peace. We had no soldiers or officers, and few ships.—A war with Britain was a war with her friends in America. With all these facts before him, Mr. Madison recommended war, for purposes of popularity! With all your wisdom you have never found out that he was an idiot.

I remember that in his arrangement with Mr. Erskine, you thought he was *too cunning*. This crafty and designing Madison, most unfairly circumvented this honest, unsuspecting minister of his majesty. And if this is the *man*, how can you suppose him so stupid as to recommend a war to promote his election? But several gentlemen have told us a *story*—that Mr. Clay and others, a committee, waited on Mr. Madison and threatened him, that unless he recommended this war, he should not be re-elected! There is much of the marvellous in this! The fact has been peremptorily denied at this board, and gentlemen have been challenged to produce the proofs. How have they succeeded? As they do in almost every thing. Some newspapers so stated, and it was not, *as they knew of*, contradicted, and Mr. Pickering asked Mr. Clay, while in the chair, if it were not true, and he returned no answer. And because Mr. Clay treated this insolent enquiry with silence and contempt, gentlemen infer that the fact is proved!

There are already sufficient checks in this constitution to prevent any war against the wishes or interest of the people. The American people do not delight in blood. War is abhorrent to their feelings, and not very consonant to the nature of their government. They will endure insult and oppression until they are no longer tolerable, before they will engage in a war.

There are better causes for the war than the defect in the constitution. The opposition in this country were the authors of this war. You told G. Britain that the United States could not be "kicked into a war." In this way you encouraged her aggressions. So long as her insults and oppressions would be borne, so long they would be continued. But Britain has been *once more* deceived by her pretended friends in this country. She has been made the dupe of their schemes of ambition.—Nor is the continuance of this war less the effect of your opposition. Is it surprising that Britain should have encouragement from this most unjustifiable opposition? The enemy takes quiet possession of a large extent of your territory. *Instead of*

*expelling him, you appoint a convention to divide the states, unless New-England shall be permitted to rule them.* You pretended to raise ten thousand troops, but instead of this the Hartford convention met, *exploded*, recommended to fritter away the constitution, and a mission is sent to Washington on a very extraordinary, and I had almost said, foolish errand, to obtain, forsooth, the United States taxes to be paid into the state treasury! And if Massachusetts can get this money, why then we are to see astonishing military achievements. This is the way you prolong the war. If G. Britain has not lost all confidence in this scolding, professing, threatening party, our conduct will unquestionably procrastinate the war. We have made the war disastrous—*Boasting Massachusetts*—how does she stand in the eyes of the world in this contest? Every act of ours tends to embarrass the government and encourage the enemy. We will not rejoice at victories, nor thank even the defenders of our soil. We insult our conquerors by sea and land, by declaring the war disastrous and disgraceful.

Sir, I would never restrain our representatives of the people from making war. I am far from believing that a perpetual peace with Great Britain ought to be expected or wished. Thirty years peace had well nigh prostrated the liberties of this country.—We were trammelled and handcuffed by British influence. We were sleeping under the fatal operation of this influence. And but for this war, we should not, perhaps, until *too late*, have discovered the extent of this influence.

I believe, sir, there is a natural enmity between this country and Great Britain. Britain is jealous of our increasing commerce and naval glory—she will never forgive us our independence. This war will give us a navy, and a navy may be the cause of future wars.

The war has been of vast benefit. It has taught *Great Britain* to remember and respect our strength. It has taught *us* to respect ourselves, and to feel a confidence in our own power and resources. It has strengthened and perfected our independence by improving our agricultural and manufacturing interests.

The glories we have acquired in this war will command the honor and astonishment of Europe. On the ocean we have humbled British pride. The victor es of Erie, Plattsburgh, Niagara, and New-Orleans, rival all the glories of the revolution. I wish, in God, Massachusetts, as a state, could participate in these most brilliant achievements. *But look at Penobscot. Massachusetts, how art thou fallen!*

Sir, you must come in and help in this contest. The honor of Massachusetts must be redeemed.—This war has been *disgraceful only* to this state. If we regarded the United States as our country; if we would avoid the scorn and contempt of the world; if we are the sons of patriots who sacrificed their lives on the altar of their country; let us abandon this strange opposition policy, expel the invader from our soil, and participate in the glory of our triumphs over the most powerful nation in the world.

### Mr. Hanson's Speech,

*Upon his motion to strike out the first section of the Bank bill, in the House of Representatives, U. S. November 29th.*

MR. HANSON said, he was not less alive to the critical and awful condition of the country, than the secretary of the treasury, whose letter had just been read by the clerk. The picture he had painted of our financial affairs was not more frightful

than the reality. In some features it fell short of the original. Not only had government bills been dishonored, and the interest of the public debt remained unpaid, as stated by the secretary of the treasury, but facts were within the knowledge of Mr. H. still more disreputable and degrading to the administration. So completely empty was the treasury, and destitute of credit, that funds could not be obtained to defray the current ordinary expenses of the different departments. Disgraceful, humiliating as the fact was, it ought not to be concealed from the nation, and he felt it his duty to state to the house, that the department of state was so bare of money, as to be *unable to pay even its stationary bill*. The government was subsisting upon the drainings of *unchartered* banks in the district, who felt themselves compelled to contribute their means, lest the rod in terrorem, which was held over them, should be applied, and an act of incorporation refused. Yes, it was well known to the citizens of the district, that the treasury was obliged to borrow pitiful sums, which it would disgrace a merchant in tolerable credit, to ask for.

Mr. H. mentioned the instance of an acceptance of \$3500, which the war department was unable to pay, and persuaded a bank in Georgetown to pay for them. He mentioned several acceptances which he himself had seen for large amounts, which had been protested by the public notary. The paymaster was unable to meet demands for paltry amounts, not even for thirty dollars, which was a well established fact. He spoke also of the failure to meet the public engagements at New-York and Philadelphia. He said he was apprised several days in advance of the explosion, which happened in the latter place, and had attempted to take the floor several days past to prepare the house for the event, but he had not been so fortunate as to catch the speaker's eye. In short, it was difficult to conceive a situation more critical and perilous, than that of the government at this moment, without money, without credit, and destitute of the means of defending the country.

Under such circumstances, I agree, said Mr. H. with the secretary of the treasury, that not a *moment* should be lost in exerting the constitutional power of congress to its utmost energy, to check or turn aside this evil current of events, which threaten to overwhelm the nation. Not a moment was to be lost in preventing, if possible, further mischief, and in repairing what was already done. But if an opinion was to be formed of the future, from the past proceedings of the house, there was little ground to hope. Congress was in the third month of its session—it had been convened under circumstances appealing to whatever of spirit and patriotism there was in the country, addressing themselves with peculiar force to the authors of our calamities, the party in power. What had been done towards discharging the interesting and sacred trust reposed in the representatives of the people—the guardian of the national honor and safety? The house was daily involved in useless wrangling debates, which, from all appearance were likely to result in nothing but words, and abortive attempts at action.—While the doctors are disputing, (said Mr. H.) about the medicines to be administered, the patient is rapidly approaching to its last breath. It cannot be said of me, sir, that I have thrown obstructions in the way of the ruling party. So far from it, I have abstained purposely from taking part in many interesting debates, in the hope that action would be substituted to words, and from an unwill-

ingness to consume time, every moment of which I deemed precious to the country.

Such is my ardent desire to economise time, as far as it is consistent with intelligent legislation, that I would not now claim the attention of the house, but that my patience is exhausted. I have waited and waited in vain, to see this pernicious measure consigned to the fate which evidently awaits it, and to see some other feasible plan, which the discretion and good sense of the house can sanction, introduced in its place. I can remain silent no longer; its palpable deformity, its utter inadequacy, to the ends proposed, and its destructive tendency seem to be apparent to a large majority of the house, who are impatient to dispaeth it. A scheme so absurd and visionary, could have been looked for from no other quarter than that which produced it, and I am glad to see that gentlemen on the other side of the house have at last collected the courage and manifested their determination to pursue what they call an *Ignus Fatuus* (Mr. Calhoun) no further. An *Ignus Fatuus*, truly, sir, and which, like other jack-o'-lanterns, engendered in the fens of party, will play about the surface of those sogaant pools until it sinks, and is extinguished. It was this same bold and false prophet, who led us into Canada, to conquer free trade and sailors' rights, and such is the sanguine nature of the late chairman of the committee of foreign relations, that I have not a doubt, even now, he would contract, if he could find security for the forfeiture, to capture, in six weeks more or less, the whole British army, and deliver them, bound hand and foot at the capitol.

The Speaker called to order, conceiving the remarks to be personal.

Mr. H. said, that hitherto he had with pleasure, paid the most scrupulous regard to the judgment of the chair, and bowed cheerfully to its decisions, but on this occasion he must be allowed to suggest that the latitude usually indulged in such discussions was favorable to the course now taken in debate.—Besides, the honourable speaker would recollect, upon this very question, the liberality contended for had been enjoyed by the other side of the house in a degree and mode not now proposed to be transcended.

The Speaker said his anxiety to exclude every thing like personality from debate, and a conviction that the rule of the house supported his opinion, were sufficient reasons for his adhering to his decision. And it was due to the gentleman from Maryland to say, that he had always paid that respect to the chair, which was so necessary in supporting its dignity, and that of the house.

Mr. H. acquiesced. He knew of nothing more visionary than the idea of the gentleman from South Carolina, that in the present depreciated state of the public credit, and finances, the enormous sum of forty-four millions of treasury notes could be put in circulation. A scheme of a paper medium, so stupendous at a time so critical, destroyed every hope of extricating the country. If sanctioned by the house, so far from relieving the nation, it would plunge it into still deeper difficulties.—He looked with horror and dismay at the project, and was most of all astonished that the house treated it with the respect of entertaining it one day in debate.

Sir, (said Mr. H.) my opposition to this gigantic, rickety, deformed project, cannot be ascribed to a sinister design to embarrass the government, and prevent the relief necessary speedily to be afforded to its finances.—I know, sir, the country cannot be defended, it will be out of the power of the govern-

ment to save it, if they are so disposed, unless the treasury is relieved. My opposition to the bill proceeds from my extreme anxiety, to place it in the power of those who direct the government, to defend and save the country. I will permit no man in this nation to take precedence of me, in straining every nerve, and stretching the constitution to the utmost limit of liberal interpretation to impart the power requisite to defend the country, and maintain its rights of sovereignty and soil; but I will embark in no rash and desperate measures, which will put every thing at hazard, and entail unnumbered woes upon posterity. "Desperate situations" produce desperate councils and desperate measures. But it is in such times that men of virtue, reflection and wisdom are especially called on to look with dispassionate calmness on the state of affairs, and to oppose with firmness all expedients which are calculated to increase, instead of diminishing the evils to be remedied. At a period like the present, when "men are as much blinded by the extremes of misery," as in times past, they have been intoxicated with the extreme of prosperity, the corrective of sober judgment and wholesome enquiry, is more necessary to prevent irremediable mischief than to guard against probable reverses. It has been said, that "great distress never has hitherto taught, and whilst the world lasts, never will teach lessons of wisdom to mankind." But if wisdom in our councils cannot be assured by past calamities, we may at least avoid a pitfall which is visible to the dullest vision.

I say again, and again, sir, my undisguised, avowed object is to defend the country, and if it be not too late, under providence, to prescribe it by prompt and wise, and vigorous constitutional measures.—*Nec gentium quies sine armis nec arma sine stipendiis, nec stipendia sine tributis.* I am not ignorant that the first and indispensable step towards defending the country, is the recovery of public credit, and the disembarassment of the finances. But I do fear without a united effort in this house, and throughout this nation, to restore confidence in the treasury, every attempt to reinstate the finances, will prove abortive. I entertain the opinion, formed after much reflection, and a free interchange of sentiment with enlightened men, that unless a general and generous effort is made by all parties, to revive the expiring credit of the treasury, it will continue to languish, daily to depreciate, until I would say the credit of Jacob Barker himself, (if it were not attaching more importance to him, than he merits) will be high, compared with that of the government in the money market. Under this strong conviction, and knowing as every man in the nation must know, that the country cannot be defended without the ways and means, and as far as depends on me, being resolved at every cost, hazard and extremity, consistently with civil liberty, and the constitution, to preserve unimpaired the rights and honour of the nation, I therefore shall co-operate in all measures to defend the country. This can only be done by reproducing and bracing the main sinew of war, money, public credit; without which the nation will be delivered up, bound hand and foot, to the enemy, unless rescued by the energy of the respective state sovereignties. When things come to the worst, that the states can and will defend themselves, I have no doubt, but my object is to defend the country under the constitution, and to prevent a dissolution of the union, which is inevitable if the means are not provided of enabling the general government to defend the states.

If the means are supplied, and they are still mis-

applied and wasted in fruitless attempts at conquest, the states must of necessity take their defence into their own hands. But the condition of the country is so critical, I see no choice but to take the chance of a correct application of means to be placed at the disposal of the government. The charge never shall be brought against me, that I folded my arms, and looked on an indifferent spectator, while the country was sinking. The men in power shall never be able to throw upon me any portion of the blame of not extricating the country from the difficulties into which their incompetency and folly have plunged it. It will be demanded of them to return the government pure and undefiled, as they received it. Degrading terms of peace I will never agree to, and if our rights and honour are to be sacrificed, they shall never have it to say they were sacrificed, because I, as one of the minority, withheld, from them the means of preserving them. No; they shall have the means, as far as I can give them, I will bear my portion of the odium of their measures for defence, where they do not trench upon the constitution. When they do so trench, when their measures go to prostrate civil liberty, and overthrow the constitution, I will resist them, and recommend resistance to the people. I will draw the sword to put down and punish usurpation and tyranny at home, with the same alacrity, that I would run to the water's edge to repel the invading foe. I now fear nothing from usurpation, because we are now free and able to resist it successfully. The attempt will prove that both the physical and numerical strength of the country lies where it ought to lie, because it will never be exerted, except in defence of the country, and the liberties of the people. Subjugation by a foreign power can hardly be deemed an evil, compared with domestic despotism and slavery. The foreign yoke may be broken and thrown off, but the chains riveted upon a people by their own tyrants, are difficult to be loosened and destroyed. It will be unavailing, and worse than unavailing, to put the country in a posture to meet the enemy without, if a more dangerous enemy within, is permitted quietly and at his leisure, to reduce this people to a state of ignominious bondage.

In coming to the determination to grant the supplies asked for to defend the country, I maintain I am neither inconsistent with myself, faithless to my friends, nor false to the country. The highest of all temporal obligations, according to my moral sense, and the soundest policy, according to my judgment, approve the course I have marked out for myself. The reason is obvious why I shall abstain from a particular discussion of the points of difference, between me and some of my political friends. Either being wrong, I know it is for me to wait the award of an enlightened and virtuous community, having no other palliation to offer, than that if I have erred, it is my firm conviction I have erred on the side of the best interests of my country. We no doubt aim at the same goal, but chuse different routes to arrive at it. I am perfectly sure, that we all prefer our country to ourselves, its good to our own gratification. That my political friends, in common with me, have a single eye to the safety and lasting happiness of the nation, cannot be doubted. We are alike anxious and resolved, if possible, though we may differ in some respects about the means, to save the country. When I say country, I do, of course, not mean those fell destroyers of its rights, peace, safety and honour, whose misdeeds have brought upon the people the sufferings under which they smart, the burdens which

force from them the deep groans which are heard through the land. No man feels a more thorough sovereign contempt for the wicked authors of our afflictions, than I do; and if it is said in contributing to the relief and salvation of the country, I incidentally relieve them, I justify, by replying, even such men must be relieved in preference to certain national bankruptcy, and the overthrow of the freest form of government known on the globe. Let the tempest beaten vessel of state be first brought into port, I will then join gentlemen in throwing the treacherous pilot overboard. Now is not the time to put all at hazard, by rash and untried acts of violence. The ship is sinking, I will give a hand to the pump. The temple is in flames, I will hand a bucket.

Such is the perilous situation of the country, visible to every eye, and plain to every understanding, that unless a combined effort is made, to rescue us from the dangers which are seen on all sides, I do fear our case is desperate, our ruin irretrievable, that we are lost irrecoverable. But, sir, while there is yet life, there is still hope. I will not, must not, dare not, abandon the country. If deserted by its true friends now, it will sink so low, that it cannot, hereafter, under the guidance of other councils, be re-elevated to that pinnacle of honour, dignity and glory from which it has dashed by heartless and corrupt men, in their despicable contests for personal aggrandizement. If the country, two years hence, is to be governed by wiser and abler men, I see no reason to conceal the opinion, that the sooner a good and sufficient system of revenue, and a well regulated Bank are organized, the better. They will be necessary instruments for those who may succeed the authors of the burdens, which must constitute the basis of a system imparting efficiency and ability, to the national finances. If we can save the vessel of state from being wholly wrecked, the easier it will be to repair and rig her out again.—But most certain, it is, if our affairs are suffered to go on in their present downward course, a few months hence I might point to the naked crumbling columns of your capitol, as a type or symbol of the government.

Let then a united effort be made to save the country. But, at the same time, be it understood, that we are not to withdraw our opposition to those unconstitutional measures, and that pernicious policy of government, which are adopted with no other view, than that the party in power may be the more firmly seated in power, and the better enabled to persevere in their mischievous career. This we cannot do, without abandoning our most sacred duties, without a base dereliction of those well tried principles, which have stood every test and passed through every ordeal, for a long series of years. No, sir, we cannot be expected to add fuel to the flame, by which we ourselves are consumed; to feed the fever which is raging in our veins; to become the architects of our own ruin; to assist in forging chains for posterity, if not for ourselves.

I confess, sir, I have the less difficulty in voting supplies, and uniting to recover public credit, since the disclosures made to the house by the President, in relation to the discussions at Ghent. Anterior to that communication, the resolution had been formed, as far as I might be supposed to be entitled to political consideration, to join in measures for defence. Although I believed the war was unjust and wicked in its origin, yet a state of things had arisen out of the revolution in Europe, the threats of devastation by the enemy, and his increased ability to execute his menaces, which rendered it necessary

to unite in objects of defence, and to strengthen the arm of government for that purpose. Although declared, the war is not now continued from motives and designs foreign to this people. On the contrary, the administration has humbled itself to a degree exciting commiseration, to obtain peace.—Without violating the injunction of secrecy, which locks up from the eye of the people, the most interesting part of the despatches, I will advert merely to such parts as are public. I say then I have the less difficulty in voting supplies, because the administration has changed its ground since the revolution in Europe, and come over to my opinion and views of the fair terms of peace. As the continent now stands, the question of blockade no longer presents difficulties. That of impressment, eye of IMPRESSMENT, is abandoned by the very authors themselves of the calabistic words "FREE TRADE AND SAILORS' RIGHTS." The Napoleon notion of floating colonies is also discarded, since its author has himself been consigned to a state of colonial dependence, being struck from the list of continental potentates, though he preserves all the forms of loyalty in his little kingdom, not so large as the possessions of some of our southern dons, with their thousands of acres and battalions of blacks.

The question of "free ships, free goods" is also put at rest. The right of visit and search is implicitly conceded, and the flag is not to cover the crew. It is not three months, sir, since I myself saw "*Free Trade and Sailors' Rights*" floating in proud defiance on your flag on the battery at the white house. The mystic words were written on the star spangled banner, which our naval heroes carried into the very British Channel, where it waved in triumph. But, alas! your *Hulls, Decatur's, Perries and M'Donough's*, now know, that the President is content to wave the question of sailors' rights, and to give the go-by to that of "the flags covering the crew." They now know, from what sources, and what motives proceeded all their delusive, senseless uproar about sailors' rights, by the very men who have struggled in times past, to degrade our navy, and in their own words, "would have gone further to see it consumed by fire than to extinguish the flames." Yes, sir, these heroes may now ask for what have we fought glorious battles, achieved brilliant victories, spilt our blood, plucked the brightest gem from the British diadem, when cowardice "has torn down the flag which valor had nailed to the mast."

I may be complained of, sir, for these digressions, but if we are to trace our difficulties to their source, we must mount higher than to this or that particular error and act of folly, which has characterized the vicious system of politics, so long persevered in to the disgrace and ruin of the country. The root of the evil is not this or that blunder, but it is the other piece of deception, and mischief, but it is the political system of administration, not only in relation to the finances, but to the general policy of the government. It has been tried, fatally tested, and has led and can lead to nothing but disappointment, suffering and disgrace. Let it then be abandoned, at once and forever, or all efforts to preserve the country will have but a temporary effect, and be productive only of increased difficulties hereafter.

Mr. Speaker, it once was the pride and happiness of the country, (and I bring back the recollections of gentlemen to the period with bitter feelings of regret,) to flourish under the benign influence of a political system, which experience proved to be conducive to our fame and welfare. Preferring the people's good, to the people's favour, the party now

in the minority introduced and faithfully adhered to, that system which raised the nation to a state of unexampled prosperity and happiness. Its results are now matter of history. Unfortunately for the country, it was misunderstood, systematically misrepresented and described by the demagogues of the day, and finally rejected by a majority of the people.—Yes, sir, a false and erroneous understanding of it was imposed upon the minds of the deluded people, and it was discarded because they knew not its value. Even after we were denied by the people, it continued our chief care, the principle object of our ambition, the sole motive to exertion to preserve to the country, what had been already gained. We betrayed no unwillingness, that our successors should reap the glory and benefit of our institutions, provided only, they were preserved to the country.—When at last the enflamed passion of party, and the unrelenting spirit of persecution, succeeded in overthrowing and sweeping away most of those institutions, we should still have been content, if the great objects for which they were designed, the peace, honour, and safety of the country, could have been preserved. They have all been destroyed and covered up in the same grave. Gentlemen now feel and acknowledge the loss of one of those noble institutions, the National Bank, and they would recal it, to relieve them from difficulties which cause distress and dismay throughout the land. That cannot be. It is too late. The dead cannot be restored to life. To use the language of the gentleman from S. C. Mr. Calhoun, they who legislate upon party principles, must expect their measures to react upon themselves. Did it not involve the dearest interests and safety of the country, I should rejoice that retribution has at last overtaken the men who have inflicted such deep injuries upon us. Suffer, greatly suffer they must, but the country, we suffer with them, the innocent and guilty alike, except the consolation which a good conscience never fails to administer.

Mr. Speaker, when I reflect on what our country once was, and might still have been, and what it now is; when I think of the blessings thrown away, and the miseries endured, my indignation against the cool, remorseless, perverse plotter of our afflictions and perils, is ready to burst forth on this floor in disorderly exclamations! my heart almost overflows with mingled grief and indignation.—Daily do I expect the happening of some great event, the coming of some awful public calamity to be decisive of our fate. A war of wide spread cruel desolation threatened by a powerful and exasperated foe—the union shaking to its very centre and tottering to a fall—with a government bankrupt in fortune and in fame, and yet where are we, what doing, what have we done? Where are we? Look around! seated on a barren heath amidst ruins! surrounded by the loathsome objects of our dishonor. Indebted to the Vandals for the roof that covers us. The government itself paralysed, chained down as it were by the drowsiness that precedes death. And yet gentlemen seem perfectly at their ease, tranquil as the undisturbed moon beams that play upon the gently waving billows. They repose in the delusive idea, that there is no danger. The sentinel upon the watch tower has told them all's well. When the midnight robber has sallied forth from his covert, and prowls about the street for his prey, when the incendiary has clapt his torch and the city is wrapt in flames, the perfidious watchman "twixt sleep and wake," cries from his box, *all's well!*

Sir, at this moment, the cold icy hand of death is on this people. The agony cannot be of long con-

tinuance. The crisis must soon be over; and if we are doomed to fall as a punishment of our sins as a nation, the day will have come when the blindest party zealot will acknowledge, that but one man stood between his country and its salvation. God knows, sir, no one more devoutly and fervently wishes than I do, that he may be inspired with the wisdom, virtue and energy to save this nation. But all is dark and cheerless; I see no lambent ray of hope gilding the dreary prospect before us. The hand-writing on the wall points to our fixed destiny. It is written in characters so glaring, and so legible, that he who runs may read!—When, says the greatest moral philosopher of any age, did distress ever oblige a prince to abdicate his authority? This bars up every avenue of escape.

Here, perhaps, I ought to stop; but I will not leave the country in so forlorn and desperate a condition. No, sir, I will address myself, especially to this body, holding as it does now with the other branch, the destinies of the nation in its hands. Let them act with promptitude and vigor; and in the language of the secretary of the treasury, resolve not to delay another moment in every constitutional effort to save the country. If they attempt to violate the constitution, they must sprinkle it with blood, with my blood, for I will not outlive the liberties of my country.—Under the constitution, the country can be saved, or let it fall. Consign this bill at once to the fate it merits. Adopt at once measures to revive public credit, to unite the people and fill the armies. My voice and my arm is with you in every just and constitutional measure for the defence of the country. Energy, wisdom and virtue will yet save the republic. If we have them not, if we cannot bring ourselves, regardless of consideration of popularity, to discharge our sacred trust like men, like patriots, let us take the advice of the honorable member from N. York, Mr. Fisk; leave our seats, render back our powers to the people.

### Mr. Gore's Remarks,

*In the Senate of the United States, on the third reading of the bill laying a Direct Tax, and to provide revenue for maintaining the public credit, &c. &c. (January 1815.)*

This bill imposes burthens extremely heavy on all the citizens of our common country, and on those with which I am most acquainted, a load that under existing circumstances, will be intolerable.

With the principle of the bill, in selecting as objects of taxation, the lands and buildings of the United States, I have no fault to find.

I consider them as fit and proper subjects of revenue, and such assessments calculated to equalize the burthens of the country, as imposing them on all parts, and with more impartiality than can be attained by any other mode.

And, sir, I should feel it my duty to vote for a bill, imposing such a tax, to any reasonable amount, had it not pleased the government of the nation to place the State, which I have the honour to represent, out

of the protection of the United States and to determine, that while it shall bear a full proportion of the taxes, none of their fruits shall redound to her relief.

The motives of congress, in granting supplies, are doubtless to provide for the defence of the country and the security of its rights, by a safe and honourable peace.

These motives are wise and irresistible. All concur in the necessity of defending our territory against the enemy; and in the assertion and maintenance of our essential rights, at every peril, and if necessary, by the sacrifice of all that conduces to private ease and personal enjoyment.

No one feels this truth more sensibly than myself—no one considers the duty more imperative: with its obligations I have no compromises to make, and in its performance I ask for no limitations, on account of the folly and improvidence with which the war was waged, nor of the degrading imbecility and prodigal waste of treasure, of blood and character, by which it has been prosecuted.

The enemy publicly proclaims his purpose, to spread desolation, far and wide, on our unprotected sea-coast. He proceeds to execute his threats with a barbarity and baseness, in many instances unprecedented.

The mansions of the rich, the palaces of the nation, and the cottages of its poorest citizens, feel alike his disgraceful vengeance. The opulence of the wealthy is destroyed; the means of subsistence, to the impoverished inhabitants of the sands are redeemed from his rapacity by grinding impositions which the charity of such as being out of the reach of his power, are alone able to supply. Even the ashes of the dead are not suffered to repose in quiet. And, as the last act of atrocity, your slaves are seized and seduced, embodied in military array, and led to the destruction of their masters and the plunder of their possessions.

Whether those acts seek an apology in the conduct of our own government, we cannot enquire for the purpose of weighing our duty to repel his attack.—Whoever comes to our shores, in the character of an enemy, must be resisted. We must do all in our power to defend ourselves and our soil from an invading foe.

A question arises—have we any grounds for believing that the grants of men and money, will be wisely applied to the purposes of defence and protection?

Honourable gentlemen will please to go back to Nov. 1811, when the executive, in winding its devious course to the fatal act of June, 1812, addressed the hopes,

the fears, the vanity and pride of the people, and avowing its duty to establish the general security, assured the nation “that the works of defence on our maritime frontier, had been prosecuted with an activity, leaving little to be added for the completion of the most important ones.” The land forces so disposed as to insure appropriate and important services, and embodied and marched toward the north western frontiers, to seek satisfaction for acts, which it was declared, had alike “the character and effect of war.”

The subsequent course of things must be full in the mind of every one, and the result known and felt by all.

We learn that the same measures are to be pursued. The Atlantic coast is to be defended as heretofore, by attempts on Canada. This is frankly and formally told to the Congress, that no pretence can be urged, in future, of disappointment or deception.

I forbear to speak on this subject. In the actual state of things, all reasoning must be futile. The powers of language cease before the eloquent monitors, constantly in our view.

We are doomed to remain in this scene, that we may not, for a moment, lose sight of our degradation and disgrace.

The government had complete informations of the designs of the enemy, months before his attack on Washington. In this city, were all the means of defence, fortresses, ships, cannon, men and money.—Here, too, was concentrated all the wisdom of the administration, to deliberate, examine, decide and prepare for the support of the capital, at least sixty days prior to its destruction, by a few thousand worn down and exhausted soldiers. You have now in full view, the effect of their combined councils, of their individual and united talents, prudence and energies.

These monuments show, in characters not to be mistaken, the future in the past and in the desolation around. They declare the fate of every place, under the influence and protection of our government if approached by the enemy.

Congress continues to grant, with no sparing hand, supplies of every kind to the same men, in the hope, it is imagined, that heaven may, by some miracle, interpose for their application, to the safety and relief of the country.

Permit me, sir, to crave your indulgence and that of the honourable senate, while I relate the condition of the country, which I represent, as the grounds of the vote I am constrained to give on this occasion.—

The state of Massachusetts has a sea-coast of about six hundred miles in extent. Its eastern boundary joins that of the enemy. It is, of course, peculiarly liable to invasion. The president of the United States was avowedly of the opinion, that it would be invaded, immediately on the commencement of the war. There were several islands, and one of great importance, on the eastern frontier, the title to which was not definitively acknowledged by Great Britain. The claim of Massachusetts had been allowed, by this power, in a treaty made according to the instructions of the president, which treaty the United States had chosen to reject. The government, therefore, superadded to the general obligation, enjoined upon it, to protect and defend the territory of all the states, had incurred a peculiar responsibility to guard this particular frontier from falling into the hands of the enemy.

This state has been left entirely unprotected and defenceless, and has at no time had within it, and destined to its defence, sufficient force of the United States to protect any one point against a common and ordinary hostile attack.

Shortly after the adoption of the constitution, she ceded to the United States all the fortresses in her possession. These, with all the prominent points of land and coves, appropriate for fortifications to defend the state against invasion, were, and for a long time previous to the war, had been, in the exclusive possession of the United States. The state, therefore, had no authority or jurisdiction over, nor even to enter them, for any purpose; much less to assume the defence of their territory, through these means.

One great and principal object of the constitution, was to provide by this government for the common defence, and, by the power and resources of all the states, to protect each against invasion.

The preamble declares:

"We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquillity, provide for the *common defence*, promote the general welfare, and the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity do ordain and establish this constitution." For this end the states surrendered the principal resources of revenue, over which they, previously, had uncontrolled dominion.

"The Congress shall have power, to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises to pay the debts and provide for the common defence," "to borrow money on the credit of the United States."

Here are ample resources and means commensurate to the duties the United States were enjoined, and undertook to perform.

This cannot be denied by the men now in power: for they abolished many taxes, in full productive operation, at the time they received the government.

Power was also granted to raise and support every kind of force, necessary to ensure the common defence, and to protect the states against invasion, viz,

"To raise and support armies"

"To provide and maintain a navy."

"To exercise exclusive legislation over all places purchased by the consent of the legislatures of the states in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock yards and other needful buildings."

The several states having surrendered their resources, and afforded such ample provision for the common defence, left no doubt of the paramount duty in the United States, to perform it punctually and faithfully.

In the present war, they are without excuse, if this be not fully and perfectly done; for the war was of their own choice: they made it, and at their own time.

The several states received from the United States a solemn obligation, that they would protect each against invasion.

"The United States guarantee to every state a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion."

If any thing were wanting to show the sacredness of this duty in the United States, and the absolute reliance which the states entertained of its complete performance, it is to be found in the restrictions and privations, which the several states imposed on themselves.

"No state shall grant letters of marque and reprisal. No state shall, without the consent of congress, lay any imposts, or duties on imports, or exports," except &c.

"No state shall, without the consent of congress, lay any duty on tonnage, keep troops or ships of war, in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another state, or with a foreign power, or engage in a war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger, as will not admit of delay."

Having thus surrendered all the pecuniary resources necessary to provide the means of defence, and also the right to raise a force requisite to this end, the several states did rely, and were justified in relying, with perfect confidence, for com-

plete protection and defence, on the government of the United States.

No one will pretend that such defence has been afforded all the states in the union. Massachusetts has been entirely abandoned. The men raised there for the regular army, have been marched out of the state.

Within a month after the declaration of war, the governor of that state was informed by direction of the President, that the regular troops were all ordered from the sea coast; and this threat, if intended as such, was instantly executed. Thus, the moment the United States had placed the country in a situation to require defence, and which it was their duty to provide, they wantonly took away the only force which could afford it.

It may be said, that the President called forth the militia, in June and July, 1812, for the purpose of making the defence, and protecting the state against invasion, and the governor refused to obey the requisition. On the 12th June, 1812 the President, by his secretary of war, requested governor Strong to order into the service of the United States, on the requisition of general Dearborn, such parts of the militia as the general might deem necessary for the defence of the sea coast, and on the 22d June, the same general informed the governor, that war was declared against Great Britain, and requested forty-one companies for the defence of the ports and harbours in Massachusetts, and the harbour of New-port, in Rhode-Island.

The governor of a state is obliged to comply with every requisition of the United States for militia made in pursuance of the provisions of the constitution. He is equally bound by his duty to the states, to refrain from calling them forth, for purposes not within those provisions.

The only case that authorizes a call for the militia of the several states, *to act against an enemy, is to repel invasion.*

The President, neither by himself, nor any of his officers, ever pretended that this case existed, at the time the requisition issued. The requisition was made expressly, for the defence of the ports and harbours of that state and of Rhode-Island.

The militia is a force which belongs to the several states respectively and exclusively, and is so recognized by the constitution of the United States. The government of the United States is a government of limited authorities, and has no other powers than what are granted by the constitution. A power to call forth the militia, to provide for the common defence, or

to protect against invasion, is no where granted to the United States in express terms. All the authority over the militia delegated to the United States, is to call them forth *to repel invasion, to execute the laws, and suppress insurrection.* The United States is bound to provide for the common defence.

To repel invasion is included in the duty of providing for the common defence; and as invasion may be sudden, even in time of profound peace, and before the United States can bring their forces to meet an unexpected attack, the militia of the several states is granted to the United States, from the necessity of the case as the means by which they may provide for the common defence in such particular instance.

If the United States have authority to call forth the militia, for the ordinary purposes of war for the common defence; or for protection against invasion under any of the general powers granted, such as that *to provide for the common defence*, there would have been no necessity for the special clause, authorizing congress to provide for calling them forth, *to repel invasion*; for repelling invasion is undoubtedly one part of the duty of providing for the common defence.

If it were the intent of the constitution to grant to the U. States, expressly, a power over the militia for protection against invasion, it would have declared that for such purposes the U. States might call forth the militia, or it would have said, *to protect against or repel invasion.* And especially in the clause which enjoins on the U. States the duty of protecting each state against invasion, the constitution would have declared, and that for this purpose, the U. States shall call forth the militia. No such words, no such grants are made in this instrument. If therefore, the authority of the U. States to call forth the militia, to protect the ports and harbours of a state, be granted, it must be by the terms *to repel invasion.* Common defence includes all the means by which a nation may be guarded, protected, defended, and secured, against danger, both in war and in peace.

*To repel invasion*, is only one particular and specific act of providing for the common defence. It is contrary to common sense, as well as to all rules of logic, to say that a specific power or duty includes the general power or duty, of which it is a part; it is to say, that *a part contains the whole.*

*To repel invasion*, is to drive back and resist that which has already happened.—



To protect against invasion is to prevent its happening, to secure against its existence. The one act is against an event that has occurred—the other is to ensure and guard against the occurrence of such an event.

To protect against invasion, is to erect fortresses, to have them well manned, and supplied with all requisite stores, to provide and equip ships of war, to have an army and navy well organized and disciplined, in peace and in war. To repel invasion is one specific act of war, against another act of the like character.

To repel invasion is one part of the duty of providing for common defence, and for this part a particular force is granted. To say that a grant of this force for this special purpose, includes a grant of the same force for the purposes of protection and defence, is to say, that a grant for one purpose, is a grant for another, and for every purpose, and that the grant of a limited, is the grant of a general authority.—This would be both illegal and irrational. And if under the limitations, which were intended to control the powers granted to the government of the U States, and especially under the express limitation, viz. "that powers not delegated to the United States, by the constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states, or to the people," such construction may be adopted, there remains no security for any right reserved to the states, or to the people.

However conclusive this reasoning may be, it is not to be presumed, that after the strides of power, in which the spirit of party has indulged, it will have any effect on those who direct the affairs of this country. I will, sir, however, refer to opinions and authorities in confirmation of what has been advanced, that to many gentlemen did not formerly admit either of exception or appeal.

These are to be found in the resolutions and arguments of the legislature of Virginia, and of Mr. Madison, one of that legislature, in the years 1798 and 1800. I refer the senate to the third resolution passed by that body, and framed by the pen of the President, in the words following:

"3d. Resolved, That this assembly doth explicitly and peremptorily declare, that it views the powers of the federal government, as resulting from the compact to which the states are parties, limited by the plain sense and intention of the instrument constituting that compact, as no further valid than they are authorized by the grant enumerated in that contract; and that

in case of a deliberate, palpable and dangerous exercise of other powers, not granted by the said compact, the states who are parties thereto, have a right and are in duty bound to interpose, for arresting the progress of the evil, and for maintaining within their respective limits, the authorities, rights and liberties appertaining to them."

"It is said, that congress are by the constitution, to protect each state against invasion, and that the means of preventing are included in the power of protection against it."

"The power of war in general having been before granted by the constitution, this clause must either be a mere specification, for greater caution and certainty, of which there are other examples in the constitution, or by the injunction of a duty superadded to a grant of power. Under either explanation, it cannot enlarge the powers of congress on the subject. The power and the duty to protect each state against an invading enemy, would be the same, under the general powers, if this regard to greater caution had been omitted!"

"Invasion is an operation of war. To protect against invasion is an exercise of the power of war. A power, therefore, not incident to war, cannot be incident to a particular modification of war. And as the removal of alien friends has appeared to be no incident to a general state of war, it cannot be incident to a partial state, or to a particular modification of war."

"Nor, can it ever be granted, that a power to act on a case, when it actually occurs, includes a power over all the means that may tend to prevent the occurrence of the case. Such a latitude of construction would render unavailing every practicable definition of limited powers." See proceedings in the house of delegates of Virginia, the 7th January, 1800, on the resolutions of the general assembly of December 21, 1798.

If the observations which I have made, are founded in truth, and justified by the constitution, the following positions are established, viz.

That the United States have no right to call on the several states, for the militia, to perform any act of war, but to repel invasion.

That to defend the ports and harbors of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, the purpose for which the militia was required in 1812, is not within the power delegated by the constitution, to provide for calling forth the militia to repel invasion.

In the case alluded to in 1812, it was not declared by the President, nor even

pretended by his officers, that any invasion was made. In fact, no invasion was attempted, until two years after this time.— If the United States had no authority to make the requisition, the governor would have betrayed his duty to the state, in complying with the demand.

That the United States had no such authority, I think evident from the examination that has been made of the powers delegated by the constitution. And the state of Massachusetts, instead of being a just object of censure, by the U. States, has a well founded complaint against this government, for an attempt to usurp her rights and invade her prerogatives.

A question has sometimes been suggested, whether the governor of a state has a right to judge if the requisition be within the provisions of the constitution. A little reflection on the nature of the government of the United States, and of a state, and of the relation in which the supreme executive of the latter stands to the U. States, and to the citizens of his particular state, will show that he is obliged to examine, if the case for which the requisition is made, be within the provisions of the constitution, and if the purposes for which it is declared are manifestly not within the powers delegated by that instrument, to withhold a compliance.

The government of the United States can exercise no powers not granted by the constitution, and so far as this government can support such as its claims on this charter, it is sovereign, and has no other control than its own discretion.

The government of the several states is equally sovereign, with respect to every power of an independent state, which it has not delegated by the same instrument to the U. States, or which is not thereby prohibited to the several states. It is, also, a sacred duty of the government of the several states, to preserve unimpaired every right and authority retained by the state, either in its corporate capacity, or for its individual citizens. Whether the militia, the peculiar force of the several states, and that which is to protect and defend every right and power they possess, is called forth by the United States according to the provisions which they made, in delegating to this government its powers, must of necessity be a question between two sovereign and independent governments, and on which there is no tribunal authorized to judge between them. And if the governors, who are commanders in chief of the militia of the several states, should surrender this force to the United States in a

case not authorized by the constitution—they would betray the trust confided to them by the citizens of their states. They must, therefore, examine the case when called upon, and decide according to their duty, as prescribed by the constitution of the U. States, and that of their particular state, shall demand.

General Cushing, while superintendent of the military district, in which Massachusetts is situated, informed Governor Strong that he expected an order from the President of the United States, to request a detachment of militia for the defence of the sea coast, and particularly of Boston. That he had not more troops than sufficient to man one of the forts, and proposed that one should be occupied by the militia, and that while out they should be subject to the command of no officer of the United States, except the superintendent of the district. The governor acceded to the proposal.

General Dearborn shortly after superseded Gen. Cushing, and on the 30th July, by order of the president, and in confirmation of the expectation of brigadier general Cushing, requested a detachment of eleven hundred militia to occupy the forts and harbor of Boston.

Governor Strong, although under no constitutional obligation to call forth the militia for the purposes required, yet seeing the forlorn condition of the country, the vast property of the United States in the navy yard, a ship of the line nearly completed, and a frigate, all abandoned by the government to the mercy of the enemy, at the same time that these offered to him great temptations to attack and destroy the capital of the state and its environs, and feeling authorized by the resolution of the legislature of Massachusetts, detached the militia, in confidence that the agreement made with general Cushing would be fulfilled.

At the end of their term of service, these men were offered an uncurrent and depreciated paper, as their only compensation.

In the beginning of September, General Dearborn notified the governor that the enemy had taken possession of a considerable part of the state of Massachusetts, and requested a detachment of the militia for the purpose of protecting and defending such parts of that state and of New-Hampshire, as were not in the occupation of the enemy.

Such complaints and objections had arisen in executing the order of July, that the governor although he issued an order for troops, found himself obliged to place the detachment under the command of a major general of the militia.

The governor immediately addressed a letter to the Secretary of state, requesting to know from the President, if the expenses thus necessarily incurred for the protection of the state, would be ultimately reimbursed to that state by the United States.

The answer was, that if the force thus put into service by the governor, had been required by general Dearborn, or received by him, and put under his command, the expenses attending it would be defrayed by the United States. If otherwise, in either of these particulars, the United States were not chargeable with the expense.

Here is a distinct and plain case, in which the United States had neglected that protection which they were expressly bound to afford to the state, and thereby occasioned the loss of a fifth part of its territory,\* and then called upon the state itself, to protect the remaining territory. The state obeyed the call, and reserved only that right which the constitution, in express terms reserved, viz. the appointment of officers to command the militia required—and the United States say this expense must be born by the state, and that they will not reimburse the amount, because the militia is not placed under the command of an officer of the United States.†

For this act of injustice, for this neglect of duty in the United States towards the state of Massachusetts, for this abandonment of its territory to be the violence of the enemy, I have never heard the smallest apology.

I forbear to mention the rights of the state, the necessity to which this wanton abandonment by those who ought to protect them, may reduce the inhabitants.—The laws of self-preservation and of nature, confirmed by that of nations, afford the rule for any member of a confederacy thus deserted and forsaken.

I most earnestly hope, that although

\* There were, at the attack and capture of Castine, twenty-eight men and a lieutenant in the fort. This was all the protection for one of the most important harbours and rivers in the United States, and affording the best situation for a naval depot for great Britain.

† In the military district No. 1, which includes New Hampshire and Massachusetts, there were less than 1,300 men. These were scattered over an extensive tract of country. In the forts in Boston harbour, there were not 260 men, and in the other forts in this state, a very small corps, inadequate to any defence.

There was, however, a major general, a brigadier general and several colonels. In no one place were there men enough to constitute a colonel's command.

cruelly deserted by the government, which contrary to their entreaties, brought them into this perilous condition, the citizens of the country may be able to defend themselves. *They will do all that men can do under their circumstances.* But I am confident, that if this tax be collected there and paid into the treasury of the United States, for the exclusive support and defence of others, they will be destitute of the means of making any adequate resistance I cannot, therefore, vote for this bill.

The present year the commonwealth has expended more than seven hundred thousand dollars in her own defence. She is now called on by this bill for six hundred thirty two thousand five hundred ninety two dollars to defend other parts of the territory of the United States, and her citizens more exposed than any other, are left to provide for their own defence.

They who calculate on the ability of Massachusetts to pay, from the exactness and punctuality she heretofore observed in the discharge of taxes, will recollect that her faculty to meet the demands of the treasury, even in times the most prosperous, arose principally from the daring enterprise, unrivalled industry and rigid economy of the inhabitants, that her resources are now annihilated, and she is borne down by obloquy, insult and oppression.

They who have observed the patience wherewith she has submitted to see the public treasure squandered, to purchase slanders against her citizens, and notwithstanding a complete failure by the full confession of the hireling, that these citizens were so far beyond all temptation, as not even to be approached for dishonourable purposes, has been subjected to the most degrading insinuations, from the first authority. Who has witnessed all the resources of her wealth, all the means of her industry, the object of unabating persecution from the government, and her possessions coldly and expressly abandoned, by the same authority, to the depredations and seizure of the enemy, may conceive that taxes, like these, will still be paid for the exclusive protection of others, but if gentlemen will only condescend to view the people of this country as *their brethren, as freemen, as men*, they must come to the conclusion, that had they means, they could not possibly have the will.

Mr. Jefferson's Library.

*A sketch of the part taken by Mr. King, of Massachusetts, in the House of Repre-*

*representatives of the United States, Jan. 26, 1815, in the debate on the passage of the bill for the purchase of the Library of Thomas Jefferson, for the use of Congress.*

Besides opposing the bill on the general ground of the inexpediency of appropriating so large a sum as twenty-three thousand dollars, for this object, at a time of such national embarrassment, and when we had no place of safety for a library when purchased, Mr. King observed, that it appeared from the catalogue, there were many books unnecessary, improper and useless for congress, and that on the contrary, this library was destitute of others, indispensable in the ordinary transactions of our business; with a view to remedy these inconveniences, he moved that the bill be committed to a select committee, with instructions to report a new section, as follows:

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That as soon as said library shall be received at Washington, the joint library committee be, and they are hereby authorized and directed to select therefrom, all books not useful and necessary for congress, and to cause the same to be sold, and the proceeds thereof invested in other books for the use of congress.*

This motion being negatived, Mr. King observed, that it appeared from the same catalogue, and from the information of intelligent gentlemen, who had seen this library, and it might be inferred from the character of the man who selected it, and from the country (France) where he says he made the principal collection, and from the time when he made it, that there were in this library many books of an irreligious and immoral tendency, embracing many of the works of the French infidel philosophers, who had caused and inflamed the volcano of the French revolution, which in its progress, had desolated the fairest portions of Europe, and had extended its fatal—its destructive effects, to our once happy country; to prevent a general dissemination of this infidel philosophy, and of the principles of a man, who had inflicted greater and deeper injuries upon our country, than any other person, except Mr. Madison, ever did upon any country. Mr. King again moved to recommit the bill to a select committee, with instructions to report the following, as

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That as soon as said library shall be received at Washington, the joint library committee be, and they are hereby authorized and directed to select therefrom. all books, if any*

there be, of an atheistical, irreligious, and immoral tendency, and to send the same back to Mr. Jefferson, without expense to him.

This amendment was first attacked by an honourable gentleman from Pennsylvania (Dr. Seybert) who thanked the gentleman from Massachusetts for the confidence intended by the motion to be reposed in himself and other gentlemen in the joint library committee, but as he neither felt able nor willing to undertake the selection, he would propose that the gentleman from Massachusetts should be made sole inquisitor upon the occasion.

Mr. King immediately intimated to him, that he would with great pleasure undertake the business, especially as it might be a violation of the gentleman's feelings and principles to do it.

The motion was next attacked by an honourable gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Hurlbert) who, after advocating the bill on general principles, with his usual ability and perspicuity, observed, as it respects this motion, and the reasons assigned by the mover in favour of it, that these reasons were inconsistent with the motion, as the section provided for the preservation of those books, alleged to be irreligious, by sending them back to Mr. Jefferson, whereas the motive of his colleague was to prevent the contagion which might spread from them; that if he was sincerely desirous of preventing this evil, he ought to amend the section by introducing a provision for the burning of such books. Mr. King informed the honourable speaker, that he would accept with pleasure of the modification proposed by his colleague: that indeed he had at first drawn his amendment with a provision that these books should be burnt by the library committee, but that it afterwards appeared to him, to comport better with the dignity of the house, to send them back, especially as said committee might be unwilling to perform a task usually allotted to the common hangman. That as the motion now stood, the fears of his colleague as to the ill effects of these books upon the pure minds of Mr. Jefferson and his friends, were certainly groundless, as they were happily secured therefrom by their own depravity.

An honourable gentleman from Maryland (Mr. Wright) next took the floor in opposition to Mr. King's amendment, and in defence of deistical works, observing that Mr. K. had severely censured Mr. Jefferson, as being the greatest enemy of the country, although he had been selected by

Washington, as one of his principal officers. Mr. K. remarked that it was very true that Jefferson had been put into office by President Washington, but that it was equally true that he made use of all the influence which that office gave him to supplant his benefactor, in which he but too well succeeded, by the aid of Mr. Madison and his other democratic coadjutors, as the distress and ruin of our country now demonstrate. Mr. W. further asked if the gentleman wished to introduce the inquiry; but Mr. K. thought there would be no occasion for this, *as long as the present majority ruled.* Mr. W. remarked that some of the ancient authors had been objected to—that without these, many of the most useful inventions would have been unknown to us—and among these, the screw of Archimides, the utility of which had been so clearly demonstrated in the application made by Mr. Evans, and he wished it more generally applied; but, Mr. K. thought it necessary to introduce it into the house, where Mr. W. found no difficulty, on party questions, of screwing his friends up to any point where he wished them to stick.

Mr. Fisk, of Vt. observed, that it was formerly the practice in Massachusetts to hang witches—and asked if Mr. K. intended to introduce the practice again—Mr. K. replied, that the gentleman himself was a native of Massachusetts, but whether or not he had run off for fear of being hung for a wizard, he would not undertake to say—but he thought there was no danger of it. Mr. K. then remarked, that as his amendment appeared to be displeasing to one of his friends, for whom he cherished the highest esteem and respect. (Mr. Hurlbert) and was likely to take up more of the time of the house than he wished, and by particular desire of another esteemed friend of his (Mr. Hanson) he would withdraw it.

The amendment was accordingly withdrawn, and the bill passed, putting into the pocket of Thomas Jefferson 23,900 dollars, for about six thousand volumes of books, good, bad and indifferent, old and new, useful and worthless, in all tongues and languages, about one quarter French, and another quarter in languages, dead and living, other than English; many which cannot be read by a single member in either house of congress, and more which never will nor ever ought to be read by a member—while the library is destitute of other books, absolutely necessary, in doing the public business. This is true Jeffersonian, Madisonian, democratic econ-

omy, which has bankrupt the treasury, beggared the people, and disgraced the nation.

### Substance of Mr. Ingersoll's Speech on the Militia Bill,

*Delivered in the House of Representatives of the United States, Dec. 9, 1814.*

—Mr. CHAIRMAN—It seems to be the determination of gentlemen to debate all the military, and all the national subjects too, on the present motion. I had hoped that this discussion would have been reserved for the consideration of the resolutions I laid on the table the day before yesterday, and which it was my intention to have called up the moment the present business is disposed of. I never much liked this bill. It embraces the same principles without the powerful effects of the other plan, with a greater complication of machinery. It was originally but a weak, diluted measure, in my opinion; and a bad substitute for the direct classification and draft into the regular armies, which I hold to be the best, and indeed the only efficient system. I had resolved however, to vote for the bill, because I do not perceive that it may not serve as an accessory to the classification: and even eviscerated as it has been by the success of the motion of the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Eppes, to reduce the term of service from two years to one, I do not yet say that I will withhold from it my support. Something must be done.

To be insensible of the extreme importance of time at this crisis, is to be insensible to the crisis itself. This is the moment for action, not declamation; and gentlemen on both sides may rest assured that their controversies are like a sea fight; surrounded by a mass of destructive element infinitely more to be apprehended than their own ability to injure each other—an element of destruction, which, if neglected or provoked, will swallow up both the contending parties together, while they are vainly striving which shall overthrow the other. To change the illustration—we are in conflict, sir, as it were, in a vast place of interment, where eternity yawns upon us from ten thousand mouths, and where, which ever party brings his antagonist to the earth, can achieve no more enviable victory than that of being buried altogether in the same unhonored grave.—Gentlemen seem to think, sir, that their constituents sent them here with no other purpose than to pull down one administration and supplant it with another. They tell us with one breath that the present

administration was forced into this war, and with the next breath they make administration answerable for all its fortunes. They denounce that administration as the most imbecile, indigent and despicable in the world; and yet, with all the wealth and all the talents, they have in vain withheld their wealth, in vain exercised their talents, to thrust this miserable obstacle from their course. They possess exclusively all the physical resources and all the patriotic attachments of the soil of the country—the bone, marrow, sinews and vitals of the state; and they come here to reproach administration for not having prevented or defeated a sudden inroad upon the capital, while a portion of their own territory has been for six months in the undisputed occupation of the enemy—subdued without resistance, and held without an effort to regain it. We can all recollect, Mr. Chairman, how the gentleman from New-Hampshire, Mr. Webster, in particular, demonstrated to us about this time last year, that our war was unpopular and unjust; how he entertained us with distinctions between war offensive and war defensive, between the mercenary spirit of extra-territorial conquest and aggrandizement on the one hand, and the generous ardor of repelling invasion on the other; how he proved our inability to conquer Canada, without the cordial co-operation of New-England; and how speedily Canada would be overrun and subdued, if his immediate fellow-citizens could be enlisted into the cause, instead of the armies—and yet now that the war has become offensive to them—now that it has pushed itself into their plantations—now that the conqueror rings the knell of a curfew every evening over their own fire-sides—not a note of preparation or resistance do we hear from their mountains or their sea-board—nor any other note than that of rejoicing in the happy exchange they have made of war without trade for trade without war. Nay, sir, they are more robust than ever in opposition to the war, now that nothing is left in dispute but a canton of their own soil; and they venture to threaten us with disunion for presuming to enact a militia law, when the enemy offers us peace we can accede to at any moment, and leave that section which shakes the rod of dismemberment over our heads, to fight out the battle with Great Britain.

Sir, I do not belong to that slave-holding portion of these states to which such frequent and such angry allusions are made from another quarter, and for particular reasons I look with a degree of reverence and strong regard toward the east. I listen too with pleasure generally to whatever falls from

the gentleman from New-Hampshire (Mr. Webster) because, however I may disapprove the doctrine, it is for the most part supported by argument, as to-day it was by eloquence. But it was, if I may so express it, with a very painful pleasure that I attended to his pathetic threats this morning. A dissolution of this confederacy is a national misfortune upon which I never think without great pain. The political school in which I have made my inconsiderable acquisitions, abhors and deprecates so desperate a resort. I know of but one evil more to be dreaded. But there is one, and of that one I inform the gentleman from N. Hampshire. It is the deterring those states who hold a legitimate ascendancy in the government from any measure whatever, by the threat of a dismemberment as the consequence of it. Whenever this is the case the union is virtually dissolved. The substance is gone, and nothing remains but the shadow—a cold and melancholy shade of authority—without warmth, without life—contemptible to our enemies, and formidable only to ourselves. Minorities have their rights, and I should be one of the last to infringe upon them. But majorities have their duties too, and duties to be performed at every hazard. Sir, we have been but too long threatened with dissolution, but too often deterred from proper and constitutional purposes by such apprehensions. The same ground was taken in the same quarter against the embargo laws. The same threats. But there was no resistance to those very severe and unpalatable acts; and I trust there will be none to this militia bill. I do not believe that there will. But whether there will or not shall have no influence upon me. If I consider the thing just, I shall vote for it and maintain it, leaving results to themselves. Is there nothing, sir, from the Potomac to the Penobscot, but one vast sea of administration? Is there no country left to embark upon? Have we no wrongs to avenge? No rights to assert? No enemy to contend with? No home to feel for? Or do gentlemen consider their country, (to adopt a figure of Mr. Burke's) a *carte blanche*, on which they may scribble what they please? For my part, I rise to-day, Mr. Chairman, the advocate of no administration. I have taken the floor to assert the cause of my country against its foreign enemy; and I think the conjuncture has well nigh arrived when both administration and opposition may give way to nobler views than those of reviling and destroying each other. It is a fact at once mortifying and alarming, that England is waging hostilities, not against your union and resources, but against your divisions and prejudices. Reserving all my animosity for her, and anxious to defend our common cause, permit me cursorily to enquire whether it is really so low and so wretched as seems to be imagined. I am not disposed, I think it would be out of date at this time of day, to enquire into the wisdom of the declaration of war, which is besieged with such pertinacious and preposterous denunciation, by almost every member of this house, who rises to oppose any measure now necessary for sustaining the contest in which we are involved. But this I will say, that I have no doubt whenever the parties and passions of the moment shall be melted and melted down by the lapse of years and change of circumstances, that declaration will be recorded by the historian as the wisest and most fortunate act in the annals of America. I had not the honor of voting for the declaration of war—I wish I had. With a full and keen sense of all the dangers and difficulties it has brought upon us, I would vote for it now, were it again in ques-

tion. Yes, sir, were we now in June 1812, and had I the faculty to pierce the veil of futurity and discover all that has happened since, I would not hesitate. The venerable patriot whose mortal remains we lately consigned to the earth [the vice-president, Mr. Gerry] with the obsequies that became his services and his station, does not bequeath to his posterity a richer inheritance of public gratitude for the vote he gave for independence, on the 4th of July 1776, than will descend upon his children, from any member of the congress, who from pure and patriotic considerations (and I can suppose none other) voted for the war on the 18th of June, 1812.

It is true that we have experienced since then a great variety of fortunes, and that we are now arrived at a conjuncture big with portentous events. But to appreciate our situation properly, we should enquire not what it is or may be, but what it would and must have been, if war had not been resorted to. What then would have been our condition? We might indeed have slumbered on through 1812 and 1813, in the protracted torpor of an ignominious peace. We might have still clung to a sorry remnant of the rags of trade. We might have remained in morbid neutrality, watching the phases of the moon in Europe. We might have witnessed those astonishing transactions there, which, crowding the business of centuries into the space of months, have overthrown the colossus of the continent, and bestrode his fallen carcass with that of the colossus of the seas. We might have trailed the ascendant star of England with a joy unmingled with apprehension, unadulterated with hostility.—We might still have amused ourselves with furious factions and the war of words. Restrictive systems and other such political polemics, would have never failed to separate us into two unrelenting parties, just as we are marked off now. As to making preparation for hostilities under such circumstances, it is absurd to talk about it. And when the spring came for our re-animation from this torpid, creeping, odious, miserable state, to what sort of vernal pleasures should we have risen up? With all the original causes of complaint existing, and aggravated, between you and England, for not one of them would have disappeared but from your demonstrations of resistance, without an officer or a soldier, a fortification or an equipment, directed at home, despised abroad, you would have been cast upon the tender mercies and the magnanimity of Great Britain. And what has been your experience of these mercies, of that magnanimity? What claims have you beyond the Dutch, the Irish, the East-Indian or the Portuguese, to the forbearance and the fondness of your mother country? Has your revolution left no sting? Or has your subsequent prosperity inflicted no pang? Holland, annexed to England, in return for the Dutch emancipation from the yoke of France, is the volume in which you may read your own fate. I refer gentlemen to an extract from the London Gazette, lately published in our newspapers, by which it appears that not a Dutch vessel is to sail without a British license. And what right have we to be preferred to the Dutch? Instead of a question whether the Canadas should be annexed to the United States, there would have been no question as to the annexation of the United States to the Canadas. If a lady is to be found in this reprobate region, worthy to be united in marriage with one of the worthies of the illustrious house of Brunswick, we should have been wedded to our *disadvant* mother, with all the blessings of the incestuous union. This, sir, is but

a faint outline of the destiny of America, but for the attitude, the character and the means of self-preservation, for all of which we are indebted to this war.

It is true, to be sure, that we have been consigned, almost without a thought, from nations whose battles we are fighting, particularly that one which offered its mediation, to the bloody and ferocious visitation of those modern buccaners, who have carried their calicoes for sale throughout the world at the point of the bayonet, plunging the bayonet into every bosom that refused to cover itself with the calico—who have wrapped the four corners of the earth in flames for a monopoly of manufactures. We could not dress but in their broad cloths. We could not eat but in their hardwares. We could not sleep but in their blankets. They had reduced us to Lord Chatham's wish. Not a hob-nail but was English. They had us effectually recolonized without bloodshed or expense. But this did not content them. They must act the farcical tragedy which France performed with Spain. America belonged to England, in effect, as much as Spain belonged to France. But the goose must be killed that laid the golden egg. To this we demurred—we resisted. After a series of endurance and prostration, to which I never can recur without shame and sorrow, we finally resisted. If we had begun the contest with the cause of it, it would have ended long ago, and ended to our honour. But we deferred it till the eve of a fundamental revolution of things in Europe, when the turning European politics to our account, has left us England single handed on our hands. We have accordingly sufficed all that the combination of British power and British perfidy could inflict—no inconsiderable matter, sir—for British power, for the purposes of distant maritime aggression, is the most formidable in the world; and I defy all history, ancient as well as modern, sacred and profane, for parallels with British perfidy. We have endured invasion, prosecuted avowedly in defiance of the laws of civilized warfare. After sacking our capital, the enemy, for the first time, I believe, that Christendom ever witnessed such an act, has proclaimed his purpose to ravage and destroy beyond the precincts of humanity. We have had warriors to contend with, whose first reinforcement was from the savage of your borders—whose last appeal was to the pirate lurking on your shores.—All this we have undergone—the overcharged eruption from the volcano of British aggression. But we survive. The white heat of the fiery ordeal has subsided, and we find ourselves breathing again; with our union, our spirit, our resources, our territory; unsubdued, except the strip on the Penobscot—slowly, it must be confessed, but too slowly making preparation for another campaign. Never was stratagem more hollow, more perfidious, more cruel, more base, than the overture last winter by the Bramble—a stratagem against which this house will do me the justice to recollect that I then admonished them. Never was warfare more barbarous, more inhuman, more brutal, more unmanly, than that waged against us by the English, pending the negotiation for peace, to which they gave the invitation. It has excited against them but one unanimous spirit of hearty detestation.

An honorable gentleman of the other house (Mr. King) for whose person and character I shall always cherish the most affectionate regard, however I may differ from him in politics, who has not been distinguished by his dislike to England, has, within these few days, pronounced his eloquent and

sincere reprobation of their remorseless and sanguinary hostilities. Never were preliminaries of peace laid down upon a broader basis of stupid ignorance of infatuated misconception, than those proposed by the British Commissioners at Ghent. Never was inflexibility so flexible, or supercilious superiority so soon relaxed—never was a peremptory *sine qua non* so soon commuted for a paltry *ulti possidetis*. When gentlemen therefore labor by the good hour to prove to us how disastrous our affairs have been, I beg leave to commend them to the enemy for a contradiction. I request them to inform me how it happens that mighty England has so soon descended from her towering height, unless she has found reasons in her reverses here, to moderate her tone there. She knows, she feels her disappointment. She recognizes it in acts too strong to be argued out of existence by all the rhetoric and all the logic of this house. While their fleets, without a single occasion for their presence in any other quarter, have in vain attempted to maintain the paper blockade of our coast, our privateers have enforced an actual and absolute blockade of the coasts of Great Britain. While British ships of the line have degraded the naval character by every species of vile exacton and dastardly mischief upon these shores, the American cruiser has visited the shores of England with examples of heroism and humanity. The privateer has taught the man of war the lesson of his art—how to conquer and how to be generous. There are some vestiges, it must be acknowledged, of British conquest, but they are no where to be seen without the bloody print of British vandalism too. Even this capital presents a diurnal spectacle of mutilated columns and demolished monuments. But the blood of martyrs is the seed of the church: and every capital in Europe, which has survived unhurt the occupation of a conqueror, resounds with execration against the British barbarians who one day laid in ashes the capitol of America, and the next day fled to their ships, leaving their wounded to the mercy of those whom they had thus alienated to the feeling of humanity.

But Canada has not been conquered, and my friend from South-Carolina (Mr. Calhoun) has been reminded of his prediction, that it would be. Sir, I deny the retort. To all the purposes of that prediction, Canada has been conquered. It was not that we desired to magnify our republic by adding the Canadas to the confederacy. If the inhabitants could be removed, I should not care, for my part, if Canada could be overflowed by the ocean.—But as a means of obtaining peace and not as the end of the war, the conquest of the Canadas has been almost achieved. And for this again I beg leave to refer to Ghent and England. We have performed a campaign on Canada ground, which is worth the acquisition of ten thousand Canadas.—We have accomplished officers, and that being done, England knows that we can create soldiers. The American in Europe need now no longer blush to be an American. The European who visits America—after traversing the ocean, every latitude of which is in a blaze with the naval glories of our glorious tars—and who repairs to the falls of Niagara, as the most prodigious of nature's wonders, will find every species of classic recollection, superadded to the natural prodigy of the scene. The grounds round the falls of Niagara, are all sanctified with romantic exploits and brilliant achievements, achievements which have plucked the military as well as the naval plume from British brows—which have been followed by the congratulations

and applause of the whole American people.—Whether the campaign has been well or ill conducted, on the part of the administration, I cannot stop to enquire. Whether Gen. Izard ought to have been here and Gen. Brown there, or what share the administration should have of credit or censure, for these operations, I neither know or care. It answers all my purposes that they redound to the honor of the country—that they enhance the American name at the expense of the enemy of America—the rest is matter of controversy, with which I cannot disturb my feelings.

Our ministers in Europe may now with honest pride and independence, declare to those potentates who shrunk from our assistance, though our cause was theirs, because they dared not to aid us—their subsidies would have been stopped if they had—we have triumphed without your reinforcement, aye, without even your countenance, we have vanquished the victors of your conquerors. We do not ask for your alliance. We do not stand in need of it. With the blessing of God and our means, we can do without it. All that we ask of you is, to cause your neutral rights to be respected as we have caused ours to be. Learn from our example how strong a good cause renders the weak against the mighty. Betrayed by inordinate love of peace, and the infamous double dealing of England into but partial preparation for war, we were overtaken unawares by fearful odds. You thought no doubt that the chances were against us. But after a whole campaign of our infernal enemy's utmost scope, not a wreath of laurel have we lost, nor an inch of ground, excepting a small part which was not defended as it should have been. My life upon it, sir, the magnanimous Alexander will find that his esteem for us is greater than he supposed it, and Louis the Desired, in 1815, like his predecessor in 1778, will generously press in with his assistance, since he perceives that we can do without it.

But we must have armies and we must have money. I venture to assert that the mere enactment, by something like unanimity in this house, of a good military system, with indications of acquiescence in it out of doors, would secure us a peace forthwith, without the necessity of enforcing the system. I appeal to these gentlemen, who are so clamorous for peace, to coalesce for an object so desirable. That system, in my opinion, is a classification of the white male population of the country, for the purpose of a draft into the regular armies. You may call it by what odious, ugly name you will—conscription or what not—but it is the only sufficient, the only republican, the only fair, the only equal plan, for applying the physical means to the end of common military defence and protection. Sir, vast improvements have taken place in the military art since the last twenty years. All Europe has in effect adopted these improvements; and this country will be left lamentably behind in the march of mankind, unless, like the rest, it adopts them too. What are they, sir? Simply a return to the great, cardinal principles of republican government, to the principles which maintained Rome for so many centuries on the ascendancy, and again for so many centuries on the decline, before her mere declension disappeared in the darkness of the middle ages. The gentleman from New-York (Mr. Miller) was mistaken in supposing that the *Militia Romanorum* admitted of either alternative or exemption. There was no such thing. Every citizen was in fact a soldier.—Every one was compelled to serve his country under arms, and no citizen was permitted to be clo-



vated to civil honor, who had not served them in the military field. It is some time, sir, since I read Polybius; and Washington is not the best place on earth for reference to books. But, unless I am quite wrong in my remembrance, the gentleman from New-York will find, in the 7th book of that work, the Roman system as I have stated it. But it is somewhat scholastic to refer to such authorities. Let us come down to later times. We all know the military tenures, the scutage, the Knight service and so forth, by which the vassal was bound to serve his Lord, his Lord the Duke, and the Duke his sovereign. We know the *ban* and *arriere ban*, which used to carry men into the field for short and insufficient terms of service. We read at still more recent periods, of the Condottieri, the Hessians, the Walloons, the various mercenaries which for the most part composed the arm es of Europe. We know that the great Frederick fought his famous seven year's war with troops of this description. But these again may be thrown out of view, together with the Roman precedent. I invite gentlemen to accompany me to England for a conscription, and I pledge myself to find them one, of the harshest and most unequal kind—not impressment for the sea, but conscription for the land service.—I invite particularly the attention of the gentleman from New-Hampshire (Mr. Webster) to the book I am about to read from—it is the English statutes at large—a treatise with which his pursuits ought to make him peculiarly conversant. Here, where there are no naughty assignats nor Napoleons; here in this adorable land of liberty and wisdom, here we shall find conscription at full length. [Mr. Ingersoll then read several sections of an Act of Parliament for recruiting the regular army, enacted in 1756, and to be found in the seventh volume of the English statutes at large, page 625, 28, G. 2, c. 4—and from another act, enacted in 1757, to be found in the eighth volume of these statutes, page 11, 50, G. 2, c. 8.] Thus, sir, it appears that Lord Chatham planned and Wolfe executed a precedent for Bonaparte's conscriptive system. Here we find that all persons without employment are to be drafted into the King's service. For how long? Five years! From what ages? From 17 to 45—For how much? For 40 shillings a head. By what means? By seizing on their persons, and throwing them into confinement till the recruiting sergeant was ready to receive their translation to the ranks.—And who were intended by her sons out of employment? The yeomanry of the country. How does this appear? Most conclusively, from that section which *exempts them in the time of harvest*. It was not the loungee, the gentleman, the man of fortune, the cockney, that Lord Chatham laid hold of as a person without employment. Oh no! His Lordship knew better. He has left, to be sure, the impression of the energies of his character and administration upon this act of Parliament. But he had not the jacobin temerity to meddle with the privileged orders; that was reserved for the Corsican, who, with his own scymitar, cut his own way to a throne; and who, with all the vulgar prejudices of his former situation, devised and executed a scheme for making gentlemen serve their country just like common people. Oh! the monster! The yeoman whom Lord Chatham forced into General Wolfe's army, had no friend at Court. Like the ten thousand American seamen in British ships, he might have writhed in anguish till the flesh rotted from his bones, without an advocate to assert his claims, unless the merchant had become a sufferer too and clamored his country into a war against

orders in council. Lord Chatham violated only the sanctuary of the cottage. But Napoleon intruded on the palace.

And for what war, in particular, was it that this act of Parliament raised men by subscription? For the conquest of Canada. Chatham was the minister and Wolfe the commander—names dear to England—illustrious and venerable names. I subscribe to the sentiments, and quote the language of a modern poet, that it is

Praise enough  
To fill the ambition of a private man,  
That Chatham's language was his mother tongue,  
And Wolfe's great name compatriot with his own.

Thus it appears, Mr. Chatham, that Napoleon had a precedent, an English precedent, for his conscription. To argue the objections to this system from its abuse by the late French emperor, is a false mode of argument. He did abuse the engine, to the most extensive and wanton and abominable ends. But it does by no means follow, therefore, that the system itself is a bad one.

Have we no American great name associated with this system, which seems to excite at once all the Gog and Magog terrors that one would think ought by this time to be banished to the Island of Elba? We have, sir, a name never mentioned without reverence, never uttered by the tongue without a glow of the heart, General Washington, after remonstrating for three or four years in vain against militia and short enlistments was constrained at last to have recourse to classification and draft; and our liberties were ultimately gained by American conscripts. Not indeed until our towns were occupied and sacked, our shores in flames, and our prejudices subdued by our stronger feelings—a course of discipline which I am afraid will again be necessary. Our strong measures are almost always reserved for the next year after the occasion for them.

We have ascertained that neither militia nor voluntary enlistments are to be relied upon. The fatal doctrine of citizen-soldier, (as we adhere to it) has cost us more money, more blood, more mourning in six months than a war of six years should or would cost under proper military organization. For proof of this we go to the camp at Ellicott's Mills in this neighbourhood. See every fourth man on his sick bed, or rather sick without a bed to lie upon. Every day a funeral. Count the cost; estimate the expense of actual disbursement and of loss of labour, and no rational, no feeling man can doubt as to the shocking inexpediency of such a system. I appeal to the honorable gentleman from Virginia (General Breckenridge) for the correctness of what I say. With such dreadful scenes of preparation for service, let me refer the committee to a still nearer, and still more painful scene for the inefficiency of militia. I mean the affair at Bladensburg. In making this reference I beg to be understood as intending to blame nobody, from the general down to the private. It always has been, and always will be, impossible with the militia to contend with regulars. It takes seven years apprenticeship to make a tinker or a tailor, and is to be conceived that the military science it to be acquired by intuition?

Such are the militia men—and what are they obtained by what is termed voluntary enlistment? Go to the recruiting rendezvous for information. A poor, ignorant creature is cajoled into the drum shop, and betrayed into intoxication. When his senses are gone, the Evangelists are put into his hands, and he is called upon to invoke the Almighty to witness an engagement to serve his country.

A bounty is thrust into his pocket; a cap is put upon his head and he becomes a soldier.—When the fit of drunkenness goes off he is informed of his enlistment—he denies it—he is manacled—he resists—he is confined, until finally he is subdued into voluntary enlistment. Let me not be asked why I support a war which involves these evils. I answer, that war itself is an evil but a necessary one. Whereas these disgusting practices may be easily avoided. They are one of our English legacies. Recruiting is a brutal exercise of violence and fraud over mental alienation. It is an image of the bastard liberty of England. It is slavery called liberty.

The substitute, for it is the most simple, the most republican, the most equal and unexceptionable system in the world—that of militia classification and draft. That is, militia as it should be—not as it is. Of all countries in the world, this is the one best adapted to such a system. It is here alone that all men are treated as equals. By this I do not mean any revolutionary equality. No. Education and even wealth place their possessors above the illiterate and the indigent. In spite of all they do, fortune will make her own selections, and laws cannot controul them. The most powerful and consistent argument extant in favour of republicanism, is to be found in the New Testament, but at the same time the most positive authority for the graduation of the social order. For, as the great republican poet has expressed it, "orders and degrees jar not with liberty, but well consist." But then it should be the constant endeavor of government to maintain a perfect equality in all civil enjoyments and impositions, to burthen the poor with nothing that does not fall likewise on the rich; to call upon the latter according to their opulence for pecuniary aid; and not to call upon the former for any personal services that are not exacted of all alike. Upon these principles emphatically does that military system rest, which, by whatever title denominated, classifies a population and compels them to serve without exemption or reservation.

As to the constitutionality of this measure, I refuse to argue it. I hold it to be too clear for argument. Independent of the explicit terms of the constitution, this power is inherent in the nature of the government. Its exercise and extent must be referred for their regulation to a sound discretion. I adopt the sentiment of the Chairman of the Military Committee, (Mr. Troup) that the constitution authorizes it, and that if it does not, such a constitution is not worth regarding or having.

That it would be popular (I mean in the legitimate acceptance of popularity—agreeable to the people at large) I have no doubt, because it calls upon them for no duty that is not necessary and common to all. And the people never murmur at such calls. In that portion of the country with which I have any acquaintance, I am sure it has been expected from Congress, and would be received with pleasure as the best alternative for the oppressive militia functions. Whether it would be odious or resisted, as is threatened elsewhere, is not for me to determine. I can tell the gentleman from N. H. (Mr. Webster) however, that the glowing picture he has drawn of its effects is but faintly shadowed to that which this country will present, unless some energetic and adequate system be enforced. The late developments from Europe place us, Sir, upon critical ground. On one side, all is peace, prosperity, renown and respect. On the other, war interminable, disunion, devastation, disgrace and irretreable ruin. Dismemberment

would be but a little misfortune, contrasted with what may be our lot, unless we rise up to the exigency. The dangers of despotism which are imagined, are alarming, it must be confessed; but they are not so awful as the degradation and misery which may result from a fear to do what our position demands.—Convulsion is no more to be dreaded than paralysis. For myself, I see no peril but in our own divisions.

The republic is perfectly safe if we pursue those energetic and powerful measures, which alone can save us—which alone are consistent with our duty, and commensurate with the occasion.

### Mr. Duval's Speech

*In reply to Mr. Miller—in the House of Representatives of the United States; on the bill calling for 80,000 militia from the several states, for the defence of the United States.*

MR. CHAIRMAN—My desire to address the committee on the present bill, does not arise either from the hope of fame or distinction. But, sir, I am impelled by my judgment and duty, to protest against the opinions and doctrines which have been advanced by the honorable gentlemen from New-York, (Mr. Miller) on the various subjects which he has brought before this committee—opinions and objections against the powers of Congress, which, if they unfortunately should be brought into practice, would overturn every principle of civil liberty, destroy all subordination and union, and rend into pieces the constitution of the country. Before I proceed to examine the arguments of the gentleman from New-York, (Mr. Miller) permit me to say, I am opposed to striking out any part of this bill, unless I can be persuaded in the hour of alarm and peril to surrender the rights and liberties of the nation. The provisions contained in this bill are not only proper but absolutely necessary. The rejection of the measure would be to disarm the nation, and increase the calamities of war. I had hoped, as the motion of the honorable gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Eppes) had prevailed, to reduce the term of militia service from two years to one, that all further objections on the part of the opposition would vanish—I did not long remain in this error. All the clamor of party has been roused by this measure, and, by gentlemen in the opposition, it is loudly denounced as odious, tyrannical and unconstitutional. Sir, I had hoped, that the stormy passions of party were in a great measure allayed by the perilous situation of the country.—Opposed to a powerful and ambitious enemy, who is collecting all the deluge of war to pour on this devoted land—with a treasury exhausted, and a gallant army reduced in number but not in spirit, I indeed had hoped, that gentlemen in the opposition (under these circumstances) would have stood forward to defend their soil and sovereignty. In this hope I have not altogether been disappointed. Some gentlemen of high and distinguished talents, who now stand at the head of the federal party, have declared their determination to vote the supplies for the government, and on several occasions have nobly triumphed over their feelings, and placed themselves on American ground. This is the duty of every American—they owe it to themselves and their country. I ask not gentlemen to sacrifice their principles. Surely when their aid is demanded to preserve our rights, let them expose the errors of the administration—let them expose the policy which has been pursued by the dominant party—let them endeavor to con-

vince the people, that their confidence has been misplaced and abused; nay, let them exert all their powers to change the rulers of the nation, and call other men and measures into action. But in the name of our common country, I call upon them to prepare to meet the enemy, as implacable as he is powerful.

The member from New-York (Mr. Miller) commenced his arguments against this bill by gravely informing the committee, that he not only objected to this, but to all the military plans which had been offered; *because*, he says, *they are coercive*.—Will the gentleman be so obliging as to inform me how long since he made this important discovery? That the civil, criminal and military laws of our country should be coercive on its citizens is surely very tyrannical. But, till the learned gentleman can point out to me a country whose laws have no penalties, and whose military code is not coercive, I must be permitted to believe this strange and visionary notion has only been drawn from Plato's ideal republic. Indeed, sir, this argument is an excellent specimen of the lengthy, learned and elaborate speech delivered by the gentleman on this subject; the whole of which was, no doubt, the offspring of much painful reflection and deep research. It was the most logical, historical and tragical discourse that ever was delivered in a legislative body. I was at a loss to determine, whether most to admire his powers as a historian, his clearness as a logician, or the refined excellence of his poetic fancy. It is rare that one individual excels in more than one science or accomplishment, but the honorable gentlemen from New-York is surely an exception. I feel half inclined to complain of the brilliancy of his fancy, for it threw such a dazzling light round his subject and arguments, that I must own my own mind was often so bewildered as not to comprehend all his nice and excellent deductions. But this was certainly my fault, or rather my misfortune—for the eye of real genius is always clearest and brightest in the blaze of science.

The committee will pardon this digression; it was justly due to the gentleman. This bill has been called conscription for the purpose of rendering it odious to the people. It is not the first time that a measure has been denounced by some peculiar name, in order to produce opposition or to defeat its object. Such a shallow artifice cannot deceive any but those who are willing to be deluded. The gentleman from New-York (Mr. Miller) read to the committee some pages of most pathetic declamation on the distressing scenes which conscription had produced in France; but he forgot to shew the coincidence between the bill before us and the conscription code of France. I say there is no coincidence, no, not even in the classification, and still less in any other feature.—The conscription laws of France were first introduced by their directory, and are in strict imitation of the Roman discipline, which compelled every man to become a soldier. They were adopted for the purpose of aggrandizement and conquest.—All Frenchmen were classed between the ages of twenty and twenty-five only. In this particular it was oppressive and unjust. The conscripts were often treated with the utmost cruelty, and if they deserted their parents were made responsible for their appearance, or their fortunes paid an exorbitant fine. All this was done too to carry on foreign wars without their consent, to gratify an ambitious tyrant. The people of France were controlled by the iron rod of a military despot, who was only governed by his in-

terest and glory. They made no laws—their voice was not heard in their councils. Day after day, and year after year, were they dragged unwilling victims to fight the wars of their master in every part of their continent. The young men saw no termination to their military toils but in the arms of death; and if they survived the period assigned for military service, they were but seldom rewarded for the scars which they bore, while unusual hardships and constant exposure entailed upon them poverty and premature old age. No wonder can then be excited when we are told, that the people of France dreaded and execrated conscription.

Let us now examine this American militia bill, and compare it with the conscription of France. First, all the free male population of the United States, over the age of eighteen and under forty-five, are bound to render military service whenever they are legally drafted. The section which permits a class to exonerate itself by furnishing one recruit for the regular army, so far from being objectionable, is in fact an advantage to the whole body of militia. This difference, and the extension of the term of service six months longer than usual, are the only changes in the militia law now in operation.

If this is conscription, it was practised during our revolution. It has been the invariable practice during the present war, and must continue so as long as we are governed by the constitution. It is nothing more than the people of these states expected, when they instructed their representatives in Congress to declare war against Great Britain. If this be called conscription by the opposition, it is equally so to bring the militia into the field for six or three months—nay, even for a single day. But the member from New-York (Mr. Miller) and his friends, feeling that this argument was too weak to support them even for a moment, turned to the constitution and endeavored to base their reasoning on its sacred principles. Sir, in this they have failed, and their attempt has only more clearly exposed the error of their doctrines. *The militia belong to the states, it is urged, and Congress have no right to call them into service, for they may be wanted for state defence.*

I answer, the general government is bound to provide for the weal and protection of every state in the union. That the constitution gives to Congress the power to provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States. That it also invests Congress with power to call forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions. Will it be denied that our country is not invaded? No—this must be admitted by the most incredulous. Yet, possessing these powers, and under these circumstances, we are told that this bill is unconstitutional. I ask gentlemen if the very compact which they guard with so much watchfulness, does not recognize the militia as the bulwark of our liberties? And yet they say in effect, that Congress cannot command their services. Before my mind can assent to this strange contradiction, and extraordinary opinion, gentlemen must prove to me that it is unconstitutional to call the militia into service for six or three months, or even for a day, for their reasons will apply as strong in every instance I have mentioned, as they can against this bill.

The member from New-York (Mr. Miller) with great emotion has declared, that were he to vote for this bill, he would disgrace the ashes of his

fathers, that is, violate the rights of the people who ought to be suffered *quietly to enjoy their own fire sides*. I will tell the gentleman that he can never disgrace the ashes of his fathers by defending his country; they have given to him an example that should awaken all his pride to emulate; they never refused to defend the soil and independence which their noble valor has since given to their posterity; could their pure and generous spirits witness these scenes and hear such sentiments, they would weep angel tears over the degeneracy and ingratitude of their sons.—*But we should enjoy our fire sides!* What enjoyment let me enquire, is to be found in this enviable situation, when war is striding over the people, breathing destruction on our borders—can the member from New-York (Mr. Miller) feel in time such as these, the quiet and enjoyment of which he speaks? No, in the interest which he has taken in our various campaigns, in the minute recital of our misfortunes, in the painful and melancholy feelings, which he has illustrated by such frequent quotations of the poetic language of the great dramatist it is disclosed, that he reposes not in these times in quiet content by his own fire side; let us not talk of these enjoyments in the strife of war; this theme the American will reserve for the halcyon days of peace.

But the member from New-York (Mr. Miller) has said that this nation can only be saved by reviving its credit, and recruiting its armies; yet he declares that his assent shall not be given to this end, although he has told us, *this and this only* can save the nation. Is it possible that the honourable member is so lost to duty and love of country, that under no situation in which we may be placed, he will give his aid to provide men or money for defence.

[Here Mr. Miller rose, and said he was misunderstood by the gentleman from Kentucky, that he had said he would not give any supplies to the government for the conquest of Canada; but that if our army was withdrawn from that country, and the project of conquest relinquished, he would go as far as any gentleman to raise men and money for defence.]

Mr. Duval regretted he had misunderstood the gentleman, that it was neither his object or inclination to misstate his arguments, and no gentleman would accuse him of so mean a subterfuge.

It was but the other day that the member from New-York (Mr. Miller) declared on this floor, that the government had abandoned every object for which this war was commenced. I take him at his word, and the supposed conquest of Canada cannot now be an obstacle; but to remove his fear of conquest, let me offer him proof which is undeniable to dissipate the inquietude which he still feels on this subject. I mean the instructions given to our ministers, and the offer to make peace on their part with the British commissioners on terms of which they have no right to complain. How then can it be seriously urged, that this is a war of conquest? Even the gentleman himself has said that all the objects for which this war was declared are now abandoned; in one breath we are told it would be dangerous to the liberties of the people, to place at the disposal and under the control of the men in power, a great military force; in the next moment the same gentleman declares that the administration have neither talents or capacity to carry on the war, and that such is their imbecility, that were they to furnish the supplies they would be profusely and ineffectually expended. I leave such absurd contradictions to be reconciled by those who claim them as just and unanswerable arguments.

But, said the gentleman (Mr. Miller) beware how you trample on the rights of your citizens, for remember justice never sleeps; I lament that his conduct has not proved the truth of this remark. Justice among the great body of the people I trust will never sleep, but with some in the opposition, she even now slumbers unto death. Justice expired with the gentleman and some of his friends in the opposition, when they declared in this hall and in the face of the whole nation, that this war is wicked and unjust.

That the nation commenced the war before they were prepared, was and is yet my opinion. But that we had not ample cause to justify our resort to arms, I do deny. Was it wicked and unjust to resist the enemy in their illegal decrees and blockades? Was it wicked and unjust to resist the capture and confiscation of our vessels and cargoes? Was it wicked and unjust to resist the imprisonment of our seamen? If none of these contain the wickedness and injustice of which gentlemen complain, I ask in what does it exist? Let gentlemen no longer refuse their assistance—let them not sit calmly by and see the farms of their citizens pillaged, their habitations wrapt in flames; and when the voice of maddening distress shall assail them with petitions, coldly answer, we will not aid or protect you, for this war is wicked and unjust. When our territory is invaded by your enemy, and he bids defiance to your arms—when your citizens, no longer able to resist their iniquitous and rapacious demand, call on you for protection, which you have solemnly sworn under our constitution to give, will you violate the high obligation, and answer, it cannot be given for the war is wicked and unjust? Have you not heard the cries of distress, arising from ruffian profanation? Have you not marked the spots where your villages and hamlets once stood—whose ashes have slacked with the blood of your citizens? and yet are you calm and undisturbed, refuse to redress their sufferings, or to aid in the punishment of the incendiary myrtdons who have violated your people, because, you say, this war is wicked and unjust?

In vain may the citizens of your Indian frontier recite their sad and dreadful sufferings. The exterminating warfare of a merciless foe, whose joy in blood rises to madness, is suffered with your consent to rage with death and desolation on your borders. The rude children of the brave and daring hunter, and the family of the unoffending and peaceable emigrant sink alike beneath the arm of their savage foe. Do they desire your protection? Yes: but you sternly bid them die, because you still say, that this war is wicked and unjust.

I would ask, from what does this apathy on the part of many in the opposition originate? I fear from local distinctions and invidious remarks, which, with regret and pain I have often heard thrown out in the warmth of discussion. There is a class of politicians in this country who have for years, with the most unwearied industry and artifice, endeavored to make the eastern and northern sections of the union believe, that the southern and western states are jealous of their increasing wealth and commercial importance. This opinion has been supported and encouraged by demagogues for base and perfidious purposes. The good sense of the nation (it is the hope of every American) will soon correct so fatal an opinion. The happiness and interests of all the states are linked together by every tie that can bind society—speaking the same language—living under the same general laws—connected by marriage, blood and friendship, and worshipping the same great benevolent being—How can strong-

connections exist? Is interest more binding? Be it so. The north and east are commercial; the south and the west are engaged in agriculture: if commerce is impeded or suspended, the ships of our merchants are idle and decay; the produce of the south and west remains on the planter or farmer's hands, dead, wasting or unproductive, or becomes spoiled, unfit for market, or is wholly lost. Nature intended that the northern and eastern states should produce the daring and enterprising mariners of the union; to make them so, she has made them fine bays, harbors and rivers—she has placed the fisheries in their neighborhood as a nursery for their seamen—their climate is cold, and soil unsuited to the various productions of raw materials necessary for their factories, which are found in abundance in the south and west. New-England will not only possess the carrying trade of the south and west, but will, from her great and increasing population, necessarily become their manufacturers. All this is so obvious and certain, that the demagogues of either party cannot long deceive the people, by crying out that their interests are separate and distinct. Away, then, with invidious sectional distinctions—let us speak of ourselves as a nation, and not as separate hordes of wrangling and jealous savages. The bold and enterprising mariner of the north may proudly rank with the first in the nation. Yes, sir, these are the men who belong to your navy—who have acquired more glory in two years, for themselves and country, than ever England could boast in half a century—a gem which shall shine with undiminished splendor down the long annals of time. This nation never should forget in peace that a navy is her right arm in war.

It was with pleasure I listened to the gentleman from New-York, while he praised the valor of our land and naval commanders, and I could not but deem it strange, that he who seemed so animated at his own recital of their gallant deeds, should yet refuse to follow their example in defending his country.

I did not hope to follow the gentleman from New-York through all the various remarks which he pressed into this discussion; nor can I follow him in the sublime poetic effusions, and numberless quotations from celebrated authors. Indeed, sir, it seemed to me that the gentleman's speech was not made for the present bill, but for the bill which has been reported to this house by the honorable chairman (Mr. Troup) of the military committee; but as it is probable it will not be acted on, the honorable member from New-York has transferred his objection from that to the bill from the senate. But nothing is impossible to great genius; no subject is too high or too low, to escape its subtle attention. It delights to bring objects and things radically different, together; and, like electricity, its course is brilliant, wild and eccentric. Hence, we may account for the introduction of Governor Tompkins and his charger, by the honorable member, to this committee, caparisoned in all the pomp of war; and also for the rapid flight which he instantly took from the back of this war horse, as he said, "to pluck bright honor from the pale faced moon," where, for the present, I leave the gentleman.

The attention of the committee shall not be claimed much longer by me, for I throw by many remarks which have been made in the course of debate, in order to call your reflections on a subject that has been too often agitated, to escape reply.—I mean the doctrine of rebellion, which has been

trumpeted in our ears by more than one member of this body. It is time that gentlemen in the opposition should allay the fury of passion by the exercise of reason and calm enquiry. Can one individual in this body be found who will advocate principles destructive of the happiness and constitution of this country? Yes, this house has heard discord and rebellion, encouraged and avowed from more than one quarter. The member from New-York (Mr. Miller) has declared, that this militia system, or, as he terms it, *conscription*, will not be submitted to by the people; that they ought to resist such oppression; such infringement of their rights, and *he hoped they would resist*.

[Here Mr. Miller rose to explain, and said that the language he had used, were the words of Mr. Livingston, a democrat, and were delivered in a speech when he was opposed to Mr. Adams' administration, and he (Mr. Miller) now adopted them as his own.]

Mr. Duval said he had so understood the gentleman, and although he claimed the benefit of the example introduced, it was not on that account the less mischievous and pernicious; that demagogues belonged to all parties, and were equally to be detested and condemned. Let gentlemen who are giving tone and encouragement to rebellion, beware of the consequences; for, I tell them, they are treading over a burning volcano that may burst upon them in dreadful ruin. Do they propose to better their conditions, or the condition of their country, by such dangerous and mad contention? If so, let me drive from them far the fatal delusion. Look to the French revolution, and learn in time to avoid the bloody scenes which may and will be re-acted in America. How many of all the numerous and daring revolutionists of France are now in existence? Few, indeed, compared to the many who have fallen before the power of that rebellion which owed to them its spring and creation. All France did not produce, with her millions of men, a single individual who could snatch the helm and wield the sword of the nation. Such men are rare creations of nature—five centuries will not produce such another man as the Corsican, who braved the tempest of revolution, and rode on surges of blood to the imperial throne of France.

Beware—in time beware of the fate that will attend your temerity; for believe me when I tell you, ye who create are not the men that can control the tide of rebellion; you, first of all, shall be overwhelmed by its resistless fury. Deceive not yourselves and friends with the vain and foolish hope, that you can "mount the whirlwind and direct the storm," for you will be scattered before it "like chaff before the wind of heaven."

## SPEECH

OF THE HON. WILLIAM IRVING,

*In the House of Representatives of U. S. on the bill from the Senate, authorizing a draft of 80,430 militia from the several states, for the defence, &c. of the United States.*

*Mr. Speaker*,—It appears to me, sir, that the nice distinctions, that have, heretofore, been made by gentlemen, between a defensive and an offensive war, are no longer of any consequence. The ground on which the war commenced, can no longer, it is presumed, effect the question, whether hostilities shall be carried on with every efficient mean within our power. The terms proposed by the British Commissioners, have been communicated to this house; and the question now is, whether these terms are to be accepted, or, whether we are to employ

the means Providence has placed within our reach in the expectation of procuring better?

Sir, I would ask any gentleman in this assembly, whether he is willing to accept of these terms—to dismember the territory of the United States—to lop off the hands and arms of his country, and thus deliver her a prey to the enemy—or, at any rate, take from her every future hope of obtaining either satisfaction for injuries, or security against the exercise of oppression on the ocean. If he says he is willing to do this, it is well; he takes his stand, and we know what he means by opposing this measure. But if, on the other hand, by a feeling of generous indignation, at these new and unwarrantable claims, that violate the integrity of this country, and outrage every principle of reciprocity, he answers that he will not make peace on such ignoble terms, then if he differs with me, it is only as to the expediency of this measure, or its capacity to answer the purpose for which it is intended. It is with a view of investigating these two points that I enter into this debate; for I do not believe there is any honorable gentleman in this house who would recommend a peace on the terms which have been offered. If there is, I should consider it idle to address myself to such a person. It is impossible to create a soul under the ribs of death—and I would consider it equally hopeless to reason against the want of certain feelings, or attempt to excite emotions in a breast steeled by insensibility.

I would then ask, are the present means of raising an army, adequate to the exigencies of the present crisis? No, sir. The history of the war, and the experience of every day, are a sufficient answer to this question. What, with the habits engendered by a long peace—the want of means to pay the enormous bounties, which are necessary to tempt the prosperous multitude of this country—and most of all, the various and unjustifiable means that have been resorted to, for the purpose of impeding or discouraging enlistments, it is found totally impossible to fill the ranks of the army. Are the militia ordered out? it is called oppression. Are they selected by lot? gentlemen cry out conscription—as if there was any analogy between the temperate behests of the law, and the arbitrary will of a despot. Should any man be willing to enlist voluntarily, he is told, that his pay will be withheld, or, that in New-England, several soldiers had sold their certificates at a loss of fifty per cent. And this fact, which, if it be true, was the result of a panic, arising from the suggestions of some patriotic adviser, or conscientious broker, who wished to take advantage of his credulity, is trumpeted from one end of the country to the other—hawked out in newspapers, and recorded in triumph by the friends of their country.

What then remains for us, sir? Are we to go on in this miserable ricketty mode of warfare to the end of time, and waste our resources by dribblets in this preposterous economy—this lady-like forbearance of using the means in our power? or are we by one manly and decisive effort, to do that at once, which we must do at last, or submit to a most dishonourable peace? This is not the land of Colchis—you cannot sow dragons' teeth and reap armed men; you must resort to human means—and all human means, hitherto tried, have failed; we must therefore, find others, or we must crouch and cringe, and say to the enemy, in the debased and whining language of cowardice, "take all we have, but spare our lives."

Sir, as a mean of raising an efficient army, I see nothing unconstitutional or illegal in the bill before

us, nor, indeed, any very extraordinary hardship.—If the country is worth defending, and I trust some part of it, at least will be considered so, there appears no very good reason, why men should not be called upon to perform that duty. The framers of the constitution thought so, and they have invested the general government with the power of calling out the militia, as a sufficient defence against any force that might be brought against us. If, sir, this resource is withheld, by the delicate scruples of some state authorities—if pretence or construction, or quibble is resorted to—or if men shelter themselves behind an ambiguity, are country, the lakes, and our honour to be sacrificed in consequence? I hope not—I trust not—I am sure not. I do believe there is spirit enough in this house to resist both foreign and domestic imaginary barriers of the constitution, which rather seems to invite the aggressions of the enemy, than to afford safety to those whom this very constitution was intended to protect.

I say imaginary barriers, because I see nothing in the constitution which opposes this classification. It is true, sir, I am no lawyer, expert in legal subtleties, and equally expert in applying either end of the glass to an object, as it suits his purpose, to increase or diminish it. But there is one rule of law, to which I have not been inattentive, and that is, to consult the intention of the law which we are to expound. What was the intention of that section of the constitution, which provides for calling out the militia; in short, sir, what was the whole object of the constitution itself. It was framed solely for the purpose of combining the people of the United States into a community, for mutual defence. If, therefore, the usual resources of militia is insufficient, we resort to regular enlistment; and if that fails, what are we to do but try other more efficient means, or surrender the honor, and barter the interests of the country, for imaginary constitutional scruples?

Sir, there is one political axiom that cannot be controverted, the country *must* be defended; and whether this is done by driving the enemy to a distance, or receiving him at our doors, is a matter of policy, and not of conscience. It does not alter the principle one single hair's breadth. For my part, sir, I cannot find in the constitution any one principle that militates against classification, any more than against a draft or *conscription*, as some gentlemen call it. If there was, cases might occur even then, to justify such a measure, as indispensable to self-defence, which, while that necessity lasts, supercedes all other laws but those of nature.

But it appears to me, that sometimes we "strain at a gnat and swallow a camel." There is a fundamental principle in the constitution, which requires the minority, to submit to the will of the majority, constitutionally expressed, yet some in our country have forgotten *that*—there is another, that "no state shall enter into a compact with another state," some have quite forgotten *that*—and there is a sacred principle of union, pervading every article of the constitution, and some have quite forgotten *that*.

No! Mr. Speaker, having so glorious an inheritance, equal to that promised land, that the Jews were forty years suffering in the wilderness in the hope of obtaining, is it not wonderful, that instead of devising ways and means, for defending and securing the precious possession, we should be seeking for quibbles, to render useless the

means that God has provided for its defence?

Sir, we hear the executive of the United States every day charged with incapacity in carrying on the war; but how could we have expected any thing else, when we take into consideration, the situation in which he has been placed? Instead of providing money by taxation, we chose to resort to the expedient of loans, and sent our government out borrowing, until they returned penniless. The consequence has been, that instead of employing their time the summer past in devising plans how they could most annoy the enemy, they have been scuffling with national penury—perplexed to know, from day to day, how they could employ to the best advantage, their stinted means—how they could exist from hour to hour, with an exhausted treasury, and a depreciated credit. It is vain to expect a well conducted war, and an efficient administration unless we provide money and men to produce both.

Sir, gentlemen talk of this general government as if it were a self-supported superior being; some abstract and independent power; some cloud enthroned Hercules, on whom we are to depend for overcoming our difficulties, without any exertions of our own. What is the government of the United States, but an aggregate of the physical power and wealth of the people at large? It is from those it derives its strength and its energy, and if those are withheld, I, for one, should like to know what means gentlemen would propose for the purpose of supplying that strength and energy.

Sir, you might as well wither this arm by some powerful spell, and stop the current of blood that flows in these veins, and then, when the arm was rendered powerless, and the heart ceased to beat, deride the body for being inert and motionless.

There is but one way of giving energy to a free government that I know of, and that is, by being liberal, not reckless, of the public resources; and it is the special duty of this house, charged as it is with that distribution, to be careful, while it guards the public wealth from waste, and the people of this free country from oppression, to give to the government the means of being strong and energetic.

If we refuse these means, the gentlemen on the other side, who, after having clamoured for taxes as they did for war, and afterwards voted against both, may, if they please, charge the administration with not being energetic! they may attempt to lift

the load of responsibility from themselves, but it will cling to them with the pertinacity of some natural deformity; and though they may perchance, deceive themselves, those who trace effects right home to their true causes, will point to this house, which with a most prodigal economy, refused to bestow, what it was content the government should borrow, at a rate of interest beyond what any individual, who was not desperate in fortune and reputation, ever paid.

I came not here, sir, as the advocate of any administration whatever, but as an agent from the part of the country I represent, to promote, according to the best of my judgment, the public good. Still I think it the part of every honest man to vindicate the rulers of his free choice, when he thinks they are unjustly calumniated.—Neither do I impeach any man's motives in saying, that when gentlemen accuse the executive with want of energy, they may as well go a little further and accuse the body of not taking care of the limbs, when the limbs have refused to do their office.

It is this mistaken, this fatal economy that accounts for the ill conduct of the war, of which gentlemen every day, and on all occasions complain. No matter what may be the subject before us, we are condemned on every question to hear a repetition of the same arguments. The clock does not strike, or the centinel walk his rounds more regularly, than some gentlemen go the sing-song rounds of "unjust, unnecessary and unnatural war." They are continually reminding us of the unfortunate cook, who, for want of a little genius to diversify his dinners, every day served up the same dull round of "three roasted pigs, three buttered apple pies." Whenever they are asked for men or money, they either fly out into a passion, and scold the administration roundly, or they resort to as many excuses as a miser dunned for some miserable pittance. One gentleman will not give his money, because his section of the union is not represented in the committee of Ways and Means. Why, sir, this is the first time that I have ever heard the doctrine of the union of taxation, and representation, harrowed down to such miserable localities.—If such a principle is to be introduced into this house, there is not a measure that may not be opposed on the ground. Every state must be represented in each committee, and the jostling of local interest, local prejudices, and local partialities, would in all probability, most effectually prevent any well digested report from ever being made to this house.

Sir, it is here, on this floor, that the final decision on every report is made, and so long as any member of this house can here freely deliver his sentiments and utter his objections, in language that suits either the suavity or malignity of his own disposition, it does appear to me a matter of perfect indifference, whether his section of the union is represented in the committee or not.

Sir, I repeat again, it is this mistaken economy, which by withholding what is necessary, renders what it bestows almost useless, that accounts for the alledged bad conduct of the war, on which the gentlemen dwell with such wonderful and incessant pertinacity. Not having money, the government could not procure men; and not having men, they could not undertake any extensive and splendid enterprize.— And this, in my opinion, is all the bad conduct that can be properly charged upon the administration. Even thus circumscribed by our jealous economy, what one advantage has the enemy gained, except the solitary one of injuring this capital? And that in a national point of view, as effecting the spirit of the nation, has been rather a *good* than an *evil*. Something was necessary to rouse the dormant spirit of the nation, and this has effectually done it.

But even this disaster is to be attributed to our own imprudence; not in expending, but withholding the public resources. The want of money, so imperiously felt at the Treasury, which prevented the raising of men, prevented the possibility of having a sufficient force ready to repel the enemy at every avenue of attack: it prevented the erecting of necessary fortifications at every vulnerable point; and it prevented the doing any thing, until the dangers of the moment called the attention of the government to act.

Unable to obtain means for expenditures, that were absolute in their demand, such as the subsistence of troops; the supplying arms, ammunition, ordnance, cloathing, &c. for those already employed, and for erecting fortifications where it was conceived they were immediately wanted, those contingencies that were apparently remote, were not taken into consideration: They were of necessity, neglected; and hence the opportunity given to the enemy to make an incursion into this place; and here we are to look for the cause of the inefficiency of the present administration. We did not provide, in time, the means to enable them to be efficient; and any administration would have been inefficient under similar circumstances.

I urge these remarks on this House, considering it a thinking, reflecting body; a co-ordinate branch of the government, and equally bound with the Executive, in the laws that are framed, to consult the interest, and promote the safety of the people. When therefore, we accuse the Executive of not performing what we did not afford him the means to perform, we either treat him unjustly, or we virtually declare ourselves mere automaton, to be directed by his will; which is, notoriously not the case. Sir, let us try to do better in future. Let us provide ample means to insure success—and then, and not till then, can we hold the Executive responsible for disaster and disgrace.

Sir, this is not a time to talk, but to act. When our army is composed of a mere handful of men, and our treasury empty, so that it cannot provide for this gallant handful; when an enemy, powerful and active, is beating against our shores, like the strong wave of the ocean; when everything is at stake; when personal safety, property, and every thing valuable, and every thing dear to us, lie all exposed to the mercy of momentary events; and when in the language of scripture, we may emphatically say, "we know not what a day may bring forth," surely, such is not the moment for parsimonious feelings in raising taxes, or for forced constructions, to defeat the means for raising men. If we are parsimonious now, the next year every thing is to be done over again—the same expense is to be repeated, and the same result ensues. Sir, this is the way to exhaust a country, without producing one single good. It renders her sacrifices of no avail—it is offering up victims without a hope that the offering will be accepted; it is bleeding a little every day, till the patient is exhausted, while the disease remains.

### Mr. Troup's Speech ON THE ARMY BILLS,

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Mr. Troup said, that the bill before them being a bill from the Senate, which had not been referred to the military committee, but which had been taken up on the motion of the gentleman from South Carolina, (Mr. Calhoun,) the military committee, as such, were strangers to its provisions. It was not to be expected, therefore, that he could give to the house an exposition of its principles and details. The gentleman from South Carolina, was no doubt prepared to do so; for himself, Mr. T. said he was opposed to the measure of



the senate, and would therefore move to strike out the first section of the bill; it would try the principle. The measure of the senate, he humbly conceived, was inadequate to the object. It proposed to give a militia force, when you wanted not a *militia* but a *regular force*. He respectfully trusted to the house, in considering this subject, the propriety of endeavouring, in the first place, to establish the principle on which they would rest their military measures for the further prosecution of the war; whether it were the principle of *classification and draft*, or *classification and penalty*; whether the principle proposed by the Senate, or any other principle, they could not, he humbly conceived, arrive at any conclusion satisfactory to the house, or useful and honourable to the country, without adopting this mode of proceeding. Having established the principle, the committee of the whole, or a select committee, might consider the details.

Mr. T. said he very well knew that mankind were governed by their hopes and fears; more by their hopes than their fears, and he was not insensible of the effect which the dispatches received yesterday, from our ministers at Ghent might have on the measures under consideration. He should be very sorry if the effect would be to induce the legislature to discontinue or relax the preparations necessary for a vigorous prosecution of the war. If such should be the effect, the enemy might have good reason to exult in the success of a diplomatic trick played off at Ghent, which, lulling us into a false security, would enable him to strike us at the opening of the next campaign, unarmed and unprepared. If he should be able to do so, he would begin to consider himself a match for the Yankees in cunning, and we would repent when it was too late. Mr. T. said he did not mean to say we would not have peace; politics were too uncertain to justify such a declaration; we may have peace in a few weeks. He only meant to say, that calculations founded on events which may happen at Ghent or at Vienna, and which would induce the legislature to relax in the necessary preparations for the next campaign, ought not to be indulged; measures ought to be taken, not on a supposition of speedy peace, but of protracted war. If peace happened, the preparation for war would do no harm. If peace did not happen, the want of preparation would do much harm; it might lose the next campaign, and losing the next campaign, might lose the objects of the war. I only suggest therefore, sir, that it is wise and prudent to act as if the

negotiations at Ghent would certainly fail. In submitting, sir, to the committee, the few observations with which I intend to trouble them, on this motion, I will endeavor to satisfy them, that the measure proposed by the Senate ought not to be taken, because it places our reliance for a successful prosecution of the war, on irregular militia; whereas our reliance ought to be placed on disciplined troops, and that some other measure therefore ought to be resorted to—some measure calculated to fill the regular ranks and augment the regular establishment.

In making provision for the further prosecution of the war, there would be but one object common to all—To bring the war to a speedy and honorable termination, by all the means in the power of the Legislature. At least it would be an object common to every genuine American, because every American had an interest in it. The war was a war for the country, and the result of it, whatever it might be, whether glorious or inglorious, would determine the character of the country and government. If glorious, every American, without distinction of party, would participate in that glory; if inglorious, every American, without distinction of party, would participate in the infamy of it. He knew very well that certain gentlemen had said, the war was a party war, a war for the administration—but gentlemen would find ere long their mistake. They will find that Europe, the civilized world, who will alone be competent to pass judgment upon this subject, will not stoop to enquire by what party in America this war was declared—by what party it was prosecuted—by what party brought to its termination. No, sir, they will look to the result, and to the result only, and as that result is glorious or inglorious for the country, so will they determine the character of this country and government. Every American, therefore, is interested to bring the war to an honorable termination by all the means in his power. But how is this to be done? I answer, in the spirit and language of perfect simplicity, by endeavoring to create a motive in the enemy to discontinue the contest. But how is this to be effected? I answer in the same spirit and language, by endeavoring to wound him where he is vulnerable. The enemy is vulnerable in two points—in his commerce on the ocean—in his territorial possessions neighboring to us. If by any possibility (which I do not admit) he should succeed so effectually to blockade our ports and harbors as to shut up completely our public and private arm-

ed vessels, he will cease to be vulnerable in his commerce; he will remain vulnerable in his territorial possessions only.—There, sir, I would carry the war without hesitation; there I would endeavor to create a motive in him to discontinue the contest. In proportion as he values his territory, in the same proportion will he make sacrifices to preserve it; as you endanger the existence of his territory, in the same degree will be his motive to discontinue the war to preserve it. That he sets a high value on his territories you have the strongest evidence. He has already made great exertions to preserve them; he has been able to preserve them, only because you have not made great efforts to conquer them. You never will conquer them by taking the measure of the Senate. Will any man believe we can induce the enemy to discontinue the war by manning the lines of our frontiers—standing on the defensive—receiving and repelling his blows as well as we can? No, sir—so far from inducing the enemy to abandon the contest, this mode of prosecuting the war would only increase his motive to continue it, whilst the motive on our part to continue it would be daily and hourly increasing. A dishonorable peace would terminate the contest—a surrender of our independence would terminate it—nothing else could. I would therefore carry the war into the enemy's country, and with a force enabling you to wound him there. But the military force of the enemy has been *greatly augmented*. It is unnecessary to speak of the events by which this augmentation has been brought about—it is sufficient that we know and feel it; ordinary prudence requires that your own military force be augmented; not merely in the same proportion—in a much greater proportion, because, all other things being equal, he has *one decided advantage* over you—an advantage which we can neither *destroy* nor *remove*—I mean the command of the ocean, by which he compels you to stand upon the *defensive* on a line of frontier of 2000 miles, and to defend that line with 100,000 men against 40,000 afloat. He comes, no man can tell *when*, no man can tell *where*; and to be prepared at all, he compels you to be prepared at all points. I say, therefore, your augmentation ought to be in much greater proportion than his augmentation. But what description of our military force will you augment. Sir, if after what has happened, I could for a moment believe there could be any doubt or hesitation upon this point, I would consider every thing as lost; then, indeed, would there be an end of hope

and of confidence—then, indeed, would there be nothing before us but gloom and despondency, and the horror of despair.—But you will not doubt—you will place your reliance on a disciplined, regular force—upon a regular disciplined force alone can you rely for success. It matters not whether you determine to conduct the war *offensively* or *defensively*; if you determine to prosecute it *offensively*, you ought to rely mainly on a regular force—because, to be successful, you must meet and beat in the open field, the regular veteran troops of Europe. Not one step can you advance in the conquest of Canada, until you are prepared to do this. This can only be done by regular disciplined troops. If you determine to prosecute the war *defensively*, you ought to rely mainly on regular troops; for you must expect to meet and to repel regular disciplined troops—and this can be done most effectually with regular disciplined troops. It will be done not only more *effectually*, but more *economically*; not only more *economically*, but more *conveniently* for the country. It will save the militia of the country, and in saving the militia it will save the active industry of the country—it will save of course the product of that industry; the product of that industry is national wealth—it will save the national wealth. But not only do these considerations urge you, in my humble opinion, to resort to all the means within your power to fill the ranks and augment the regular establishment; other considerations call upon you to make the army as respectable in *number* as it is already in *character*—considerations growing out of that character. An army, little better than two years old, collected hastily from the plough, the loom and the work-shops—without discipline, without even the rudiments of the military science—the officer to be instructed, that he might be qualified to instruct the soldier—this army has performed deeds of heroism and of gallant daring, that would have done honor to the best days of Greece and Rome—that will adorn the page of your own history. It is true that this army has not from the beginning every where triumphed; it is true it has not from the beginning carried every thing before it: it had not strength—it had not numbers. But this much may be said of it, and with truth, that from the beginning to this moment, it has in no one instance dishonored the standard which it bore; unless, indeed, a solitary instance may be appealed to as an exception—an instance as yet of doubtful and undecided character. More recently

its triumphs have been more brilliant; in the open field, man to man, it has vanquished the conquerors of the conquerors of Europe. Who can hesitate, therefore, (the war continuing) to make this army as respectable in number as it is already in character, to enable it to continue these triumphs. The bill from the Senate, instead of proposing this, proposes to authorize the President to call upon the states for eighty thousand raw militia; and this is to be our reliance for the successful prosecution of the war. Take my word for it, sir, that if you do rely upon it, the military power of the enemy continuing undivided, defeat, disaster and disgrace must follow; as an auxiliary or secondary force the militia may be relied on, as principal in a contest with regular troops, never. But the state of the army. Upon this part of the subject, sir, I will say nothing, because I can say nothing that you are not already in possession of. You have authorized a force of sixty odd thousand men; you have raised thirty odd thousand; you have a deficiency of twenty odd thousand to supply; these thirty odd thousand men already raised are distributed over a line of 4,000 miles of frontier; is it any wonder, then, Mr. Speaker, that Canada has not been conquered. No, sir, the wonder is not that Canada has not been conquered; the wonder is that this little army has been able to keep its ground: the enemy has been stronger in regular troops at all points from the beginning, and the very announcement of this fact is enough to cover our little army with glory. You have a deficiency of twenty odd thousand to supply; how will you supply it? Assuredly the bill from the Senate will not supply it; will the mode heretofore resorted to supply it. Will the recruiting system supply it? No, sir, the recruiting system has failed; I mean it has failed to fill your ranks.—What are the facts upon this subject; they are, that 2,000,000 of dollars have been applied since January last, and 13,000 men have been enlisted; this it may be said is doing very well. So it is, but what is the general result? The general result is, that our army is very little stronger now, than it was this time last year, and in testing the operation of the system, it is to the general result we must look. At the rate of 13,000 men per annum, it would take five years to raise the authorized force; the recruiting system therefore has failed, it has failed to fill our ranks. I do not mean to say, sir, that the recruiting system, with the present high bounty and encouragement would not eventually fill our ranks;

I am not disposed to say that it would not (provided the power of the enemy had continued broken and divided by the troubles of the continent) have answered our purpose; but I do say, that under existing circumstances, and for our present purpose, the recruiting system ought not to be relied on, it cannot be relied on to fill our ranks by the opening of the next campaign, and to risk the loss of the next campaign is to risk the loss of every thing. But is there no mode to which you can resort for filling the ranks but voluntary enlistment? I would be extremely sorry if we could not. I have always thought this government, when administered in the true spirit of the constitution, the strongest government in the world, even for the purposes of war; but if the doctrine set up of late be true, this is the weakest and most contemptible government on earth, it is neither fit for war or peace, it has failed of all the ends for which governments are established; it cannot be true that this government, charged with the *general defence, authorized to declare war and to raise armies* can have but one mode of raising armies, whilst every other government that has ever existed has had an absolute power over the population of the country for this purpose, and has actually exercised it; but this question is not properly before the house, and I will not go into an argument to shew that you can, like other governments, resort to other modes of raising armies than that of voluntary enlistment; that you can resort to classification and draft, to classification and penalty, or any other mode which a sound discretion may, in a particular state of the country, dictate and justify. All I intend to say at present is, that you have an absolute power over the population of the country for this purpose, and that in the present state of the country, it is wiser to resort to classification and draft than to resort to the bill from the Senate; the one will give the men certainly and expeditiously, the other will not.

But, sir, compare the measures of the Senate with the measures proposed by your own committee and which are before you. The measure of the Senate proposes to authorize the President to call out 80,000 militia for two years, and this is called a remedy for the evil of state—now, sir, the evil of state as I understand it, is not the want of a militia force, but the want of a regular force. The evil of which the country complains, of which the government complains, of which the militia themselves complain most grievously, is the

number of militia in service; the incessant harassment, vexation and oppression of the militia, and the extraordinary and burthensome expense of that particular service. As a remedy for this grievance, the Senate proposes to detach 80,000 militia. The President has at command, and has always had at command, a million of militia; and in this extraordinary crisis of our affairs, when pressed by a formidable enemy, and surrounded with difficulties, the remedy proposed by the Senate is 80,000 militia, which it must be admitted on all hands can be no better, for at least the next campaign, than raw militia called out in the ordinary way. But the bill proposes to furnish regular troops.—How? by holding up *in terrorem* a militia classification and draft. Exempting every three classes which shall furnish two regular soldiers, from the liability to furnish three militia-men. Do the friends of this measure believe—will they with any degree of confidence assert, that it will have the effect, even partially, to fill the ranks? I think not—and suppose it should fail to furnish regular soldiers, what will be our condition in the months of July and August next? Much worse, sir, than our condition in the months of July and August last. The war continuing, the power of the enemy unbroken, our condition will be desperate. The regular force every day falling off, (for be it remembered these 80,000 militia will be withdrawn from the operations of the recruiting service) we shall have to oppose to the enemy a remnant of regular troops, and these 80,000 raw militia—and who will answer for the consequences? In the months of August and September last, we had in the field the regular army and upwards of one hundred thousand militia, and we no where found ourselves too strong. It is true, the Senate proposed to improve the recruiting system—an improvement which two years ago this house proposed to the Senate, but which the Senate then thought proper to reject. I mean the enlistment of young men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one. But if these 80,000 militia for two years should happen to be, as they are likely to be, that very description of population upon which this system would otherwise operate, what hope can be entertained that the recruiting system even with its improvements will be as productive the next year as the last. I humbly conceive, Mr. Speaker, that the measure of the Senate, proceeding from the best intentions, will fail in the accomplishment

of our object. I conceive, with much deference to the House, that the measures reported by their own committee are much to be preferred. They propose, 1st, to augment the regular establishment to one hundred thousand men. 2ndly, to authorize the President to accept under liberal encouragements the services of volunteer corps. 3dly, to authorize the President to receive into the service of the United States, state troops, which may be raised to serve in lieu of the militia in such states. The principle of the system is, to substitute, as far as we are able, a regular force for a militia force, as more *efficient*, more *economical*, and, for the militia themselves, more *convenient*—and 100,000 regulars would take the place of 200,000 militia—200,000 militia would cost as much as 300,000 regulars. If we can command an hundred thousand regular troops, it may notwithstanding be necessary, on particular emergencies, to resort to the militia. To enable the government still further to spare the militia, volunteers are authorized. They will also be more efficient than ordinary militia. It is impossible to say to what extent these corps will offer themselves—to whatever extent the government is enabled to avail itself of their services, to the same extent will the militia be saved. If government should derive no aid from this source, it has another resource in state troops.—They also will take the place of the militia. The militia will still continue the bulwark of the country. Whenever the existence of the country shall be endangered, it is the militia that must save it. The system proposes to relieve them from the constant harassment of which they complain, and justly complain. To raise the regular troops, you have the alternative proposed by the Secretary of War, or the committee. The plan of the Secretary of War is the only effectual one. If we have energy and spirit to take it, it will fill our ranks and augment our regular establishment certainly and expeditiously. The people will justify the measure, because they will feel that it is necessary to the maintenance of the honour, the character and independence of the country. The plan of the committee, though less efficient, is, in my humble opinion, better than that of the Senate. Where it fails to give you men it will give you money. It will be certain to give some men and some money. I hope the House will agree to strike out the section.

## House of Representatives.

October 10, 1814.

The President's Message, enclosing the letters from our Commissioners, [published in our last] having been read, Mr. *Forsyth* moved that it be referred to the committee on Foreign Relations, and that 5000 copies be printed for the use of the members.

Mr. *Hanson*, of Md. moved to amend the resolution by inserting 10,000 copies in the place of 5,000. He said he was persuaded the information communicated in the Message had awakened but one feeling throughout the House, and stamped the same impression on every member. It had always been his opinion that it became not this government to stand on idle frivolous etiquette, but to speak to the enemy, if indeed we desire to convert him to a friend, to speak to him frankly, plainly and directly, to the end that all ground for his doubting our sincerity might be removed. He trusted that it would appear that our Commissioners had been instructed so to speak, and that they had so spoken. If then on fair and honorable terms proposed, England should have denied us peace—if other and new claims had been set up—if she has attempted to annex degrading and humiliating conditions—if she has presumed to trench upon our ascertained rights as hitherto acknowledged and enjoyed—from that moment Mr. H's determination had long since been formed to unite in supporting the most vigorous system of honorable war, with the hope of bringing the enemy to a sense of justice. Mr. H. was satisfied that nothing more was necessary to make the war national, than to convince the people that an honest and fair effort had been made to obtain peace, and it had been denied upon terms mutually honorable. From that moment it ceased to be a party war, and of necessity became national. Mr. H. said he too well knew the party with which it had been his pride and happiness to act, to doubt of their determining to bear a just share of the sacrifices to be incurred in defending the honor of the nation in a war that becomes just.—Forgetting, as far as possible, their objections to the administration—stifling their complaints as far as might be, against the party that supports it, sacrificing all minor considerations, endeavoring to bury in oblivion the numerous wrongs inflicted upon their party; omitting, to every proper extent, a retrospect of the past, and looking to the present and the future, for the purpose of staunching the bleeding wounds of their country, they would stand forth in

this her hour of peril, in asserting and maintaining her established rights and honor. But, sir, said Mr. H. while we have ever been ready to sacrifice our political feelings upon the altar of our country, the sacred duty we owe to it will require of us never to cease insisting on a reform in the measures of the government, and the choice of honorable and enlightened men, competent to conduct its affairs in a crisis so awful. Unfortunately for the country, the character of the men who now directed its destinies was not of this description, nor did they possess the confidence of the nation.

Mr. *Oakley* of N. Y. said that it was not necessary for him on this occasion to reiterate the sentiments of his hon. friend, Mr. Hanson. His friend, he was confident, had expressed the feelings and opinions of those gentlemen with whom he was accustomed to act, on the nature and character of the demands and pretensions of the British government, as developed in the despatches just read to the House. He did not hesitate, in the fullest manner, to declare, that those demands and pretensions were utterly inadmissible under any circumstances. But, Mr. O. said, while he made this declaration, and while he felt, in common with all gentlemen, the conviction that there could be but one sentiment in the nation, as to the necessity of resisting, by all the means in our power, the unjust and arrogant claims of the enemy, he felt bound to remark, that he could never forget by whom and upon what grounds the nation had been involved in this war—upon the issue of which were now staked the essential rights and honor of the country. The character given by the enemy to the war, had put to hazard these rights and that honor, and they must now be vindicated at an incalculable expense of treasure and blood. Mr. O. said it was notorious, that, at the commencement of the war, a great portion of the people of this country thought it rash and unnecessary. If the administration had been willing to make peace on terms which could be expected to unite the approbation of the nation, they must have been prepared to abandon some of the grounds on which it had been declared. Their conduct in the late negotiation could not be properly estimated until the instructions to our commissioners are laid before the House.—This, Mr. O. said he perceived was to be done. It would then appear how far they had thought it important to maintain the grounds on which they had deemed it expedient to commence a war—the conclu-

sion of which was not now within their control, and appeared to be removed to a hopeless distance.

Mr. O. said it was indispensable to the safety of the nation that its affairs at this awful crisis should be committed to the management of men who could reasonably be expected to unite the confidence of the nation—and who, when they had compelled the enemy to abandon his unjust and insulting pretensions, would not throw new obstacles in the way of peace by setting up any unwarrantable claims on our part—He would tell gentlemen in sober earnestness, that a war, which, to be successful, must be waged by the united means and vigor of the nation, could never be conducted to an honorable issue by a party administration.

Besides the above remarks of Mr. Hanson and Mr. Oakley, which are reported with critical correctness,

A few remarks were made by Mr. Forsyth, of Geo. and Mr. Wright, of Md. the first acquiescing in Mr. Hanson's motion, and the second approving the spirit of the remarks of his colleague, Mr. Hanson.

The motion to print 10,000 was agreed to.

[The following, communicated by a friend at Mobile, was received too late for insertion among the other like sketches; but it is due to the memory of the brave man to whom it relates, that it shall have a place in this SUPPLEMENT.]

## BIOGRAPHY

OF THE LATE

### LT. COL. JAMES LAUDERDALE,

Of Gen. Coffee's brigade of Tennessee Volunteers,

Who fell in Gen. Jackson's attack on the British army, below New-Orleans, on the night of the 23d of December, 1814.

When a great and good man falls in defence of his country's rights, the memory of his virtues ought not to perish with him. By preserving the recollection of that, we furnish to the living both a motive and a sample for imitation. When to this consideration is added the suggestion of personal friendship for the deceased, no other reason or motive need be offered for delivering to the world a biographical sketch of the late Colonel JAMES LAUDERDALE, who so bravely fell in the memorable battle of *Bienvenu*, on the night of the 23d of December, 1814.

This distinguished patriot and soldier was a native of Virginia, and the descendant of one of the most ancient and respectable families of that state. Having been bred a surveyor, he was enabled, by the accuracy of his knowledge in that art, and by his industrious habits, to acquire, in a short time, in West Tennessee, whither he had removed with his father's family, a handsome little fortune. Although no man enjoyed, with more sensibility, the pleasures of a social life, yet his ardent and active mind panting for a theatre of higher glory, and more brilliant achievement. At length, in 1803, when a large force was ordered from Tennessee, and the Mississippi territory, to take possession of

Louisiana, Col. LAUDERDALE, with that zeal which has ever characterized him, turned out with a company of militia, and marched as far as Natchez by land; when it was discovered, (contrary to expectation) that the ceded territory was peaceably delivered to the commissioners appointed for that purpose, the Tennessee militia were consequently discharged and returned home.

When in 1812, the then Secretary of State ordered Gen. Jackson, with the volunteers from Tennessee, to descend the Mississippi for the defence of the same country against an attempt which was supposed to be meditated by the Spaniards, he was among the first who repaired to his standard. Such was the opinion entertained of his merits that he was appointed first major in the regiment of cavalry under the command of Col. Coffee; and although no opportunity was then afforded him for displaying that gallant spirit for which he afterwards became so distinguished, yet the cheerfulness with which he bore the hardships and privations to which that expedition was so remarkably exposed by the inclemency of the season, and the scarcity of supplies, the encouragement he imparted to his command, and his strict attention to its discipline and instruction, were sufficient evidence to those who accompanied him, of the celebrity he would one day acquire if his country should become involved in war. An opportunity was at length afforded in the declaration of war against the Creeks, for the display of his talents, and for realizing those high hopes which his friends had so justly entertained. The forces by which this insolent and ferocious enemy, who had so long ravaged our frontiers with impunity, was expected to be reduced to submission, were to be drawn principally from Tennessee. In the foremost rank of those who volunteered their services on that important occasion, stood the subject of this article. He was now appointed lieutenant colonel in the brigade of mounted infantry commanded by brigadier general Coffee. It is impossible, and perhaps useless, to particularize the numerous hardships, privations and dangers, to which all who were engaged in that expedition were exposed. The mounted men being sent in advance for the protection of the county of Madison, in the Mississippi Territory, which was hourly expected to be broken in upon and ravaged, were joined on the 12th of October, 1813, at Camp Coffee, by Maj. Gen. Jackson, with the infantry. Gen. Coffee was now ordered to scour the Black Warrior, and fall in with the main army on its march to the Ten Islands, where the principal force of the enemy was expected to be met. In this excursion, attended with innumerable difficulties and privations, Col. Lauderdale received the particular praise of his immediate commander. Having re-united with the main army, Gen. Coffee was again sent in advance to cut off a considerable detachment of the enemy posted at Tallushatchee. This was the first occasion on which colonel Lauderdale had an opportunity of displaying his bravery and his skill as an officer, in battle. His conduct in that successful expedition, merited and received the highest encomiums. In a few days after that fortunate and splendid achievement, the commander in chief received intelligence that the main army of the enemy, advancing to meet him, had invested Talladega, a fort of the friendly part of the Creeks, with a view of wreaking their vengeance on those who had refused to join in hostilities against the whites, and of possessing themselves of the stores it contained. He immediately determined on attacking them before

they should be able to effect their purpose; and with this view put his army in motion at midnight of the same day in which he received the intelligence. Having come up to the enemy on the morning of the 9th November, 1813, a general engagement was commenced, and maintained on both sides with the utmost spirit and obstinacy. On that memorable occasion, colonel Lauderdale greatly enhanced the reputation he had already acquired. His bravery and his skill were alike conspicuous; but unfortunately, while at the head of his regiment, encouraging their valor by his example, he received a wound which disabled him from continuing in the field. The fortitude with which he supported the pain of this severe infliction, was remarkable, even among soldiers. The most excruciating agonies were not sufficient to disturb the habitual cheerfulness of his temper, and he seemed only to lament his misfortune as depriving him of still further opportunities to distinguish himself.

After the battle of Talladega, the want of supplies compelled the commander in chief to return to his encampment at the Ten Islands. The same cause, combined with the excitement of a few turbulent and disappointed officers, continuing to operate, produced the utmost disquietude in the army, and a strong inclination to abandon an expedition which had thus far so gloriously proceeded.—To so high a degree, indeed, had this spirit been fomented by the factious and designing, that it broke out on several occasions, into open and extensive mutiny; and nothing but the energy of the commanding general could have arrested its progress, and prevented the most fatal calamities.—During this critical situation of affairs, Col. Lauderdale, though confined to his tent by his wound, continued to display, perhaps in a higher degree than he had ever before had an opportunity to do, his patriotism and his firmness. While every means in his power was used to bring back the deluded soldiery to a sense of their duty, those who had led them astray found in him the exposor of their hidden machinations, and the sternest opposer of their views. Many of these had been his closest friends, and several of them were his near relatives; but idolizing his country, he was ever ready, when occasion required it, to offer up friends, relatives, even life itself, on her altar.—Never were his feelings observed to undergo so severe a shock, as when he received the intelligence that his regiment, led by the colonel commandant, who was his friend and relation, had abandoned its post, and was returning home. He lifted up his hands and exclaimed, "Would to God the ball which confines me had passed through my head, that I might not have lived to witness the dishonor of my countrymen and friends."

Scarcely had the campaign against the Creeks been brought to a successful termination, when the sons of Tennessee were again called upon to enter into a war of more extensive and dangerous character. Great Britain, disengaged from her struggles on the continent, was left with the means of prosecuting the war against America on a broader scale. Determining to avail herself of the opportunity, a formidable expedition was planned against the southern section of the union, made up principally of the veterans of Lord Wellington. Our government, coming at length to appreciate correctly the military talents of general Jackson, appointed him to the command of the 7th district, and charged him with its defence. It was to be expected that this able officer, who was well acquainted with the genius and accomplishments of

Gen. Coffee, and who had so often witnessed and directed the bravery of his brigade, should at such a crisis be exceedingly desirous of their services. His invitation was obeyed with so much alacrity and promptitude, that by the time it was known in Orleans that an army was assembling in Tennessee for its defence, general Coffee had reached the head-quarters of the commander in chief at Mobile. Col. Lauderdale, though still suffering under his wounds, was again foremost in tendering his services. Being appointed to the command of a regiment, he continued to display all the qualities of an able officer, and an ardent patriot on the expedition to Pensacola. The feelings which so warmly animated his own bosom, he possessed the happy faculty of imparting to his followers.

The enemy being expelled from Pensacola, the commander in chief immediately determined on placing as much of his disposable force as could be spared from the defence of the frontiers, and of the posts on Mobile, in a situation to protect New-Orleans against the designs which he foresaw the enemy meditated against that important place. With this view a part of general Coffee's brigade, in which was included the regiment of colonel Lauderdale, was ordered to Baton Rouge, there to recruit their horses, and be in readiness to march to whatever point might become the most exposed.—It was not long before a large force of the enemy was discovered to have entered Lake Borgne, and to be advancing towards New-Orleans. To this point, therefore, the commander in chief now directed the forces stationed at Baton Rouge, to hasten with the utmost dispatch. The order was executed with that promptitude which has ever distinguished the movements of Gen. Coffee. In two days after receiving it, he had reached the neighborhood of the city, a distance of one hundred and twenty miles. Never was a forced march more necessary or attended with more important effects. But for that, New-Orleans must have fallen into the hands of the enemy.

Scarcely had this reinforcement thus fortunately arrived when the commander in chief received intelligence that the enemy had succeeded in entering the Bayou Bienvenue, undiscovered, and in debarking a considerable part of his forces with which he had advanced to the high lands on the Mississippi, and occupied a position not more than seven miles below the city. Things were now approaching their crisis. Gen. Jackson, foreseeing the danger of suffering the enemy to attack him, determined to become the assaillant himself. To execute this bold and hazardous, but wise measure, his eyes were immediately turned to that distinguished corps whose bravery had been so well tried. Every disposition being made for bringing on the engagement that night, the left of Gen. Coffee's brigade was confided to the charge of Col. Lauderdale. The action had already been commenced by Gen. Jackson with the regular troops and the artillery on the extreme right, and the fire was extended to the left, when the right of Gen. Coffee's brigade came in contact with the enemy. This gallant body of men poured upon him so destructive a fire, that his advancing line was instantly halted, although under cover of a fence. At this moment, Col. Lauderdale on the left, was seen animating his men, and in the most gallant manner, leading them into action. But a few rounds had been fired when he received a musket ball in the head which immediately terminated his life. This fatal event produced a momentary confusion in the line, and the enemy now began to advance; but recovering

their spirits the followers of the fallen hero soon avenged his death. The enemy was compelled to retreat; when the smoke of so incessant a fire, and a thick fog which arose, obliged the commanding general to draw off his forces.

Colonel Lauderdale was found on the field of battle, with his sword firmly grasped; thus evincing in the agonies of death, that determined courage which had marked the whole course of his life.

No person possessed in a higher degree the confidence and esteem of his commanding general, or of his brother officers. Richly had he merited that confidence and that esteem. No officer was ever more correct in his deportment, or more assiduous and faithful in the performance of all the duties which devolved upon him. Positive and firm in his character, he had introduced into his regiment the strictest subordination; but while he enforced obedience, so impartial was his conduct and so tempered with mildness, that even those who incurred punishment were compelled to approve the sentence under which they suffered. Beloved by all, the whole army mourn his loss as that of a brother.

In private life the worth of Col. Lauderdale was not less conspicuous than in the tented field.—Known to possess the most inflexible integrity, "vice and crime" were confounded in his presence.

Never was man more open and ingenuous. Of him it might truly be said, "he carried his heart in hand, and those who ran might read it."

Humanity and charity were active and discriminating principles in his nature, not consisting in tears, or professions, nor confounding the afflictions of the deserving and the undeserving, but extending substantial relief to those sufferings which crime had not produced.

Of the social circle, Col. Lauderdale was the delight and the ornament. Ever cheerful himself, he diffused the same happy spirit all around him.

Having been buried on the battle ground, it was an early care of the commanding general, after the enemy was driven from our shore, to have his remains taken up and interred with the honors of war, in the Protestant burying ground in the city. His brethren in arms, as a monument of their respect for his virtues, intend to erect a marble tomb to his memory, with a suitable inscription.

Col. Lauderdale has left an aged and virtuous mother, and extensive and respectable connexions to mourn the loss of their dearest friend.

Over his grave the green sod will flourish, watered by the tears of his companions in arms; and the patriot soldier, when he recounts the toils and perils of battle, will heave a sigh to the memory of Lauderdale.

A SOLDIER AND FRIEND.

## Important Law Case.

CIRCUIT COURT UNITED STATES.

Pennsylvania District, ?  
April, 1814

GOLDEN vs. PRINCE.

This cause came before the Court upon a case stated, the material parts of which are set forth, by the Judge in his opinion.—It was argued by *Shoemaker* for the plaintiff, and by *Ingersoll, Rawle* and *J. R. Ingersoll*, for the defendant.—After holding it under advisement for some days, the following opinion was delivered by Judge *Washington*—Judge *Peters* not having been present at the argument, took no part in the decision.

*Washington* Judge.—This is an action brought upon a bill of exchange drawn by the defendant on the 10th of May 1811, at the island of St. Bartholomews for value received there, in favour of the plaintiff on himself at Philadelphia, 90 days after sight, which was regularly noted for non-acceptance, and protested for non-payment. This action was brought on the 4th of May 1812, to which the defendant pleaded in bar, his discharge under a law of this state, passed on the 13th of March 1812, for the relief of insolvent debtors, obtained provisionally on the 23d of April, and finally on the 29th of May, 1812. The case agreed states, that the defendant did not give to the plaintiff, or to any agent of his, notice of the defendant's petition, which was presented on the 20th of April 1812, although the plaintiff's attorney was informed of the application, a few days after it was made; nor has the plaintiff proved his debt, under the said proceedings.

The act referred to in the plea, declares that a debtor who has conformed to the several regulations of the law, for the purpose of vesting all his property in the assignees for the benefit of his creditors, and who has received his certificate of discharge from the commissioners, shall be set at large by the sheriff, if he be imprisoned; and that such certificate shall be conclusive evidence of the fact, that such petitioner has been discharged by virtue of that act, and shall be construed to discharge such insolvent, from all debts and demands due from him, or for which he was liable, at the date of such certificate, or contracted, or originating before that time, though payable afterwards.

It is objected to this plea, 1st, That the act under which the discharge is claimed, having been passed since the year 1789, affords no binding rule of decision for this court. 2dly, That the law is unconstitutional and void, in two respects: 1st, as being a bankrupt law, and 2dly, as being a law impairing the obligation of contracts.

The ground of the first objection is, that the 34th section of the judicial act of Congress, passed on the 24th Sept. 1789, which declares, that the laws of the several states, except where the constitution, treaties or statutes of the U. States, shall otherwise require or provide, shall be regarded as rules of decision in trials at common law, in the courts of the United States, in cases where they apply, extends only to such laws of the several states, as were in force at the time when this law was passed. Admitting this position to be correct, it would not follow, that this law would not on that account have a binding force, or furnish a rule of decision in this case.

The laws even of foreign countries where a contract is made, are by the comity of nations, regarded every where as a rule of decision, in relation to that contract, and it would be strange if the laws of one state in which a contract was made, should be disregarded in any other state of the union as a rule of decision. In like manner the laws of a country, which operate to discharge a contract made in the same country, are regarded and enforced by foreign courts. This doctrine was very fully examined in this court, in the case of *Camfrangue vs. Brunelle*, upon a question of bail. Independent therefore, of the act of congress, if a contract made in this state, or with a view to its laws, be discharged under a law of this state, against which, no constitutional objection can be made—such laws would be regarded as rules of decision by this court, as well, that which discharged the obligation, as that under which it was created. It was



denied by the counsel for the plaintiff, that the contract in this case, had a view to its execution, according to the laws of Pennsylvania; but nothing can be more clear, than that the bill in question amounted to a promise made by the defendant, to pay the sum mentioned in it, in the city of Philadelphia, 90 days after sight. Payment could have been demanded no where but in Philadelphia, in order to enable the plaintiff to recover. The bill in this case, is precisely like that in the case of *Robinson and Bland*, 2nd *Burr*, and is consequently within the principles laid down in that case.

These principles would be sufficient for the decision of this part of the case, without resorting to the act of congress, which has been mentioned; but as other cases may occur where the general rule admitted by the comity of nations, may not entirely apply, and as there appears to me, to be no difficulty in giving a construction to the 34th section of this act; it may not be improper, to take this opportunity of doing it. It is to be remarked, in the first place, that the words of this section are general, so as to include as well the laws of the respective states, which might thereafter be passed, as those which were then in existence. The reason for construing this section prospectively, as well as in reference to the time when this law was enacted is equally strong.

The powers bestowed by the constitution, upon the government of the United States, were limited in their extent, and were not intended, nor can they be construed to interfere with other powers before vested in the state governments, which were of course reserved to these governments impliedly, as well as by an express provision of the constitution. The state governments, therefore, retained the right to make such laws as they might think proper, within the ordinary functions of legislation, if not inconsistent with the powers vested exclusively in the government of the United States, and not forbidden by some article of the constitution of the U. States, or of the state; and such laws were obligatory upon all the citizens of that state, as well as others, who might claim rights, or redress for injuries, under those laws, or in the courts of that state. The establishment of federal courts, and the jurisdiction granted to them in certain specified cases, could not consistently with the spirit and provisions of the constitution, impair any of the obligations thus imposed by the laws of the state, by setting up in those courts, a rule of decision at variance, with that which was binding upon the citizens, and which they were bound to obey. Thus the laws of a state affecting contracts, regulating the disposition and transmission of property, real or personal, and a variety of others, which in themselves are free from all constitutional objections, are equally valid and obligatory within the state since the adoption of the constitution of the United States, as they were before. They provide rules of civil conduct for every individual, who is subject to their power, in all their relations to society, and, consequently, cannot in cases where they apply, cease to be rules, by which the conduct of those individuals is to be decided, when brought under judicial examination, whether the decision is to be made in a federal or state court.

The injustice as well as the absurdity of the former deciding by one rule, and the latter by another, would be too monstrous to find a place in any system of government. Thus for example, if the laws of a state which regulated the distribution, or transmission of property in the year 1789, should after-

wards be totally varied by a subsequent law, the latter only would be the rule, by which property could be distributed or transmitted, from the time the law came into operation; and it can never be seriously contended that a person interested in this property, and from the adventitious circumstance of his residence in another state, entitled to make his claim either in the federal or state court, should recover more by resorting to the former, than he would have recovered, had he applied to the latter court.

With respect to the rules of practice for transacting the business of the courts, a different principle prevails. These rules form the law of the court, and is in relation to the federal courts, a law arising under the constitution of the United States, and consequently not subject to state regulations. It is in reference to this principle, that the 17th section of the same judicial act, authorizes the courts of the United States, to make all necessary rules, for the orderly conducting business in the said courts, provided the same are not repugnant to the laws of the U. States; and under this power, the different circuit courts at their first sessions, adopted the state practice as it then existed, which continues to this day, I believe, in all the states, except so far as the courts have thought proper from time to time, to alter and amend it.

Indeed the counsel for the plaintiff in this case seemed to admit the distinction, between general laws affecting rights, and those which relate to the practice of the courts; but still he contended that the act of assembly in question afforded no rule of decision for this court, and could not be pleaded in bar of the action, because it was enacted since the year 1789. Now it is most clear, that a law which discharges a contract, is no more a law of practice than one under the sanction of which the contract was made. If it would bar the action in a state court, it would equally do so in a federal court—although the particular mode of setting up the bar, might depend upon the practice and rules imposed by the state law upon the former courts, and those which the latter may have thought proper to adopt.

The next question is, whether the law relied upon by the defendant, to bar the present action, is repugnant to the constitution of the United States, and on that account is not to be regarded by the court in this case. I shall reverse the order pursued by the counsel, and consider, in the first place, whether this law is repugnant to the constitution, upon the ground of its impairing the obligation of contracts.

It may be proper to premise, that a law may be unconstitutional, and of course void in relation to particular cases, and yet valid to all intents and purposes, in its application to other cases within the scope of its provisions, but varying from the former in particular circumstances. Thus a law prospective in its operations, under which a contract afterwards made, may be avoided in a way different from that provided by the parties, would be clearly constitutional; because the stipulations of the parties which are inconsistent with such law, never had a legal existence, and of course could not be impaired by the law. But if the law act retrospectively as to other contracts, so as to impair their obligation, the law is invalid, or in other terms, affords no rule of decision in these latter cases.

The question then is, Whether a law of a state which declares that a debtor by delivering up his estate for the benefit of his creditors, shall be for-

ever discharged from the payment of his debts due or contracted before the passage of the law, whether the creditor do any act or not in aid of the law, can be set up to bar the right of such creditor to recover his debt, either in a federal or state court. I feel no difficulty in saying that it cannot, because the law is in its nature and operation one which in the case supposed, impairs the obligation of a contract.

What is the obligation of a contract? It is to do, or not to do a certain thing; and this may be either absolutely or under some condition, immediately or at some future time or times, and at some specified place. A law, therefore, which authorizes the discharge of a contract by a smaller sum, or in a different manner, than the parties have stipulated, impairs its obligation, by substituting for the contract of the parties, one which they never entered into, and to the performance of which they of course had never consented. The old contract is completely annulled, and a legislative contract imposed upon the parties in lieu of it. That a law which declares an existing contract to be void, impairs its obligation, will, I presume, be admitted by all men who can understand the force of the plainest terms; or if not so, then I should be curious to know in what manner the obligation of a contract can be impaired? And if this be the effect of such a law, in what respect does it differ from another which declares that a debt consisting of a specified sum, and due at an appointed period of time, shall be discharged at a more distant or indeed at a different time, or with a smaller sum? The degree of injury to the creditor, may be not so great in the one case as in the other, but the principle is precisely the same. That the framers of the constitution were extremely jealous of the exercise of such a power by the state governments, is apparent from other parts of the section, in which the provision I am examining is found. It would have been a vain thing to prohibit the state governments from passing laws, by which a contract might be annulled or discharged, by the payment of a less sum than it stipulated, if they could emit bills of credit, and make them, or any thing but gold and silver coin, a tender in payment of debts; and therefore they are expressly prohibited from passing any laws, which might produce such a consequence. And yet a law which should make a depreciated paper currency, a tender in payment of debts, might be infinitely less injurious to the creditor than one which discharges the debt altogether, upon the payment of perhaps a shilling in the pound, or any other sum less than that stipulated to be paid.

The opinion given upon this last point, decides the cause in favour of the plaintiff, and I might well spare myself the trouble of examining the other objection, made by the plaintiff's counsel, to the validity of this law. But when I observe from the case under consideration, that such a power is deemed by one state at least, to be rightfully vested in the state legislatures, for otherwise I must suppose it would not have been exercised, and when I recollect that the constitution of the United States contains a grant of other powers to the general government, which may equally with that immediately under consideration, be exercised by the state legislatures, if such a right exists in either case, I hold it to be my duty to embrace the first opportunity which presents itself, to express the hesitating opinion, which I entertain upon these great questions, and thus to pave the way for as early a decision of them as possible, by the Supreme National Court.

No citizen feels a higher respect than I do for the state governments, or would be more cautious in questioning the validity of any laws which their legislatures might think proper to enact. But I should very unfaithfully discharge my duty were I to remain a silent witness of designed or unintentional usurpations by those governments, of powers properly belonging to the general government, when a case comes judicially before me, which demands an expression of my opinion upon those subjects. The sooner the limits which separate the two governments are marked by those authorities which can alone define and establish them, the less danger there will be of serious if not fatal contestations hereafter arising respecting essential powers to which a prescriptive right may be asserted by the one in opposition to the chartered rights of the other. It is from these considerations that I venture respectfully, yet firmly, to examine the question, whether the power given to Congress to pass uniform laws of bankruptcy, be exclusive of such power in the state governments, and whether the latter may exercise it whenever the former has not thought proper to do so.

It would seem at the first view of this question, that if an unqualified power be granted to a government to do a particular act, the whole of that power is disposed of, and not a part of it; consequently that no power over the same subject remains with those who made the grant, either to exercise themselves, or to part with it to any other government.

But if the application of this principle to the complicated systems of government which prevail in the United States, should be liable to doubt, it will, I presume, be admitted with this qualification, that whenever such a power is given to the general government, the exercise of which by the state governments would be inconsistent with the express grant, the whole of the power is granted, and consequently vests exclusively in the general government.—In such a case the people resume the powers which before resided in the state governments; as to this subject, without which they could not grant the whole to the general government; and if resumed it would seem to follow that the state governments can in no event exercise the same powers without shewing either an express grant of it, or that it is fairly to be deduced from the circumstance upon which the claim is founded.

That the exercise of the power to pass bankrupt and naturalization laws by the state governments is incompatible with the grant of a power to Congress to pass uniform laws on the same subjects, is obvious from the consideration that the former would be dissimilar and frequently contradictory, whereas the systems are directed to be uniform, which can only be rendered so by the exclusive power in one body to form them.

It was admitted in the argument of this cause, that whenever Congress shall think proper to exercise the power delegated to that body, to pass uniform laws of bankruptcy, the state governments cannot legislate upon the same subject. But it was contended, that if Congress shall decline to exercise the power, the right to pass bankrupt laws results to the state governments. This conclusion appears to me to beg the whole question in controversy. It resigns all claim to a concurrent right in the state governments, and sets up one which is to arise on a condition, not to be found in the constitution, but which is gratuitously interpolated into it.

If then this claim of the state legislature is not

founded upon any express grant made to them in the constitution, is it to be deduced from the circumstance of a non user of the power of Congress? This doctrine appears to me as extravagant as it is novel. It has no analogy that I know of, in legal or political science. It must in some way or other be likened to the case of forfeiture, which could not as I conceive, answer the purpose, because if the power of Congress is, upon principles purely legal, devested by an omission to exercise a valid right, it would not of necessity result to the state governments, but would more naturally fall to the people. If the forfeiture be political, then this absurdity would follow, that Congress would possess a right to do by *omission*, what it must be admitted they would not effect by any direct and positive act. That is, to delegate to the state governments, the power of legislation over a particular subject, of which the people had thought proper not only to deprive the state governments, but to vest exclusively in the national legislature. The inconvenience of dissimilar and discordant rules upon the subjects of bankruptcy and of naturalization, no doubt suggested to the framers of the constitution the remedy which that body adopted, of vesting the right to legislate in those cases in the general government, that some uniform system might prevail throughout the United States, if Congress should think that any regulations upon these subjects ought at all to be made. Now it would not only violate the express grant of these powers to Congress, but the policy which led the convention to withdraw them from the state governments, if they should be construed to result by implication to the latter, on account of the omission of the former to exercise them. But let us examine into the reasonableness of this pretension of the state legislatures, and see if the policy which induced the grant of these powers to Congress, be not effectually answered by the omission of Congress to legislate on those subjects, as much so as if they had. Suppose then the subject of a bankrupt law to be brought before Congress, and the questions to be whether such a system be a wise one under any circumstances, or be at all suitable to the present state of the country, and that body should in its wisdom decide negatively on those questions. It would seem to follow that no bankrupt law ought to exist in the United States for the reasons which induced the rejection of any plan to establish such a system. In this case what is Congress to do in order to give effect to this measure of policy? The answer is plain, reject the bill and do nothing. Then the law of the land would be that no man is compelled against his will to deliver up his property to be distributed amongst his creditors, and consequently that he is at all times liable to the payment of his debts unless discharged by some other legal means. Nor will it be said that the state legislatures availing themselves of the silence of Congress on this subject, can be at liberty to thwart the very policy which induced it, and pass laws upon the subject not only changing the state of the law as Congress had constitutionally left it, but impugning the policy which led the convention to deprive the state legislatures of the power altogether; by imposing upon the country at large a variety of systems, instead of one uniform system? To argue, that to prevent such an absurd consequence, Congress must legislate upon the subject, is to assert that in the exercise of a power intended to promote the general good, Congress must do some act which in its wisdom it believes will produce a public evil—Do

wrong that good may come of it—a doctrine as pernicious in politics as it is wicked in morals. How would state laws upon this subject and in the case supposed, differ otherwise than in degree, from similar laws passed, inconsistent with such as Congress might think proper to enact upon the same subject? In the one case the policy and the law of Congress might be opposed in part only by the state law. But in the other, the whole policy and law is defeated by inconsistent rules upon a subject, where Congress supposed that it was unwise to establish even a uniform rule.

The subject of naturalization is strongly illustrative of the principles which this course of reasoning is intended to prove. The power to pass laws upon this subject is found in the same section, and is expressed in words of the same import with that respecting bankruptcies. Now suppose Congress deliberating whether the naturalization of foreigners ought upon any, or upon what terms to be allowed.—That the consultation of that body should end in the conviction, that the natural population is most conducive to the public interest, and therefore that no encouragement ought to be given to the migration of foreigners to the United States. In what manner is this policy to be rendered effectual? Congress cannot for the purpose of preventing the state legislatures from interfering in this business, pass a negative law, declaring that foreigners shall not be naturalized, because if the constitution forbids the exercise of such a power by the state legislatures, such a law would be worse than unnecessary; and if it does not forbid it, then it would be void. Nothing then remains for that body, but as in the former case, to do nothing.

This then, according to the argument on the part of the defendant is to be the signal for the state legislatures to commence their operations. Virginia, for example, is of opinion that for the purpose of settling her extensive waste and uncultivated lands, the migration of foreigners to that state ought by every means to be encouraged, and in order to favour this policy, she declares that the residence of a year or a month without any other restriction whatever, shall be sufficient to entitle all foreigners to the right of naturalization in that state? They are accordingly made citizens, and after the constitutional period, are chosen to represent that state in the national legislature, and emigrating to the other states, they claim all the privileges of natural born citizens of those states.

The other states might well complain, that although the people had declared their willingness to admit foreigners to the privileges of natural born citizens, provided the regulations under which this admission is granted were formed by the united wisdom of the representatives of all the states, but that they had never granted to one state the right of legislation over the other states. They might contend that the introduction of foreigners to the electoral franchise, and still more into the national legislature, was an experiment dangerous to the tranquility and the welfare of the nation; that they might be tainted with principles unfriendly to our republican institutions, and with foreign attachments, wholly incompatible with their duties as citizens and legislators; that if admitted at all, they should not only abjure all allegiance to any other government, and if of the order of nobility, renounce all claim to the same, but that they ought to be men of good moral character, and attached to the constitution of the United

States: and finally, that the grant of this privilege should be preceded by a probationary residence in the United States for a length of time sufficient to afford the necessary proof of the reality of these qualifications in the applicant.

To these complaints what could reason oppose? Nothing—She must be silent. And is this then a case where powers not expressly given by the constitution are to be assumed by construction and implication? It certainly will not be contended, that the powers to pass bankrupt and naturalization laws are by the amendments to the constitution reserved to the states, in cases where they are exercised by Congress, because this reservation is made only of such powers as are not granted to the general government—if granted, it would seem to follow that they are not reserved to the states or to the people.

But it is not in my opinion correct to say, that Congress by refusing to pass laws on those subjects, has not exercised the powers confided to that body by the constitution in relation thereto. The refusal amounts to a declaration of the public will, that such laws are unwise, and ought not to exist. And yet upon the argument in favor of state pretensions, this monstrous doctrine must be maintained, that one or more states may pass laws not only in opposition to the policy and legislative will of the general government, but to the laws of the other states, enacted upon the same subjects, which to a certain extent, they partially repeal: a doctrine leading to such absurd and dangerous consequences ought to have something more solid to stand upon, than a constructive grant of power.

I am, upon the whole, of opinion, that the law under which the certificate is pleaded in bar of the action is altogether unconstitutional for the reason last assigned, and is so in reference to this debt for the first reason.

I desire, that it may be distinctly understood, that I do not mean to give any opinion on the subject of insolvent laws, acts of limitation, and the like; because they are not now before me; and sufficient to the day will be the evil thereof. I have introduced the subject of laws of naturalization, because I find that subject in all respects, precisely like that which is particularly involved in this cause.

### Forgery Legalized.

The following case, extracted from the first Volume of Espinasse's *Nisi Prius* cases, is interesting to the American people, as evincing the ideas of morality entertained by the British government. What must be thought of a government professing a rigid adherence to the Laws of Nations, when the highest legal functionary of the government can proclaim in open court, that in this infamous transaction he sees nothing contrary to the Laws of Nations or of good faith? May we not apprehend that the noted Stephen Burroughs has already been engaged by that government, to inundate the country with forged paper through Castine? In the Dictionary of the British Government, it would seem that *dolus* meant forgery, and *virtus*, conflagration, rape, and robbery.

*Nat. Intel.*

### SHONGITHARM VS. LUKYN.

*Case on a promissory note.*—The note was drawn by the defendant, payable to one Calson, and by Calson endorsed to the plaintiff. The plaintiff proved the defendant's hand writing,—the endorsement by Calson.

Erskine for the defendant, stated his defence to be, that Lukyn was a stationer, and the plaintiff an engraver; and that the note upon which the action was brought was given to Calson for the purpose of paying the plaintiff for the engraving of copper plates, upon which French assignats were to be forged, and contended that, as the consideration of the note was fraud, that it contaminated the whole transaction, and rendered the note not recoverable by law.

Calson, the endorser, was called as the witness. He proved that Lukyn, the defendant, having it in contemplation to strike off impressions of a considerable quantity of assignats to be issued abroad, had applied to him for the purpose of recommending an engraver for the purpose of engraving the necessary plates, and that Lukyn represented to him that they were for the Duke of York's army.

He said that they applied to Shongitharm, the plaintiff, who at first declined the business totally; but that being assured by the witness that it was sanctioned by the government, and was for the use of the Duke of York's army, he then consented. The witness further denied, that it ever was communicated to the plaintiff, that they were to be circulated for any purpose than he had represented.

Lord Kenyon said, that if the present transaction was grounded on a fraud, or contrary to the laws of nations or of good faith, he should have held the notes to be void; but that it did not appear that there was any fraud in the case; or any violation of positive law. Whether the issuing of these assignats for the purpose of distressing the enemy was lawful in carrying on the war, he was not prepared to say; or whether it came within the rule *an dolus an virtus quis in hoste requirit?* But let that be as it might, it did not apply to the present case. It was not in evidence that the plaintiff was a party in any fraud, or that it was ever communicated to him that the assignats were to be issued for any improper purpose. On the contrary, he supposed that they were circulated by the authority of the higher powers of this country, and therefore did not question the propriety or legality of the measure.

His Lordship declared his opinion to be.

that the consideration was not impeached, and that the plaintiff was entitled to recover.

The Jury found a verdict for the plaintiff.

### Important Report on Medical Science.

The following able and interesting report was *unanimously* agreed to by the Senate of this state, on Tuesday, the 11th instant. It thus appears that the recent attempts made for organizing another Medical School in New-York, in opposition to the acts of the Legislature and the regents of the university, have completely failed of success. Facts justify the assertion, that, in the means of instruction, the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of that city is second to no similar institution in the United States, and that this school of medicine is eminently deserving of the support of an enlightened Legislature.

*Albany Argus.*

Mr. Cochran, from the committee to whom was referred the bill, entitled "an act to incorporate the trustees of the Medical Institution of the state of New-York," reported,

That the preamble to the bill states, "that Archibald Bruce and others have been for several years associated for the purpose of giving instruction in all the branches of medical science, and have, for that purpose, selected skilful lecturers, and provided a suitable building, together with chemical and philosophical apparatus, anatomical preparations, and other things necessary to accomplish the end they have in view; and, therefore, pray to be incorporated."

The objects stated in the preamble, to be carried into effect by the provisions of the bill, are undoubtedly laudable; and if the attainment of them by the means proposed, were not inconsistent with that general system of education adopted by our laws and the interests of established institutions, your committee could see no objection to the bill which they have had under consideration.

The various laws which have been passed since the revolutionary war, to promote the diffusion of literature and science throughout the state, while they disclose difficulties, evince at the same time, the strong solicitude which our legislature have always felt on the subject. Without a particular reference to these acts, it will only be necessary for the present, in order to form a more correct opinion of the matter submitted to your committee, to give a

short history of the origin and progress of the medical institutions in this state.

In the year 1792, the board of trustees of Columbia College, organized a medical faculty, connected with the College, and professors of distinguished talents were appointed to deliver lectures on the different branches of medicine. Though the annexation of such a faculty deserved commendation, yet, for causes not necessary to mention here, the benefits arising from it were very limited—only thirty-four students since its creation to the year 1814, had completed their courses of study, and received the medical honors of the institution.

By an act, passed as early as the year 1791, power was given to the regents of the university of the state, to establish a college of physicians and surgeons within the state. Believing that only one medical institution in the city of New-York, with power to confer degrees sanctioned by authority, and conducted with ability and attention, would best promote the advancement of medical science, the regents were unwilling to exercise the power vested in them by said act. Considerations of expediency, however, affecting the interests of science, as well as other interests arising from causes not implicating the distinguished gentlemen filling the different professorships in this medical school, determined that honorable body on the 12th of March 1807, to grant a charter, establishing the present college of physicians and surgeons of the city of New-York. The incorporation of this institution, under the patronage of the regents, and its sanction by the legislature, gave very general satisfaction, and the benefits which have resulted from it during the period of its existence, are to be seen in the annual reports to the regents of the university. Its successful progress was, however, for a short time retarded by feuds and discontents among the professional members of the institution, and of others, arising principally from competition and rivalry between medical schools in the same city, whose objects were the same. It was therefore deemed advisable by the regents, to whom representations of these disorders had been made, to re-model the college of physicians, and this was accordingly done on the first of April 1811, ingrafting alterations upon their character, principally with a view to their union with the medical faculty of Columbia College. This union was finally and happily effected at the last session of the matter, in 1814, and to the satisfaction of all con-

cerned; and the United School now combines the most eminent medical talents in the state in one splendid seminary, under the general superintendance of the honorable the regents, aided by the patronage and liberal endowments of the legislature.

It is not now deemed necessary to state particularly any additional facts with regard to the medical college of New-York. How extensive is the system of medical education which it embraces, will be fully understood when the committee make it known that complete courses of instruction are provided for in the College of Physicians and Surgeons in the city of New-York, on anatomy, surgery and physiology; on the theory and practice of physic and clinical medicine; on chymistry; on materia medica; on the principles and practice of surgery; on the clinical practice of medicine; on midwifery and the diseases of women and children; on natural history; on medical jurisprudence; and on natural philosophy, by able professors appointed for the purpose.

After perceiving so many difficulties and so many impediments to harmony, at length removed by the united efforts and exertions of the regents of the university, and of some eminent professional gentlemen, connected with the then medical institutions in the city of New-York, that your committee should countenance the application before them, would be to renew the like misunderstandings and the like dissensions, which have hitherto prevailed, much to the injury of medical science.

It is of some importance to take into view, on this occasion, the well digested plans contained in our laws, so admirably calculated to promote useful knowledge in the various departments of science.

The act constituting the regents of the university of the state, gives to that body the right at discretion, under its particular provisions to incorporate colleges and other seminaries of learning, and a superintending power over them. Being enabled to hold property, real and personal, to the amount of the annual income of 40,000 bushels of wheat, and possessing no inconsiderable funds from the liberality and munificence of the state, its judicious distribution from time to time, among the academies in the different counties, is evidenced by the success which has attended it in the present flourishing state of learning. As a part of this excellent system, the committee recognize the law incorporating medical societies in each county, for the purpose of regulating the practice of physic and surgery. In all this is seen

the efforts of the best men and the most enlightened legislators of our country. It has been the work of time, and in the result of much experience.

To incorporate, therefore, by special acts of the legislature, seminaries of learning, upon the application of private associations, and particularly another medical institution in the city of New-York, would in the opinion of your committee, by such innovations upon this admirable structure, totally derange, if not break down some of our most useful and settled literary establishments. Your committee are therefore of opinion that the bill ought to be rejected.

### To the Legislature of Virginia.

*The memorial and petition of the Religious Society of Friends (commonly called Quakers.)*

*Respectfully Show,*

That your memorialists, estimating the high regard with which the legislature will be disposed to consider every subject affecting the great principles of civil or religious liberty, beg leave to solicit your attention to the militia laws of this commonwealth, and to the incompatibility which sometimes results between the requisitions of the law, and the obligations of religious duty.

In this enlightened age and country, and before this legislature, your memorialists conceive it unnecessary to urge the unalienable rights of conscience, or to adduce any arguments to show, that the relations between man and his creator, neither can nor ought to be prescribed or controlled, by any human authority. It is unnecessary, because the proposition is self-evident, and especially because it is one of the fundamental principles, upon which the civil and political institutions of this country are established. This principle is recognized in the bill of rights; it is confirmed by the law of 1785, passed in the enlightened and liberal spirit of that instrument; and the state itself, by its convention which ratified the federal constitution expressly declared, that "the liberty of conscience cannot be cancelled, abridged, restrained, or modified by any authority of the United States." The free exercise of religion, therefore, is not merely tolerated; it is declared in the most solemn form, it is confirmed in the most explicit manner.

But the liberty of conscience, your memorialists conceive, cannot be restricted to the mere liberty of thinking or to the silent and unseem modifications of religious opinion. Religion has duties to be perform-

ed; and it points out offences to be avoided; its free exercise must therefore consist in an active compliance with its dictates, enforced by no legal compulsion, or restrained by no legal impediment.

Your memorialists, in common with every virtuous citizen, would disclaim any exemption, under the colour of religious liberty, from the universal obligations of moral duty. But the law of 1785, in making "overt acts" of an injurious nature, the limit of the privilege, and the criterion of the abuse, removes all danger to the community. Any encroachment on the rights of others, or violation of the moral law, under pretence of liberty of conscience, would immediately betray its own guilt and hypocrisy, and afford a legitimate cause for the interposition of the civil authority.

These considerations are suggested, as applicable to the case, which is now submitted to the wisdom and justice of the legislature.

Your memorialists are Christians; and impressed with the firm conviction that war is forbidden under the gospel, they cannot bear arms. To require it under legal penalties, is then to reduce them to the alternative of refusing a compliance with the laws of their country, or of violating what they most solemnly believe is to them a law of God, clothed with the same most lawful sanctions.

Your memorialists plead no new doctrines; they set up no novel pretensions.—They ask permission only to practice the precepts of Jesus Christ—to adhere to the principles which prevailed through the first centuries of the Christian dispensation, which pious men through every subsequent age have maintained; and which their predecessors from the time they have been known as a religious society, under various forms of government, and through sufferings imposed by rigorous and persecuting laws, have uniformly supported.

It is true that in the lapse of time, the spirit of persecution has faded before the lights of truth. Our own country, as already stated, has been particularly distinguished for maintaining the principles of civil and religious liberty, and for rejecting those of coercive law and religious intolerance. The very grievance to which we now solicit your attention, has been acknowledged and redressed. A legislature, composed of enlightened statesmen and sages, who had assisted in establishing the chartered rights of America, who had seen the principles which your memorialists maintain, tested through the revolutionary war, convinced,

it is believed, of their sincerity and the justice of their claim, exempted them from the obligation to bear arms, and from certain fines and penalties which had been imposed on their non-compliance with military requisitions. But the laws are changed. They now require that your memorialists, notwithstanding the insuperable objection of their religious scruples, should be trained to arms. Their refusal subjects them to fines, which, within certain limitations are fixed at the discretion of the courts martial, and become in numerous instances extremely oppressive. Nor is this all—your memorialists conceive that a voluntary payment of a fine imposed on them for adherence to their religious duty, or the receiving of surplus money arising from the sale of their property seized for the satisfying of these demands, would be to acknowledge a delinquency which they cannot admit, and to become parties in a traffic or commutation of their principles. Hence also considerable loss is sustained. And notwithstanding your memorialists may acknowledge that many officers of the government, in these cases manifest great reluctance, and execute their trust with scrupulous regard to the sufferers; yet there are other instances, in which wanton depredations are made on the property of individuals.

Your memorialists are aware that it may be said that the law does not discriminate between them and others, and that they ought equally to support the public burdens, and yield their services to the exigencies of the state. This objection supposes that a general law cannot have a partial or unequal operation. It supposes too, that what may be deemed a national concern, may supersede the chartered rights and privileges of the people. But your memorialists cannot suppose that these principles, which indeed are no other than maxims of tyranny, will ever be deliberately adopted or acted upon by this legislature. If one member of the community believe it his duty to fight, and slay the enemies of his country, and if any believe that he is prohibited by divine command, from planning the destruction or shedding the blood of his fellow creatures: the question, as relates to the present subject, is not, which, or whether either is wrong, but whether the law, commanding both to take arms, would not operate unequally, and violate the rights of conscience! It would operate unequally, because it does not discriminate; because, to the conscience of the one it would enjoin the performance of a duty; to that of the other the

commission of a crime. It would violate the liberty of conscience, because it would compel, under pains and penalties, the performance of an act, which is believed offensive to the Divine Being. Human authority cannot like the great searcher of hearts, try the spirits of men respecting truth and error, it cannot remit the penalties of sin, or control the convictions of the heart; and, therefore, in this country at least, the liberty of conscience is wisely placed beyond the sphere of legislation, and protected from the encroachment of any power in the government.

It may be recollected too, that in every nation of the civilized world where this society is found, they profess and maintain the same principles. That no hope of reward, no dread of punishment, nor confiscations, imprisonments or death, would induce them to bear arms against this country, or in any other cause whatever, and that every attempt to coerce them would result on the one side, in the triumph of principle, however severely tested, and in unavailing persecution on the other.

While it is therefore evident that the ostensible object of the law, for training them to arms cannot be effected, and it is presumed, from the general notoriety of their principles, that it is not even expected to be attained—while your memorialists believe that the principles they hold can in no sense prove injurious to the community, and are persuaded that this legislature would disclaim the idea of raising revenue by laws inflicting fines on the free exercise of conscience—they trust that a privilege conferred by the Supreme Being, and by the highest authority in this country declared sacred and inviolable, may be safely expected from its justice and liberality.—They therefore respectfully petition, that the laws imposing military requisitions and penalties for non-compliance, may be considered, as they respect your petitioners, and such relief afforded, as to the wisdom of the legislature, shall seem just and necessary.

Signed by order and on behalf of a meeting of the representatives of the aforesaid society, held in Dinwiddie county, the 17th of the 11th month, 1810. By

BENJAMIN BATES,

*Clerk at the time.*

*The following letter was addressed by Benjamin Bates (bearer of the above memorial.) to a member of the legislature.*

The friendly manner in which we discussed together the principles of our memorial (now before the legislature) induces me to hope, that a few additional observa-

tions, will receive a candid and impartial consideration.

It would be useless, I apprehend, in introducing the subject, to enter into any minute inquiry respecting the nature and rights of men in society; or to examine any of the various theories of government, to find in how many ways, those rights have been abused. The American people understand this subject. They did not, in establishing the empire of liberty, on the basis of *equal laws*, look to the pittance of privilege, which had in different ages, been extorted from bigotry, or wrung from the grasp of power. No; they were men, and conscious of their rights; they were brethren, and saw that their rights were equal. To preserve them, they did not set up human beings like themselves, with crowns and mitres on their heads, and commit to their ambition, cupidity and caprice, for safe keeping and distribution, those sacred immunities with which their Creator had endowed them—which he had made coexistent with mind itself—innherent and unalienable. It was to preserve to themselves these inestimable blessings, to transmit them to their children, to guard them for ever from usurpation, that, viewing the whole ground of polity with a discriminating eye, they declared irrevocably, *that conscience belongs to God, and civil government to the people.*

On this principle their whole political structure is erected, hence the law emanates, and every power in the government is bound by its authority. So it stands upon paper; but how does it operate in practice? Is the liberty of conscience indeed preserved inviolate? Do the laws impose no other restraints on religious freedom, than are sufficient to preserve the peace and order of society? Are none of the honest, and inoffensive inhabitants of this commonwealth taxed, fined or harrassed in their persons or property, on account of their religious tenets? These are questions which the patriot and statesman may ponder, but the answer is obvious and undeniable. *The liberty of conscience is abridged: the laws do impose other restraints than those contemplated by the act, "establishing religious freedom;" and a number of peaceable and useful citizens, are exposed to fines and penalties, on account of their religious principles. How is this infraction of natural and constitutional right to be accounted for? It will not be said, that either those people or their principles were unknown, when the declaration of rights was made, and the form of government established. It will not be pretended, that they were excluded from the common*



privileges of citizens, and the common rights of humanity. No, but it is said that the government must be defended; and they are therefore enrolled for the purpose of learning the use of the firelock and bayonet, and for acquiring the art of inflicting death with the greatest expedition and effect; men whose religion is a *system of universal benevolence*; who believe God Almighty forbids animosity, revenge and violence; and who are assured, that disobedience to his commands, involves *dreadful and eternal consequences*.

This society maintain, with the framers of our constitution, and in conformity with the repeatedly declared sense of the American people, that government has no right to bring the laws of God and man into competition, and that there exists no authority in any department thereof, to cancel, abridge, restrain or modify the liberty of conscience. When this declaration was solemnly made the last time by the people of this state, and reciprocated by the whole union, the society of Friends were exempt by law, as well as by their constitutional privileges, both from militia duty and personal services in war. Did not the law which afterwards subjected them, under heavy penalties, to all the requisitions of the military system, "abridge" this liberty of conscience which had been thus solemnly guaranteed? And if it did, ought not an evidence of the fact, and an appeal to the justice of the country, to be sufficient to restore them to their rights? The fact is undeniable—the appeal is made, and its success, perhaps, ought not to be doubted. But in the mean time, the subject is variously canvassed, and many objections and difficulties are thrown in the way. We have referred, in our memorial, to the rights of conscience, as a natural and constitutional privilege; but we are told the liberty of conscience is an abstract principle, and as such is not to be relied on in particular cases. What is an abstract principle? Is it some remote indefinite truth, which may be indifferently remembered or forgotten? Or is it some proposition to which the understanding assents, but which is still to be tested by experience?

Now, it cannot be supposed, that the men, selected by the people, to mark out the boundaries of the law, and to fix the limits of power in a great, free and en-

lightened nation, would so insignificantly employ their time and abuse their trust, as to set down as a declaration of rights, any random propositions that might chance to occur to their recollection as true. The fathers of American liberty did not attract to themselves the gratitude of their country and the admiration of the world, by writing merely what was true, but for selecting the very truths they meant to establish—for drawing an insuperable, unalterable line of separation between those powers which a free people may confide in their government, and those inherent and unalienable rights which they retain to themselves. It was expressly for the preservation of those rights that the constitution was formed. Its barriers were laid strong and deep around them; and whenever they are broken down, tyranny and oppression will resume their course. Nor can it be thought that this liberty of conscience was introduced as a new or untried principle. The statesman of our country were not such novices in the subject of law and government, or so unacquainted with human nature, as to suppose, that the rights of conscience had never been tested. Nor would they, if such had been their opinion, expose the nation to difficulties and danger by a novel and presumptuous experiment. No—These men understood their subject. Its nature, its history and its importance, were familiar to their minds. They knew how readily the pride of opinion and the possession of power, combine to produce intolerance.—They knew that a denial of their rights constitutes the worst species of tyranny. Nations have groaned for ages under its influences, and to preserve this country from a similar fate they held forth the right of conscience.—Not as an abstract metaphysical notion, but as a living, indestructable privilege, of which no law should ever deprive a citizen?

But why was it necessary to guard those rights with such anxious solicitude? Why enshrine them in the constitution, and protect them with such jealous care from the powers of the legislature? Is not the government derived from the people? Is it not administered by their agents, and solely for their benefit? And cannot the people be trusted with the guardianship of their own privileges? The answer is plain—a government of the people is necessarily a government of the majority, but the majority, if they are not bound by constitutional restraints, may, in securing their own rights, overlook or violate the rights of others.—But would it not be mockery to tell the minority, under those circumstances, that they

ought not to complain—that their country is a free republic, and themselves integral parts of the sovereign authority? Would they not be sensible that their rights and liberties depended on the will and lay at the mercy of individuals, and that however many or few those individuals might be, and under whatever forms their proceedings might be conducted, an arbitrary government is still despotism, and the subjects of it are slaves? Hence the necessity of constitutional restraints; and when those are properly established; when government simply occupies the ground on which it is placed, and exercises only the powers which have been submitted to its direction, the decisions of the majority become the legitimate rules of action, and every member of the community (whatever may be his opinion of their wisdom or expediency) is bound to obey them. This is presumed to be the true definition of a free government. But of what avail, under any form of government, is the attempt to enslave the mind? As soon would the academy devise means to arrest or control the revolutions of the solar system, as the legislature of any country to find laws that would bind the free spirit of man. How long has tyranny tortured its invention, and varied the apparatus, for discovering this grand desideratum? Creeds, tests and anathemas have been tried. Stripes, fetters and dungeons have done their best. Racks, flames and gibbets have exhausted all their powers, and all have ended in miserable disappointment. And is it not difficult to conceive how the notion ever came to be entertained on this side the Atlantic? The genius of our country did not borrow even the mildest feature of such a system; and it is certainly not congenial with our habits of thinking, to suppose that the mind may be fettered by putting a chain upon the leg, or that a man's heart can be divested of its convictions, by a warrant to take his cattle.

But admitting, that the liberty of conscience is both a natural and constitutional right, and that it is physically impossible to control the free agency of the mind, still it is contended that an expedient may be found which shall protect those rights from violation, and at the same time satisfy the law, which would otherwise infringe them.

Thus, if the legislature enjoin the performance of certain duties, on which it is supposed the very existence of government depends, and those duties happen to interfere with the constitutional rights of any individual, let that individual pay an equi-

valent, and be excused. If it be a military service, for instance, and his religious principles forbid him to fight, let him pay a tax for the support of schools, and make the tax equal to the military service. The argument fairly stated, stands thus: The legislature shall not restrain the free exercise of conscience, but they may levy a fine upon the advantages derived from the exemption.

Have I any objection to the support of schools? Far from it. I should rejoice to see knowledge and virtue diffused among the lower classes of society. I would cheerfully pay an equal tax for the purpose, and might be disposed to encourage it by a voluntary contribution. But when I pay a partial tax, a fine, I am neither discharging the common duties of a citizen, nor doing an act of benevolence; I am paying what is considered by the government as a debt; and for what consideration? Plainly for being allowed the liberty of conscience. But I do not desire the liberty of conscience from the government; I hold it by a tenure antecedent to the institution of civil society—it was secured to me in the social compact, and was never submitted to the legislature at all; they have therefore no privilege to grant or withhold at their pleasure, and certainly no pretence of right or authority to sell it for a price.—It appears then, that this exclusive tax for the support of schools is a groundless and oppressive demand. It is a muster fine in disguise, and violates the very principle it seemed to respect. But is it not unreasonable, it is asked, that our fellow-citizens, who believe war to be allowable and necessary, should be subjected to the hardships and privations incident to the training and service, while we, under the protection of our religious principles, enjoy complete exemption?

We answer, no. If those citizens do believe that war is necessary for their defence, if they conceive it to be their duty and their interest to fight—if it accords with their religious principles to repel aggressions by the sword—if in the full exercise of their privileges, they give to the government authority to command them in these services, this is their own act and they cannot complain of the consequences.

But a man is not the judge of his neighbour's conscience, and if the powers they surrender for themselves, involve constitutional privileges, they are binding only on those who have consented to them.

May I enquire what it is that constitutes the obligation to fight for one's country? I mean to apply the question to a free people, for under a despotism the will of the master is the obligation of

the slave. What is it then in a free country that induces a man to go to war? Is it the protection of his rights? But what rights has he to protect, whose most essential privileges are already wrested from him? Or is it the interest which every individual feels in preserving his property, his home, his children, his friends? Have not all some interesting attachments? Have not all some endearing objects that cling about the heart? And is not the heart? And is not the aggregate of those their country? Every man, therefore, engaged by common consent in a defensive war, considers that he is fighting for himself and his domestic enjoyments. *His home* is identified with *his country*, and he is using those means which his *own reason and conscience approve*, for its defence. We too have homes, and a little property, and children and friends, whose welfare is dearer than life. We too connect them with our country, and for their preservation, would make any sacrifice which *our reason and conscience could approve*. But these forbid us to fight.

The power to whom we are indebted for all our enjoyments, and whose divine providence is their best protection has not committed to us the right to destroy our fellow-creatures, or to seek the redress of our wrongs by the shedding of human blood. But we know that he has communicated to man a principle capable of silencing war and violence. There is, my friend, in the religion taught by Jesus Christ, a power able to reconcile us to God and to one another. It can divest the heart that receives it of its propensities to wrongs and violence; and implant in their place the disposition to suffer wrongs and violence for its sake. Thousands of living witnesses bear testimony to this divine principle—thousands, who would suffer any privation or punishment, rather than impede, by their example, its influence and increase. And ought it not to console the friend of his country, and of his species, to see its growth, and to be assured by indubitable evidence, that it is possible, in its support, to return good for evil, to love even our very enemies; and for man, in all situations to be the friend of man.

## Connecticut Legislature,

*Hartford, January 25.*

This day the Honourable General Assembly of this State convened in this City. The Session was opened in the usual form; when his Excellency the Governor delivered the following

### SPEECH:

*Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker, and  
Gentlemen of the House of Representatives.*

The Convention of Delegates, from this and some of our sister States, having fulfilled the objects of their appointment, I have considered it my duty to afford you an early opportunity of acting on their Report.

In laying these important proceedings before you, I feel assured you will give them that consideration which is due to the opinions of revered patriots, formed from a deliberate survey of the national affairs and dictated by a zealous regard to the interests of individual States, and the lasting welfare of our country.

I shall not detain you, gentlemen, by a minute reference to the various subjects comprised in the report. Your attention will undoubtedly be first directed to those measures which are recommended as necessary for our defence against the common enemy. Should the war continue we have as yet no assurance, either that the mode of conducting it is to be essentially changed, or that any part of the heavy contributions levied upon our citizens will be applied to their protection. Hence, unless seasonable precautions are taken, we are to expect a repetition of that annoyance by the enemy, and of those embarrassments from our own government which were so largely experienced during the last campaign. The plainest principles of justice and of self preservation demand, that whilst the burden of defence is laid upon the state so much of its resources as may be adequate to that end, should in any event be retained. It is desirable that on this subject an explicit arrangement should be made with the general government, nor ought we to doubt that an immediate application for that purpose would be successful. You will consider how far the reasonable overtures suggested by the convention are calculated to meet this object.

But in the midst of our efforts to resist hostile attempts from abroad, let us beware of oppression at home. It was not the least of the evils which were apprehended from an offensive war, that both the temptation and the means would be thereby afforded, to invade the sovereignty of the respective States, and to break down those barriers between the national and state governments which were wisely intended as the most effectual safe guards of the rights of the People. It is painful to observe to what an extent these fears are already realized. We shall fail in our duty, Gentlemen, if we neglect to guard with equal vigilance against foreign dominion and domestic usurpation. With evident propriety, therefore, your particular attention is invited, in this report, to such acts of the general government in the prosecution of the war, as are unsupported by the principles of the Constitution.

This Assembly have expressed their opinion of the attempts to subject the militia or other citizens to forcible drafts and impressments, for the purpose of filling the ranks of the regular army. We have the satisfaction to perceive that these bold attacks upon the liberties of a Free People have hitherto failed of success. Schemes nevertheless, formed with such deliberation.

and urged with such zeal are probably not abandoned. It is consequently proper to inquire by what legislative provision; our fellow citizens can be effectually secured against their operation.

The convention have not limited their views to the present distresses of the country. They purpose to lay a foundation for the permanent tranquillity of these States, by several important amendments of the National Constitution. The Legislature of Connecticut have rarely manifested a disposition to effect even the slightest alteration in that instrument. Whilst faithfully performing the duties enjoined upon them by the federal compact, they have viewed with nearly equal concern the repeated and successful attempts of others to modify and to violate it. But without reciting the causes which have reduced our once prosperous nation to its present condition, the question may be confidently asked, whether the time has not arrived in which radical reforms are indispensable?

I forbear to enlarge on other parts of this interesting report. We are to presume that a sense of justice will induce the administration to assent to the proposed arrangement, and that the ulterior resort recommended by the convention will be therefore unnecessary. Should different sentiments unfortunately prevail, the General Assembly will hold its usual session in time to provide for such a state of things as would then exist.

Those who have believed that our suffering called for more prompt and efficient modes of redress, will be satisfied that moderation no less than firmness is the dictate of an enlightened and just policy, and that it would ill become the uniform friends of liberty and order to dishonour their principles by rash councils or precipitate measures. The temperate and magnanimous course proposed for our adoption cannot fail to allay the apprehensions which many have professed to entertain, and to enliven the hopes of all who cherish our national union, and are disposed to place it on a solid and durable basis.

GENTLEMEN,

It is not expected that the ordinary business of the legislature will occupy much of your time at the present session. You will feel the importance, however, of paying a particular regard to our financial concerns. To render the operation of the treasury successful and by means the least burdensome to our constituents, is a subject which claims, and I doubt not will receive, your earnest and faithful attention.

Of the proceedings of the Executive under various acts and resolutions of the last Session you will be informed by a separate communication.

At this season of wide-spread calamity, it becomes us, Gentlemen, in all our deliberations, to look to the Divine direction, and to implore the smiles of a merciful Providence on our country and upon our united endeavours for its deliverance and safety.

JOHN COTTON SMITH.

General Assembly;  
Special Session, January, 1815.

(Reported for the Democratic Press.)

The Commonwealth, vs. Maj. Thos. Robinson. The following important decision of the last session, which authorizes the enlistment of minors, not under eighteen years of age, without the consent of parents, masters or guardians, was pronounced on the 15th instant, after hearing the case argued.

*Tilghman, C. J.* The habeas corpus in this case was issued on the affidavit of Abraham Polinger, under the act of Assembly of the 18th February, 1785. It appears by the return that Jonas Roop was enlisted as a soldier in the army of the United States. At the time of his enlistment he was a minor, above eighteen years of age, and bound by an indenture of apprenticeship to Abraham Polinger. But it was not at his request, nor by his desire, that the habeas corpus was issued. On the contrary he is well satisfied with his situation, and wishes to remain in the army. The object of the Act of Assembly was to secure personal liberty, not to decide disputes concerning property. The court "after examining into the facts relating to the case, and into the cause of the confinement or restraint, is to *bail, remand or discharge* the party, as to justice shall appertain." Now here we can neither bail; remand nor discharge, because there is neither confinement nor restraint. The party wishes to remain where he is. In short it is a mere dispute between the officer and the master who claims a right to the service of his apprentice. The case therefore is not within the provisions of the Act of Assembly. But a habeas corpus may be issued at common law, under which courts have gone so far as to deliver the body of an infant to his parent, and sometimes an apprentice to his master. It is discretionary, however, whether to proceed to that length or not. In a case like the present there is no occasion for a summary proceeding, because the master has his remedy by action against the person who takes away his apprentice. But there are strong reasons against proceeding in any other manner than by action. It is understood that the validity of an act of Congress is to be brought into question. The subject is worthy of the most solemn discussion and mature deliberation. And above all it is desirable that it should be brought on in such a form as will admit of a removal to the Supreme Court of the United States, the tribunal in the last resort for deciding all questions arising out of the constitution or laws of the United States. This court, therefore, would not have thought it expedient to interfere in a case where personal liberty is not concerned even if the habeas corpus had been issued at common law.—Having considered the facts in this case, Jonas Roop is permitted to remain in his present situation, because he desires it.

## Messages and Speeches.

In the messages and speeches of the governors of the several states, we have a pretty good epitome of their political history, &c. We have, therefore, devoted a considerable space for the record of those that the pressure of other current matter compelled us to postpone.

### LEGISLATURE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

#### GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

*Gentlemen of the Senate, and  
Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,*

In compliance with the request of the members from this commonwealth, of the convention of delegates from the New England states, which lately met at Hartford, I have directed the secretary to communicate to the legislature, their report which was transmitted to me for that purpose, and which appears to have been the result of moderation and firmness.

Immediately after your adjournment five persons were appointed to constitute a board of war, agreeably to the act of the 20th of October last. A copy of the instructions given them, and an abstract of all the accounts by them allowed and paid, prior to the 14th day of this month, together such proceedings of the late commissioners for the protection of the sea-coast, as have not before been communicated, will be laid before you. From these documents I think the legislature will be satisfied, that the board of war, and commissioners for sea-coast defence, have discharged the duties assigned them with fidelity, and with much advantage to the public.

The secretary will also deliver to you returns from the quarter-master-general, of the ordnance and military stores, and of the tents, entrenching tools, &c. the property of this commonwealth, stating the quantity, quality and places of deposit, and also a return of the quantity of military stores and munitions of war, that have been delivered to sundry towns for their defence, by order of the commissioners for the protection of the sea-coast. These returns will enable the two houses to judge whether the state is deficient in any of the articles that will be essential for the general defence, in case of extremity.

In erecting fortifications in this town and its vicinity, and in other exposed places on coast, the inhabitants of many of the neighboring towns have labored cheerfully and without recompence on the works that were deemed necessary for defence. The patriotism manifested in those voluntary services, merit the public approbation and gratitude.

By the resolve of the 11th of October last the treasurer was authorized to require of the banks within this state, according to the provisions of the several acts of incorporation, and upon such terms as are therein specified,

the loan of such sums, not exceeding one million of dollars, as might be necessary to accomplish the purposes of the resolve of the fourteenth of June. At that time it was supposed there would be no difficulty in procuring the requisite sums from that source, and the treasurer soon obtained loans to a considerable amount. But the directors of some of the banks declared themselves unable to lend, and others have expressed such reluctance, as forbids an expectation that the whole amount can be obtained in that way, during the continuance of the present cautious operations of the banks. Besides, the sums to be provided for the payment of interest on the the money borrowed, and for the ordinary expences of government, will be greater than usual, from the failure of the United states to pay the interest on their stock, and the increased difficulty of collecting taxes. These circumstances show the necessity of speedily providing means for meeting the expenditures which the public exigencies may require. Indeed the efforts of defensive preparation, which were made in this state the last year, will, if continued at the expence of the commonwealth, be fatal to our finances; and will render it necessary to impose hereafter such burdensome taxes, as must be extremely injurious to the manufactures and agriculture of the state; nor will all the resources which remain to us, be sufficient for any length of time, to furnish the requisite supplies.

The attention of the executive was early directed to the provisions of the act of the 20th October, to establish a military corps for the defence of the commonwealth. But as the act was passed at the close of the session, some delay was necessary to obtain information concerning the persons proper to be selected in the various parts of the state, for the officers contemplated in the act. When the council again met it was thought expedient, from the changes in the aspect of our affairs, to incur no immediate additional expence. The council therefore advised that commissions should not be issued until the general court would have an opportunity of varying, if they thought proper, their measures of defence, according to the change of circumstances.

On the 8th of December, I received a letter from the secretary of war, stating that the president had authorized general Dearborn to take measures for the purpose of expelling the enemy from the district of Maine, and suggesting that any aid which I might be able to afford in providing the funds necessary for the execution of the enterprise would be gladly received. In my answer I informed him that the legislature had authorized me to borrow a sum not exceeding one million of dollars, to be applied for the pay and support of the militia who had been called into service

—that it would be difficult to borrow a sufficient sum for those purposes ; and that I had no authority, even if the money could be obtained, to borrow for any other ; and therefore it was not in my power to make any advances for the objects mentioned in his letter. A copy of the letter, and of my answer to it, will be laid before you.

We have heard it observed, that the state legislatures have no right to express their opinion concerning the measures of the general government. This doctrine is repugnant to the first principles of liberty, and the remark could not have been made by any one, who had well considered the organization of our governments, or the arguments used by the advocates of the national constitution when that system was adopted. The government of the United States is founded on the state governments, and must be supported by them ; the legislatures of the several states either elect the members of the executive and legislative branches of the national government, or prescribe the manner of their election. It would then be strange, indeed, if they were denied a right, which the meanest citizen of every free state enjoys. In the arrangement of the different powers, the state governments are to many purposes, interposed between the government of the United States and the people. If the latter think themselves oppressed, they will complain to their immediate representatives, and the remonstrance of a state legislature, on their behalf, will not often be slighted by a wise and just administration.

The powers of the United States government are limited by the constitution, which points out the extent of these powers, and the manner in which they are to be exerted. The constitution, however, will be of little service unless it is religiously observed. If, at any time, the national administration disregard its authority, either by violating its express provisions, or by the assumption of powers, with which it has not entrusted them, their commands become unjust, and they are guilty of a dangerous abuse of confidence. But on subjects of this kind, every private man is not a competent judge. The state legislatures are the guardians, not only of the individual citizens, but of the sovereignty of their respective states ; and while they are bound to support the general government, in the exercise of its constitutional powers, it is their duty to protect the rights of the states and of their constituents, and to guard the constitution itself, as well against silent and slow attacks, as more open and daring violations.—The security thus afforded to the people would be lost, if the state legislatures should be implicitly devoted to the views of the national government, or were deprived of their right to enquire into its measures.

In all free states, the people have, at some periods been hurried into rash and dangerous excesses, to oppose either real or imaginary grievances. An individual, who is under the influence of passion or prejudice, will be likely to form erroneous opinions and pursue indiscreet measures, and yet, in the highest paroxysm of anger, he is checked by a sense of responsibility. But when the passions of a multitude are inflamed, they have little restraint of this kind, and will be in danger of proceeding to excesses, of which, as individuals, they would be incapable. In this manner the abuse of liberty has often terminated in the loss of it.

To prevent such fatal excesses, whenever the conduct of the general government or its officers is thought to be unconstitutional or oppressive, and no remedy can be obtained in the ordinary course of justice, the people of the state have a right to apply to their legislature for assistance in obtaining redress. Their petitions, I presume, will be attended to, though not with a disposition to impute improper motives to the agents of the general government, or to condemn their conduct upon slight grounds or frivolous pretences. If the members of the legislature are convinced that the complaint is well founded, they will employ the most prudent and effectual means for redress. This course was thought to be regular when the constitution was adopted ; and it seems to be the most efficacious as well for the relief of oppressed individuals and the preservation of the rights of the state, as for the maintenance of order, and the support of a just administration of government. I hope, therefore, that the people of this commonwealth however they may at any time think themselves injured by the national agents, will not resort to unauthorized and intemperate measures, which may prove extremely hurtful to themselves and to the public, but cannot be advantageous to either.

Before war was declared, when we saw the tendency of the national measures, we expressed our most ardent desire that hostilities might be avoided. We could hardly conceive it possible, that under the pretence of guarding our commerce, we should adopt a course by which it must be annihilated ; or that to protect our seamen, we should engage in a war that would lead to their destruction. We knew that whenever the war between France and England should terminate, the evils we complained of would cease ; and that our commerce, if unobstructed by internal restraints, would be more profitable during the war in Europe, than after peace should be established. If in the arduous conflict between Great Britain and France, and their respective allies, the combatants did not always suspend their blows when we happened to go within reach of them, yet we could see

no reason for our interference in the quarrel. But the government became impatient, and though there was apparently some embarrassment in deciding which of the belligerents should be attacked, and whether it would not be expedient to attack both at once, it was soon determined to select that people for our enemies, with whom we were the most nearly connected, whose commerce was most important to us, and who were able to do us the most mischief.

Soon after the declaration of war, we learned that the orders in council were repealed. With a view to open the way to peace, the British government proposed an unconditional armistice, to which our administration refused to agree. The rejection of this proposal appeared to us an extremely unfortunate event, as a compliance with it might have saved the honor of the government, and extinguished the war before it was kindled to a flame. It was also unfortunate, as together with other circumstances, it served to convince the British nation, that the war was waged, not for the protection of our maritime rights, but for other purposes, and particularly to obtain possession of the Indian country, and to conquer the adjoining provinces of Great Britain.

These apprehensions have been manifested by the British government in the negotiations for peace. The terms first proposed by Great Britain, undoubtedly implied a want of confidence in our pacific views, both with regard to themselves and the Indians. But the British ministers knew that the same men who commenced the war, still administered our government; they might, therefore, be more apprehensive that former measures would be repeated. Should the conditions of peace, to which we may find it convenient ultimately to agree, be not the most favorable, the fault will not consist in making peace, but in having made the war. This fault will not be diminished by postponing a reconciliation to a distant period; neither the political character, nor the moral stain of an unnecessary war can be effaced, though the war should be continued many years.

We still flatter ourselves that there will soon be a favorable issue to the negotiations in Europe. But so long as hostilities are continued, and we are left to defend, by our own exertions, our extended maritime frontier, the duties of the legislature of this state must be arduous. I hope that under the influence of that wisdom which is from above, the measures you adopt will be suited to promote order and tranquility in the state; to protect, as far as we are able, our exposed towns on the sea-coast; and to preserve, unimpaired, the constitutional privileges to which we are entitled.

CALEB STRONG.

January 18th, 1815.

The documents which accompanied this message, were,

1. A letter from the secretary of war through General Dearborn, to the governor, informing, that the United States contemplated taking measures to expel the enemy from Castine, and Eastport; that 5000 militia of the state, under General King, would be employed for the purpose; and requesting the governor to furnish the money to support and pay these troops, and promising remuneration in the course of two months.

2. Governor Strong's answer: in which, besides his inability to comply with the request, it was added that well informed men had given it as their opinion, that any expedition of the kind contemplated would add to the inconvenience of the inhabitants of the district said to be occupied by the enemy; and could not be efficacious in expelling them without the aid of a naval force adequate to the command of Penobscot bay.

3. Report of the treasurer of the monies borrowed of the banks, agreeably to a resolution of the last session, which amounted, December 10, 1814; to 631,000 dollars; and stating the difficulties which attended the mode of obtaining supplies.

4. The annual return of the quarter master general.

5. The report of the commissioners of sea-coast defence. [*Their expenditure about 400,000 dollars.*]

6. Copy of instructions to the board of war, &c.

7. Report of the board of war.

8. Annual report of the adjutant general.

9. A letter from the honorable George Cabot, president of the convention which assembled at Hartford, inclosing two copies of the proceedings of that honorable body.

## LEGISLATURE OF VERMONT.

### GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

*Delivered at Montpelier, October, 15, 1814.  
Gentlemen of the Council, and  
Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,*

The unsolicited approbation of my conduct the year past, considering the extreme embarrassments, under which I entered upon the duties of my office, is highly gratifying, and will not fail to produce renewed exertion to promote the best interests of my fellow citizens. At the same time it affords the pleasing hope that my future services in the discharge of the duties of the office, which I have again undertaken, will be considered with the same indulgence. Without this, I should despair of discharging those duties in a satisfactory manner in this most difficult and eventful period.

The true patriot can submit to no sacrifice of truth or principle to procure his own advancement, or to promote the interests or

views of a party. Men may change—and parties may change—but truth, principle and virtue are immutable. It ought, therefore, to be our firm determination to pursue the plain path of duty with steadiness and fidelity.

In declaring my undeviating attachment to the principles of our wise and excellent system of government, independently of any regard, or blind devotion to those who may have administered it, I am sensible that high sounding professions are not the surest test of sincerity, and shall, therefore, only refer you to the general tenor of my conduct for future expectations.

Our foreign relations and defensive operations being exclusively committed to the management of the general government, excepting in particular cases, in which assistance may be required, our attention is principally confined to the local concerns of the state. And it affords me great pleasure to have it in my power to observe, that the internal quiet, security and prosperity of our fellow citizens, for the year past, has been unexampled for times like the present.

Justice has been promptly, and, I believe, impartially administered, the laws duly respected, and litigation gradually diminishing—the natural and certain consequences of a well placed confidence in an upright and intelligent judiciary. Our fiscal concerns have been conducted with that fidelity and correctness, which were to be expected from the acknowledged talents and integrity of the officer at the head of that department.

Our schools and seminaries of learning have not suffered that diminution and depression which might have been expected, excepting, that it has been deemed advisable, that the operations of one nearest the seat of war should suffer a temporary suspension, that, at a future, and more favorable period, they might be renewed, under better prospects, and with increased vigour and energy.

The economy and correctness with which that liberal and humane institution, established for the security and correction of state criminals has been conducted, affords the consoling prospect of its great usefulness to the community—evinces a general improvement in the state of society, and probably will afford some revenue to the state.

Notwithstanding the corrupting and demoralizing tendency of a state of war, our citizens have enjoyed their civil and religious privileges in an unusual degree.

The distinguished talents, integrity and experience of which your honorable body is composed, will render my duties less arduous, and afford a sure pledge to our constituents, that their best interests will be promoted.

Man never appears in a more responsible and truly dignified station, than when called

to act as the representative of a free, sovereign and independent people. We are elected from among our fellow citizens, not for the base and degrading purpose of securing our own promotion, aggrandizing our particular friends, or to favor the views and interests of a party—but to consider the whole community as one common family, and, as faithful guardians of their rights, endeavour to promote the general welfare.

Yours is the duty, and on you, gentlemen, rests the responsibility of selecting proper persons to fill the various offices in this state for the ensuing year—persons, to whom we may safely trust the administration of justice in all its important branches, and on whom we must, in a great measure, depend for the preservation of the peace and internal quiet of the state. It will likewise become your duty to select a suitable person to represent this state in the senate of the United States, from and after the third day of March next.

In the execution of these important duties, the most perfect confidence is entertained, that you will, unbiassed by local or party considerations, be influenced by a single view to the public good.

The great importance of a well organized militia in a free state, cannot escape the notice of a wise legislature. The want of precision and energy in our present military system, must be apparent to every man who is conversant in military affairs—and demands a revision to adapt it to the exigencies arising from our exposed situation. It would be desirable, that the burthen should be equalized, as far as is practicable, that the weight may not rest on those who are least able to bear it.

We have a right to demand from the general government full protection and security. Still it is but too evident from past experience, that much depends upon our own exertions. May not this consideration suggest the expediency of adopting some further measures for arming the militia, and providing field artillery and munitions of war, which may be applicable to sudden emergencies? We have before us the example of many of our sister states for raising a small volunteer corps, which may be relied on, in case of sudden alarm, and serve as a rallying point for other and efficient aid.

As we are authorised by the constitution to look to the general government for that protection which our exposed situation may require, it must be perfectly evident, that the militia were only designed to be called in aid of the regular force in particular cases. Those instances, which have occurred during the last year, have been met by our patriotic and brave citizens with a promptitude, spirit and zeal which are highly honorable to themselves, and which render them worthy of the gratitude of their country.



To meet a request of General Macomb, for assistance, on a late incursion of the enemy, which terminated so gloriously for the American arms, there being no portion of the militia detached or called for by the president, in conformity to the laws of the United States, it was considered that a call upon our patriotic citizens for their voluntary services was the only mode, by which efficient and timely aid could possibly be afforded.

The result has been such, as many of you, gentlemen, have witnessed. It far exceeded, in extent, our reasonable expectations. By it the enemy have been taught a useful, although mortifying lesson, that the soil of freemen will not bear the tread of hostile feet with impunity.

At the same time, it reflects the highest honor on the patriotism, spirit and valor of our fellow citizens, who, without distinction of age, character or party, were ready to brave the danger, in its most formidable appearance, for the defence of their country. And it would seem, that it ought to palsy the tongue of slander—every desirable object having been secured, and in a manner the least burthensome and offensive to the feelings of a free and enlightened people.

Much is due to General Strong, and our brave volunteers; and I am requested by the secretary of war to present them the thanks of the general government "for their prompt succour and gallant conduct in the late critical state of this frontier."

I should do injustice to my own feelings, as well as violence to every correct principle, were I to refrain from testifying the high sense which I entertain of the brilliant achievement of Commodore Maconough, and his intrepid associates, on Lake Champlain, over a far superior naval force—an achievement which renders all encomium feeble and inadequate.

I should likewise do injustice, if I should neglect to notice the cool, persevering, and brave conduct of Brigadier General Macomb, and his alike brave associates in arms, in the discomfiture of a greatly superior force of veteran troops, commanded by experienced officers.

These glorious achievements are not surpassed in the records of a naval and military warfare. New lustre is added to the national character. But the effects are more immediately experienced by the northern sections of the states of Vermont and New-York.

This late special interference of the Almighty in our behalf, in completely defeating the hostile designs of the enemy on our northern borders, cannot fail to render it a subject of respectful legislative notice. And although it may not be in our power to add to the laurels of those gallant commanders, and their brave associates, who, under Providence, were

the authors of our protection and safety—yet we may express our gratitude to heaven, and to them, for so great a deliverance.

I have received a letter from the governor of the state of Pennsylvania, which enclosed a resolution of the senate and house of representatives of that state, proposing an amendment to the constitution of the United States—by which the term of senators in Congress shall be reduced from six to four years. I have received likewise a letter from the governor of Tennessee, enclosing a resolution of the general assembly of that state, proposing an amendment of the same import. These papers will be laid before you. And should any thing further of importance come to my knowledge during the present session, of which you are not possessed, it will be made the subject of a special communication.

On the subject of the war, in which our country is most unfortunately engaged, I feel disposed, at this critical period, to say as little as may be consistent with duty. But I consider it due to myself, and more especially to my constituents, explicitly to state, that the events of the war have in no wise altered my opinion of its origin or its progress. I have conscientiously and uniformly disapproved of it, as unnecessary, unwise, and hopeless, in all its offensive operations. And notwithstanding the few brilliant successes we have met with in our operations of defence, I can see very little in its general complexion which affords the least consolation.

Many very considerable places on our seaboard are now in the possession of the enemy. The capitol of our country, that proud monument of better times, has been possessed and destroyed by him—a humiliating reflection to every real American. And I consider that we are now suffering the evils, which have, from the mistakes and misconduct of rulers, befallen this, as well as most of the nations of the earth.

It therefore becomes us to look calmly and firmly on our dangers, and meet them like men, who are mindful of what they owe to their own characters, and what they owe to their country.

It would have afforded me heartfelt satisfaction to have been able to announce to you the return of peace to an afflicted people. But our reasonable hopes, on this subject, not having been realised, and the particular spirit with which the war appears to be prosecuted by the enemy, renders defensive measures and operations not only necessary, but righteous and just; in which we may engage with feelings most honorable and praise worthy, and with a firm reliance on the Almighty, who has never forsaken us in the hour of peril.

I shall now, gentlemen, cheerfully proceed in the discharge of the duties of the office assigned me—and in the prosecution of the bu-

siness of the present session, you may be assured of my cordial co-operation in every measure, which has for its object the promotion of the public good.

MARTIN CHITTENDEN.

[Mr. Chittenden had been re-elected governor by the legislature, the day preceding—for Mr. C. 123 votes, for Mr. Galusha 91. There was no election by the people. Mr. C. had 17,468, Mr. G. 17411, and there were 451 scattering—the constitution requires a plurality.]

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

*In general assembly of the state of Vermont,  
October 21, 1814.*

On motion and leave, Mr. C. H. Dennison introduced the following resolution, viz:

*In general assembly, October 21st 1814.*

“Resolved, That his excellency the governor, be requested to lay before this house, copies of any correspondence he may have had, with any commanding officer of the United States army, or any officer under his command, relative to detaching the militia of this state, particularly the request of general Macomb, alluded to in his excellency's speech of the 15th inst. together with any other information on the subject, which in his opinion, may not be improper to communicate to this house.” Which resolution was read and ordered to lie on the table.

October 26. The resolution lying on the table calling on his excellency for certain information, relating to any correspondence he may have had with general Macomb, and other military officers, was called up, read and adopted: and on motion, *Ordered*, that Mr. H. C. Dennison wait on his excellency, with a copy of the resolution.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

*Montpelier, October 27, 1814.*

Sir—In compliance with the resolution of the honorable house of representatives, of the 25th inst. I herewith transmit to you and through you to that honorable body, several letters and communications, marked No. 1 to 14 inclusive.

A copy of the answer to general Macomb's first letter, dated the first of September last, I find, by examining my papers, has been mislaid.

It was short, and in substance, as well as I can recollect, that attention should be paid to his communication, and such aid afforded, as should be found necessary, and in my power constitutionally to grant.

An introductory letter to general Macomb, was given to general Strong on crossing the lake, stating his laudable exertions in inducing volunteers to turn out for the defence of their country, and recommending him as an old experienced officer, in whose judgment and integrity the fullest confidence might be placed.

Of this letter, it being made out in haste, I did not take a copy.

I am sir, respectfully, your humble servant,  
MARTIN CHITTENDEN.

*Hon. D. Chipman, speaker  
of the house of representatives.*

*Copy of a letter from brigadier general  
Macomb.*

*Plattsburgh, August 4, 1815.*

I am at this moment informed, that the enemy is advancing in full force towards this place, and have already proceeded so far as to cross the Chazy at Champlain village. It is perhaps in your power to throw a detachment over the lake, so as to advance to our assistance on the road leading from Essex. These men should be light armed. We shall be able to hold our ground until they come to our assistance, in case they should be too powerful for us to meet the enemy beyond our defences.

With sentiments of respect, I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

ALEXANDER MACOMB,

*Brig. gen. commanding the U. S. troops.*

His excellency, Martin Chittenden,  
gov. of the state of Vermont.

*Copy of another from the same.*

*Plattsburgh, 1 P. M. September 4, 1814.*

Sir—It is now ascertained, beyond a doubt, that the enemy will march for this place, with his whole force, this morning. Every preparation is made and making that our time will admit. The enemy must besiege us, as our works are now in a tolerable state of defence. This will give time for succors to get to our assistance, which may possibly end in a complete discomfiture of his designs and oblige him to raise the siege. Much is at stake at this place, and aid is actually wanted, as the garrison is small, and the enemy in considerable force. Under these circumstances your excellency will, I am sure, not hesitate to afford us all the assistance in your power.

I have the honor to be, sir, with perfect respect, your most obedient servant,

ALEXANDER MACOMB,

*Brig. gen. commanding.*

His excellency Martin Chittenden,  
gov. of the state of Vermont.

*Copy of the answer.*

*Jericho, September 4, 1814.*

Sir—I have the honor to acknowledge your note of this day, and shall take the most effectual measures to furnish such number of volunteers, as may be induced to turn out for your assistance. They will probably cross at McNeil's ferry.

I have the honor to be with respect, your humble servant.

MARTIN CHITTENDEN.

GEN. A. MACOMB.

*Copy of a letter from governor Chittenden to general Newell.*

Jericho, September 4, 1814.

Sir—Enclosed I transmit to you the copy of a letter, this moment received from general Macomb, which will show you the situation of our army at Plattsburg, and the necessity of such assistance as can be afforded. I would recommend it to you to take the most effectual method to procure such number of volunteers as may be had, for his immediate assistance, from your brigade. It would be advisable for the troops to cross the lake at M'Neil's ferry.

I am respectfully, your humble servant,  
M. CHITTENDEN.

GEN. JOHN NEWELL.

*Copy of the answer.*

Charlotte, September 5, 1814.

Sir—I received late last night your excellency's letter of the 4th instant, with a copy of general Macomb's letter to yourself, of the same date enclosed, in which you have referred me to gen. Macomb's letter to learn the defenceless situation of Plattsburg, the force and approach of the enemy, and his request of your assistance, with the militia of Vermont. You have also recommended to me, to procure such number of volunteers, from my brigade as may be disposed to repair to Plattsburg, and have them cross at M'Neil's ferry. If I rightly understand your letter I can perceive no request or order from your excellency, directing me to have the militia under my command, or any portion of them, march to Plattsburg, or any other place, for the assistance of general Macomb, or for any other purpose. From your letter, therefore, I consider myself unauthorizd to order out any portion of the militia under my command, or to do more than your excellency has recommended, namely, to offer my advice, which may be followed or not. As I consider myself with the brigade I command, fully under your direction and control, and as our assistance is requested, and seems very much needed at Plattsburg, I regret that your excellency has not ordered either the whole, or a portion of this brigade to their assistance, as I shall cheerfully obey any request, direction or order, you may give to repair to Plattsburg, or any other place, to assit in opposing the enemy, protecting our territory and citizens, and defending our country from invasion.

I am, sir, with great respect, your excellency's most obedient servant,

JOHN NEWELL.

His excellency, Martin Chittenden.

*Copy of a reply to gen. Newell.*

Jericho, Sept. 5, 1814.

Sir—I have received your's of this date, and state in answer, that I do not consider myself authorized, either by the constitution or laws under which we act, and from which all our powers are derived, to order the militia out

of the state. But considering the peculiar situation of the army at Plattsburg, it was my desire that every aid, constitutionally in our power, should be afforded. And I am induced to believe, that a request in such a case, would have more effect than an attempt to assume unauthorised power, on all such as are willing to turn out for the defence of their country.

I am respectfully, your humble servant,  
MARTIN CHITTENDEN.

GEN. JOHN NEWELL.

*Copy of a letter from colonel Fassett.*

I learn by Mr Wadsworth, there is a considerable quantity of fixed ammunition at Vergennes, subject to your order. Can I have a part of it for volunteers? Please to inform me by my son. I am, sir, yours,

ELIAS FASSETT.

His excellency, M. Chittenden,  
Jericho, 7th Sept. 1814.

*Copy of the answer.*

Jericho, September 7, 1814.

Sir—I have the honor of acknowledging your note of this date, on the subject of fixed ammunition for the volunteers. If there is any at Vergennes, subject to my order, this letter may be considered as a sufficient order for such part of the same as may be wanted.

I would inform you, that agreeably to your suggestion I enclosed, and sent by express, on Sunday evening, to general John Newell, a copy of general Macomb's letter, and strongly recommended it to him, to use every exertion to procure such number of volunteers from his brigade, as could be immediately induced to cross the lake to the assistance of the army at Plattsburg.

I am respectfully, your humble servant,  
MARTIN CHITTENDEN.

Col. Elias Fassett.

*Copy of a letter to general Macomb.*

Burlington, Sept. 11.

Sir—The bearers, Amos W. Barnum, esq. my military aid, and Samuel Swift, esq. secretary to the governor and council of this state, will go to Plattsburg for the purpose, if practicable, of communicating with you, and of receiving any information you may please to communicate, that we may know how to govern ourselves, in endeavoring to furnish assistance. They will communicate to me any necessary information you may give them for this purpose.

I am with high consideration, your humble servant,  
MARTIN CHITTENDEN.

Gen. Macomb.

*Copy of a letter from general Samuel Strong.*

September 10 1814.

Sir—I am sorry not to have it in my power to give you a correct statement of the British force approaching this place. From the best information I can obtain, which was from general Mozer, they are 8000 or 9000 strong,

all regular troops, except a few. The artillery has not been made use of against us yet, although it is believed they have considerable. I have been up the river this morning, five or six miles, which was lined with the enemy on the north side. They have made several attempts to cross but without success. This is the line that is to be defended. I have ascertained, to a certainty, the number of militia from Vermont, now on the ground, well armed, is 1812—from New York 700. Regular troops under general Macomb, he says, 2000. He treated me very friendly. I presume Dr. Pomery gave you the particulars of the first interview we had. We have strong expectations of 2000 detached militia, ordered out by gen. Moorer, arriving soon. He has written to governor Tompkins to send on the militia, he says he expects him in person. I hope you and your friends will send four or five thousand to our assistance as soon as possible, if you should think best. If not, we shall, if our courage holds out, keep close to them. Do not, sir, let my wishes turn you from the correct principles you have heretofore pursued, as governor of Vermont. Permit me, sir, to subscribe myself your friend and humble servant,

SAMUEL STRONG.

His excellency Martin Chittenden.

*Copy of a letter from the same, September 11, 1814—Sunday, 7 o'clock, P. M.*

Dear sir—We are now encamped with two thousand five hundred Vermont volunteers, on the south bank of the Saranac river, opposite the enemy's right wing, which is commanded by general Brisbane. We have had the satisfaction to see the British fleet strike to our brave commodore Macdonough. The fort was attacked at the same time, the enemy attempted to cross the river in every place fordable, for four miles up the river. But they were foiled in every attempt, except at Pike's encampment, where we now are. The New York militia were posted at this place, under generals Moorer and Wright. They were forced to give back a few miles, until they were reinforced by their artillery. The general informed me of his situation, and wished for assistance which was readily afforded. We met the enemy, and drove him across the river, under cover of his artillery. Our loss is trifling. We took twenty or thirty prisoners. Their number of killed is not known. We have been skirmishing all day on the banks of the river. This is the only place he crossed, and he has paid dear for that. I presume the enemy's force exceeds the number I wrote you. What will be our fate tomorrow, I know not; but am willing to risk the consequence attending it—being convinced of the bravery and skill of my officers and men. We are abundantly supplied with am-

munition and provisions, from general Macomb.

I am, dear sir, yours with esteem,  
SAMUEL STRONG.

His excellency Martin Chittenden.

If God, permits, you shall hear from me again, soon.

*Copy of a letter from the same.*

Vergennes, Sept. 16, 1814.

Dear sir—I received your letter of the 14th inst. on my return at Burlington, where I had the satisfaction of expressing your thanks to the citizens who had turned out to repel our invading foe at Plattsburg. At the same time, I was mortified to hear citizens of a government like ours—while all officers are limited in their official powers, urging the propriety of that power being executed in an unconstitutional and arbitrary manner. We, as citizens, have rights secured to us by the blood and wisdom of our forefathers. The constitution wisely secures to us, certain rights and privileges, that ought not, and I say with thousands of others, shall not be infringed on. The late invasion will convince our enemies, and our citizens at home, that our freedom and liberties are not to be taken by force, or intrigue.

I wrote you on the 11th. Nothing appeared to oppose on the 12th, and we left all the ground in harmony, returning to our families, except a few, who were killed or wounded. If God be with us, who can stand against us?

I am, sir, your excellency's friend and humble servant,

SAMUEL STRONG.

His excellency, Martin Chittenden.

*From the secretary at war.*

War Department, Sept. 15, 1814.

Sir—The force under general Macomb, being exposed to imminent danger, I have to request your excellency, to order to his aid, immediately, such a reinforcement not less than two thousand of the militia of your state as may be adequate to the object.

The emergency is such, as to make it necessary that you call into service, *en masse*, the militia from the counties most convenient to the scene of action.

The extravagant and pernicious views of the enemy, make it of the highest importance, to the best interest and union of these states, that their career should be checked.

It is in the power of your excellency, with the means in your hands, to afford such aid as effectually to check it.

I rely on your patriotic zeal, to make the exertions necessary to the end.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,  
sir, your most obedient servant,

JAMES MONROE

His excellency, Martin Chittenden.

Copy of a letter from Charles J. Nourse, assistant adjutant general.

*Burlington, Vermont, Sept. 27, 1814.*

Sir—The dispatch herewith, would have been handed to your excellency at an earlier day, but that the late glorious success of our navy and army in this quarter, rendered it unnecessary.

I am directed by the secretary of war, to present the thanks of the general government through you, to the brave and patriotic citizens of your state, for their prompt succor and gallant conduct in the late critical state of this frontier.

It is the wish of the government that two thousand of the militia of your state should be drafted and organized, for immediate service, subject to the call, when necessary, of the commanding officer in this quarter.

There are arms at Montpelier, from which such as may be without, can be furnished.

I have the honor to be, sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHS. J. NOURSE,  
*Assistant adjutant general.*

His excellency,

Martin Chittenden, gov. of Vt.

*Copy of a letter to the secretary of war.*

*Burlington, Sept. 28, 1814.*

Sir—I have the honor to acknowledge yours of the 15th inst. and have the great satisfaction to inform you that every object contemplated in your communication has been effected.

Volunteers to a much larger number, than that mentioned in your request, turned out, and crossed the lake to meet the enemy, without distinction of age, character, or party, exhibiting a spirit and zeal for the defence of their country, which reflects the highest honor on themselves and the country they have signally aided in defending. The glorious event of our success against a far superior force, both by land and water, is of the highest importance to this portion of the union, and cannot fail, so to be considered, in a national point of view.

I have the honor to be respectfully, your humble servant,

MARTIN CHITTENDEN.

Hon. James Monroe, sec'y. at war.

*Vermont Legislature—in council*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

*To his excellency the governor and the honorable council, now in session:*

Your committee, to whom was referred the following question, proposed by his excellency—“*Can the militia when in the actual service of the United States, be lawfully commanded by any officers but such as are appointed by this state except, by the president of the United States?*”

VOL. VII:

REPORT,

That the constitution of the United States, article 1, section 8, declares, “that congress shall have power to provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, suppress insurrection and repel invasion: To provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the states respectively the appointment of the officers and the authority of training the militia, according to the discipline prescribed by congress.” In article 12, section 2, “The president shall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states when called into the actual service of the United States.”

It is the opinion of your committee that the different clauses quoted from the federal constitution, should receive a construction so as to render one clause consistent with another. The president may, undoubtedly, command the army and navy of the United States, by officers lawfully commissioned by himself; but he cannot so command the militia of the state when called into the actual service of the United States; for the appointment of their officers, is a right reserved “to the states respectively.” If, therefore, the president would command the militia, when in the actual service of the United States, he must do it in person or exercise his command over them by officers appointed by the states. The congress have power to provide for organizing and disciplining the militia, and governing such part of them, as may be employed in the service of the United States; but to constitute this act as a *constitutional right* of placing the militia under the command of any officer not in the militia, except the president, would render nugatory the following reservation; that is, “reserving to the states respectively the appointment of the officers, and authority of training the militia,” &c. Your committee consider this an important reservation in the federal constitution, favoring the sovereignty of the states, and tending to secure the rights of the people. It is not therefore to be surrendered to the general government. As well might the officers of the militia, appointed by this state, claim the right to command the army of the United States, as the officers of the army of the United States, to command the militia. There is no constitutional provision for either to claim such right or to exercise such command.

WM. CHAMBERLAIN,

*For committee.*

Montpelier, October 23, 1814.

The following is the resolution adopted by the honorable council, in compliance with the preceding report:

“*Resolved, That it is the opinion of the*

O

council, that it is not *made* the duty of his excellency, by the constitution of the United States to put the detached militia of this state, when in the actual service of the United States, under the command of any officer commissioned by the president; but such militia are to be commanded by officers appointed by the state or by the president in person." Adopted unanimously.

#### LEGISLATURE OF CONNECTICUT.

*Report of the committee of defence, to the honorable the general assembly.*

The committee to whom was referred the documents relating to the militia in the service of the United States, accompanying the governor's speech,

##### FURTHER REPORT,

That the late unexpected measure of the officer of the United States at New London, in withdrawing from the militia, in the national service, all supplies, appears by the documents before them, to have been grounded on an express order from the secretary of war.

For some time past—with what propriety your committee do not now enquire—the United States have been divided, by the national executive, into military districts, of which Connecticut and Rhode Island constituted one. In each of these districts is placed an officer of high rank, who by order of the president, assumes the sole power of calling for, and stationing the militia, and of commanding all forces, within his precincts, in service of the United States. To this district brigadier general CUSHING has been assigned, and is stationed at the garrisons in New London and Groton, with about half a regiment of soldiers under his command.

On the first of July the president of the United States, issued a circular from the war department, requesting the several executives to furnish their respective quotas of ninety-three thousand five hundred men, with proper officers, for the purpose of strengthening the Atlantic frontier against the public enemy, and assigned three thousand with a major general and other officers, as the proportion of this state. During the administrations of *Washington, Adams, Jefferson*, and the present chief magistrate, calls on the executives for detachments were made; but in every instance, which has come to the knowledge of the committee, were expressly authorised by a law of congress. Those laws have all been temporary—generally enacted for the occasion—and never of very long continuance. Before the late call by Mr. *Madison* the last had expired; and with a due regard to propriety, he denominated that an *invitation*—not claiming it as a measure of authority. The commander in chief, being very solicitous to preserve entire harmony in conducting

the defence of our sea coast—although he had previously given orders to the whole militia of the state to be in readiness for service—detached and organized a corps of three thousand, and major general *Taylor* was assigned to the command. On the first day of August following, when a brigade under maj. general *Isham* was in the service of the United States at New London, and about three hundred militia on other parts of the coast—general *Cushing* was induced, by the number and hostile movements of the enemy, to call for a major part of general *Taylor's* detachment, and expressed his uncertainty how long the detention of the brigade already in service might be necessary. At the same time he requested that the new troops might be under a brigadier, and the whole to be subjected to his command. As there was already in service more than the command of a brigadier, and a majority of general *Taylor's* corps was now called to the field, his excellency, with a just consideration of what was due to the rights of individual states by the national constitution and laws, directed that the commander should accompany his men. No doubt was entertained that the national officer would cheerfully acquiesce in the arrangement. The ill health of general *Taylor* delayed his arrival till the 11th September, before which time the brigade under general *Isham* was dismissed. As the Connecticut troops on that station had taken orders from the officer of the United States until the arrival of general *Taylor*, it was matter of just surprise, that any jealousy should be manifested by the general government, on account of the exercise of just command by an officer of the militia—and of still more surprise, that the only objection to the command was, that he had not men enough for an officer of his rank: when the general, who assigned that objection, had but about one half of a regiment in his district.

By the 98th article of the rules and articles of war, enacted by congress, when a body of militia and another of national troops so unite as to form one corps, the officer of highest grade shall command the whole. Whether the soldiers in the garrisons formed one corps, with the militia encamped at New London, within the meaning of the statute, the committee do not enquire, as the command of those forts has never been claimed by an officer of this state, and the superior rank of general *Taylor* renders the claim of the national officer to command *his* troops, unquestionably groundless. A major-general commanded at the same place, during a great proportion of the preceding season, with a much smaller detachment—and the troops were supplied and paid by the United States.

To the course adopted by general *Cushing*, he conceived himself bound by the secretary of war. In those orders the secretary ex-

pressly declares, "that when *any* number under *four thousand* is required, a major general cannot be recognized." Had the whole detachment of general *Taylor* been in the field, the consequences must have been the same. From that corps the supplies must, even then, have been withdrawn, though its organization was in precise conformity with the direction of the president; for it did not contain *four thousand* as required by the secretary of war.

Officers of this state have in no instance sought to command the national forces. When the troops, in the ordinary course of events, fell under an officer of high rank, no doubt can be entertained whether he ought to exercise the command assigned him, over the militia of this state. The course adopted by his excellency was in conformity with our constitutional rights, and with the plainest principles of law and military usage.

Since this unwarrantable measure of the general government, supplies have been furnished by the commissary of this state. Our defence against the public enemy cannot for a moment be abandoned. The people of this state will defend their territory from invasion, whatever they believe of the origin of the war—will submit to no unjust demands of a foreign nation nor cease to discharge every constitutional duty, though deeply sensible of the injustice which they suffer. The wise and conciliatory course adopted by the commander in chief, evinces that the evils we endure were unavoidable, and that harmony with the national rulers could not have been more perfectly preserved, without a formal surrender of those high prerogatives, expressly reserved in the great charter of national sovereignty. By the blessing of Divine Providence, the states which share in the common calamities may still find redress, and the people of the nation become regardful of our rights. Signed by order,

HENRY CHAMPION.

In the upper house the foregoing report is accepted and approved.

Attest THOMAS DAY, Sec'y.

Concurred in the house of Representatives.  
Attest CHARLES DENISON Clerk.

[ ] The principle of this report is openly at war with the preceding adopted in Vermont, as to the right of the United States' officers to command the militia. "*Who shall decide when doctors disagree?*"

HARTFORD, (Con.) Nov. 9.

The general assembly of this state closed their full session yesterday. Enclosed I send you the address of the governor to the two houses, and a copy of a resolution which was passed by an unanimous vote in the council, and with but *six* dissenting votes in the house.

Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker,  
And Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

I return you the thanks of the state for your faithful services during a protracted and laborious

session—You assembled at a moment of great anxiety, and the inauspicious change in the national affairs which was soon after announced, has added a deep interest to your deliberations. The alternative of a degrading submission to a public enemy, or a manly resistance has occasioned you neither doubt nor hesitation. Without changing your views of the character of the war, or of the mode of conducting it, you have evinced by your effective preparations, a just sensibility to the security and honor of your country.

But the extravagant demands of a foreign enemy, do not constitute the sole ground of alarm. It cannot be concealed that dangers of a most serious aspect approach us from another quarter. The embarrassment already experienced from the course pursued by the general government, connected with the bold and hazardous system of measures now in a train for execution, give to the affairs of this nation a solemnity which few of us have ever witnessed.

The eventful history of our commonwealth will undoubtedly show that the fathers of New-England have at times been assailed by equal dangers; and the same record will also show the spirit with which they repelled them. We have inherited the first fruit of their toils; shall it perish in our hands?

Let us hope that ere long a sense of justice will alike influence the common enemy, and our national councils, and that the constitution, that great bond of union, will escape the threatened violation; but let us remember that our security under the favor of Divine Providence, must depend on our own unceasing vigilance and exertions. You will feel the importance, gentlemen, of inculcating on our fellow citizens at this momentous juncture, that unanimity and firmness which you have here so eminently displayed. It is not improbable the preservation of our highest interest will require you to re-assemble at no distant day—at present, accept my devout wishes for your personal happiness and for the safety of our country.

#### RESOLUTION.

Whereas a plan of the secretary of the department of war for filling up the regular army of the United States has been submitted to the congress of the United States now in session, and a bill for an act to carry a part of the same into execution is pending before the house of representatives of the United States, the principles of which plan, and bill, if adopted, will place at the disposal of the administration of the United States' government, not only all the militia of this state, but the troops raised for the defence of this state, at a period when the state was left unprotected. And by the principles of which our sons, brothers and friends, are made liable to be *delivered against their will, and by force,*

to the marshals and recruiting officers of the United States, to be employed, not for our own defence, but for the conquest of Canada, or upon any foreign service upon which the administration may choose to send them; or impose upon the people of this state "a capitation or other direct tax," limited by no rules but the will of officers appointed by the president of the United States.

And whereas the principles of the plan and bill aforesaid, are, in the opinion of this assembly, not only intolerably burdensome and oppressive, but utterly subversive of the rights and liberties of the people of this state, and the freedom, sovereignty and independence of the same, and inconsistent with the principles of the constitution of the United States.

And whereas, it will become the imperious duty of the legislature of this state to exert themselves to ward off a blow so fatal to the liberties of a free people—

*Resolved by this assembly,* That in case the plan and bill aforesaid, or any other bill on that subject, containing the principles aforesaid, shall be adopted, and assume the form of an act of congress, the governor of this state is hereby requested, forthwith to convoke the general assembly; and, to avoid delay, he is hereby authorised and requested to issue his proclamation, requiring the attendance of the members thereof, at such time and place as he may appoint, to the end that opportunity may be given to consider what measures may be adopted to secure and preserve the rights and liberties of the people of this state, and the freedom, sovereignty and independence of the same.

General Assembly, October, 1814.

Passed in the Upper House,

Attest, THOMAS DAY, *Secretary.*

Concurred in the House of Representatives.

Attest, CHARLES DENISON, *Clerk.*

A true copy of record examined by

THOMAS DAY, *Secretary.*

*The following are some of the laws passed at the late session of the general assembly.*

A law authorising the governor to borrow on the credit of the state 40,000 dollars.

A law increasing the salary of the governor to 1500 dollars; that of the lieutenant governor to 1000 dollars; and that of the comptroller of the state to 1000 dollars.

A law granting to the committee of safety 4 dollars each, for every day they may be called together for the service of the state.

A law authorising any city in this state to make bye laws directing where a military rendezvous may be held, where soldiers may not be marched and exercised, to prevent disturbance from the soldiery on the sabbath, &c.

A law increasing military fines to 4 dollars for non appearance on the usual days of exercise; it provides also that the militia when called out *en masse*, pay 17 dollars for non-

appearance, and 20 dollars for every month's delinquency. Commissioned officers are to be exempted from poll tax the same as privates.

A law subjecting each and every owner of an extra stage, carriage, waggon, cart or sleigh, who shall be convicted of running the same in any town in this state on the sabbath (except in going to or coming from public worship) to a fine of 20 dollars. It also subjects the owners of mail stages to 20 dollars fine for every passenger they shall be convicted of having conveyed in such stage or stages on the sabbath. The passengers, if caught, are subject to the common fine for trespass of the sabbath.

A law authorising the governor, at his discretion, to employ any part of the military force of this state in defence of any adjoining state.

The governor is also authorised to purchase 2000 muskets, and a quantity of ordnance and other munitions of war.

A tax of two cents on the dollar on the list of 1813, is laid, payable in June next.

## LEGISLATURE OF NEW-JERSEY.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

*Gentlemen of the Council, and  
Gentlemen of the Assembly,*

Since your adjournment the militia of our state, in the service of the United States, have all been discharged; the largest portion of which have been paid off, and satisfactory assurances given that the remainder will be paid in a few days. By the care and diligence of the treasurer, two months state allowance to the militia was paid about the time it became due; the remainder, being about one month's allowance, has been necessarily delayed a few weeks until the coming in of the annual tax, and will be discharged as soon as the pay rolls can be perfected.

The experience of the last year has manifested some defects in the militia law, which will require your particular attention. In pursuance of your joint resolution of the 8th of February last, I have obtained from the war department, an engagement to repay the monies expended by the state in the repairs of the arms mentioned in said resolution, as soon as vouchers shall have passed the proper offices. As those repairs were not done under my direction, I am not in possession of the necessary vouchers to enable me to present this account for adjustment. The adjutant general will lay before you the annual return of the militia. Sufficient time has not elapsed since the discharge of the militia to procure proper returns of the arms, ammunition and camp equipage. As soon as this can be done, a general return will be laid before you. In the recess of the legislature I have received communications from the governors of Geor-



gia, North-Carolina and Vermont, accompanying resolutions of the legislatures of those states, which are herewith laid before you. It would have afforded great consolation if the prospect of peace had kept pace with the liberal and enlightened policy of our government to promote it; that the enemy have abandoned the iniquitous project of establishing a savage barrier between civilized nations, might have afforded some hope, if this had not been counterbalanced by new pretensions equally exceptionable.

It cannot have escaped your observation, gentlemen, that a combination is forming in the eastern states hostile to the constitution and government of the union, threatening a separation of the states. An honorable union, formed under the pressure of common danger, and cemented with the blood of patriots; a constitution devised by the venerable statesmen and sages of the revolution calculated to preserve the liberties and promote the happiness of unborn millions; are about to be broken up and cast to the wind, in a paltry struggle for the gratification of a silly ambition to govern. Had this section of the union in time of peace seceded from the union, the act would have been greatly to have been deplored, and would in that case have merited the appellation of folly; but to meditate the desertion of their brethren in the midst of a dangerous war, and thereby excite the exertions and encourage the hopes of a vindictive enemy, gives rise to emotions easier felt than described. Language scarcely furnishes epithets of sufficient opprobrium, to apply to this dereliction of every honorable feeling of the mind. Was it for this return that the intrepid warriors of America, led by the illustrious Washington, unfurled the triumphant banners of the union on the plains of Massachusetts, and drove the enemy in disgrace from the capitol? Can it be endured that the holy edifice of our freedom, erected by the combined wisdom and labor of the revolutionary patriots, should be demolished by the wicked acts of a combination of men whose claims to public consideration rests on no better foundation than an insatiable thirst of power? It must not be understood that it is intended to involve in this censure the body of citizens of the eastern states—their steady habits and virtuous deportment entitles them to great respect and consideration. Candor, however, requires us to deal plainly with them, apprising them of the situation in which they are placed, that they are artfully led by unprincipled ambitious men to the verge of treason, and a favorable opportunity only wanted to plunge them and their country into irretrievable ruin and disgrace. There is every reason to hope, that as soon as the veil in which this conspiracy against the happiness and prosperity of America is attempted to be shrowd-

ed is fully removed, and the monster exposed in its naked deformity, that the virtuous yeomanry of New-England, warned by danger, and animated with patriotism, will rise in their strength and strangle it in its cradle.

Should it be said that the object of the eastern malcontents is not to dissolve the union, but only to compel the general government to change its measures, and pursue those marked out by them, or at most to compel those in the administration to abandon their stations to make way for themselves, the deleterious effect on the constitution would in that case be even worse. In one case, a portion of the union would be severed from the great body, which might become sounder by the amputation; in the other, the constitution itself would be shaken to its foundation. If an eastern confederacy can control the government, why not a middle, a southern or a western do the same? It requires no argument to prove that a body with four or five heads constitutes a monster.

The fate of Greece ought to furnish a lesson of instruction to every subsequent confederacy of states. While united, it successfully withstood the combined powers of the Persian empire; but as soon as the league was broken by a combination of members against its head, and jealousy among themselves, it fell an easy prey to the first invader, and at this day groans in chains, a deplorable monument of the folly of selfish policy, local jealousy and private ambition. One defect in the Grecian confederacy was, that the laws acted on the states in their aggregate capacity, and not on the individual citizens; delinquency was therefore punished by coercing the states; this necessarily produced violence, and violence anarchy. The framers of our excellent constitution have wisely corrected this defect. The laws of the United States act on the citizens independent of the state authorities. The violators of the laws of the union may be brought to justice and compelled to obedience, without consulting the states or in any way intermeddling with the portion of sovereignty reserved to the state governments. The friends of the government will therefore have a rallying point, and find protection in the laws of the United States. This principle well attended to will be found to have an important influence in the preservation of the union.

Whatever may be the real motive, the ostensible complaint against the government at this time is the war. I think I am warranted in saying, that no well informed man, free from British attachments, is to be found, that denies that the injuries inflicted on the persons and property of our citizens by Great Britain afforded, on the principles of the laws of nature and nations, a justifiable cause of war. These injuries were avowed, persisted

in, and justified by the British ministry, and satisfaction for the past and security for the future directly and peremptorily denied before the war was declared. The war must, therefore, be considered a legitimate legal war in the view of civilized nations, and, as it respects ourselves, constitutionally declared. It must, however, be admitted, that there are a considerable number of respectable citizens in our country, who think that it would have been wiser to have borne in quiet the injuries inflicted on us, than to have encountered the calamities incident to a state of war, to redress them; that on this question of public policy the government misjudged. The result of the frequent elections since the declaration of war evinces, however, that this is not the sentiment of the majority of the nation. But in compliance with the desires of the minority, the government has done every thing towards obtaining peace that could be done consistently with the safety and honor of the country. Very soon after the war broke out, our government, in answer to a communication from admiral Warren, offered the British government to treat of peace, and for nearly two years have had commissioners in Europe for that purpose. These commissioners, with full authority from the government, have offered the enemy reasonable terms of peace; these terms have not yet been accepted, but on the other hand the enemy have set up unreasonable and humiliating demands on us, such as no man in our country has yet been found so destitute of virtue and public spirit as to advocate the acceptance of.

It appears to me, that a man who opposes the prosecution of the war is bound to say that the condition of peace offered by the enemy is such as ought to have been accepted; otherwise he is involved in the absurdity of acknowledging that we cannot have peace, and yet declaring, by his actions at least, that we must not have war. A candid examination of the communications contained in the despatches from our commissioners in Europe, must carry conviction to every mind, that our government is seriously disposed to peace. Should it, however, so happen that the enemy should offer us such terms of peace as ought to be accepted, and, contrary to every reasonable expectation, the government should be so insensible to its duty and regardless of the interest of the nation as to reject them, we should stand in need of no partial convention, at Hartford, or elsewhere, to stop the progress of the war. The unanimous voice of a free people would be heard; no administration would be hardy enough to refuse to listen to it.

In our present situation we have no alternative left but war or submission. After the glorious stand made the last campaign against the power of the British empire, nothing short of the basest cowardice or foulest treason can

suggest the latter. Heaven has committed to our keeping an invaluable stake, no less than the liberties and independence of the only free government on earth. A remembrance of the virtues of our ancestors urges to the performance of a pious duty; posterity requires it at our hands; nothing more is wanting to the accomplishment of this great object than a love of country. With a strict observance of this vital principle of free government, and a rational reliance on an all-wise and overruling Providence, we may look forward with confidence to a happy issue to the conflict in which we are engaged.

I have not the presumption to say, that in making the foregoing observations I have not been more under the influence of feeling than wisdom. It is difficult, however, to judge correctly of the interest of the nation, without feeling for its happiness and prosperity. If an apology is wanting for touching upon this subject at all, it is to be found in the momentous crisis in the affairs of our country, calling for measures of a decided and determined character.

WILLIAM S. PENNINGTON,

*New-Jersey, Jan. 11, 1815.*

## LEGISLATURE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

### GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

*To the senate and house of representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.*

Fellow-Citizens—Since the adjournment of the last legislature, events have occurred of a character more interesting and impressive than any to be found in our annals for the last thirty years, nor has the history of the old world been less eventful or imposing. The extraordinary overturnings and raising up of thrones in Europe, and the elevation and prostration of royal families, have been so wonderful, rapid and unexpected as to excite our profoundest astonishment, and most serious reflection. Our extensive commerce, spirit of enterprise, and surplus productions have so intermixed our interests with those of the nations of Europe that even in a time of peace we could not have been indifferent or uninterested spectators of the mighty scenes which have passed before us. Involved, however, as we are in a just and unavoidable war, with one of the most powerful nations of the world, we could not but mark with solicitude, events which promised to relieve our enemy from all resistance and restraint elsewhere, and enable him to turn his whole force, resources and undivided attention upon us. The enemy has availed himself of such a state of things, so far as to send considerable reinforcements of veteran troops to his North American possessions, and a large fleet and well appointed army, to blockade our bays and rivers, and bombard, destroy, and lay waste all our assailable villages, towns and cities. This force,

by a rapid movement, exposing itself to capture or destruction, penetrated to Washington city. It was captured with attendant circumstances of barbarism, which disgrace and render hateful the conquerors, who thus outraged all the laws and usages of honorable warfare. The consternation which was excited on the seaboard, is almost inconceivable to those who reside in the interior. Happily, however, for our country and for human nature, it was the last triumph of barbarian arms. Discomfiture and disgrace have followed hard upon him ever since. At Baltimore the militia marched forth to meet the veterans of Britain, the spirit of the revolution was roused, the invading army were compelled to retreat, and the bombarding fleet compelled to retire, and the mothers, wives and children of the brave once more slept in quiet.

The army of Niagara, under the dauntless general Brown, stayed the onward course of the British troops and by displays of consummate skill and heroic bravery taught them to do homage to American soldiers. On Lake Champlain the squadron of the gallant commodore Macdonough has conquered and captured another fleet, again irradiated with glory our flag, and in conjunction with the army of the brave general Macomb has preserved the peace of an immense tract of country and shielded the inhabitants from the tomahawk of the savage.

Our small ships and privateers have covered the seas; and on the seacoast of the enemy, they have been so vigilant and courageous that it has become unsafe for him to pass even from one of his own ports to another—they have retaliated upon the enemy the system of capturing and destroying to an extent greater than he could have imagined, and, as if in mock of the blockade, our vessels and their prizes have come in and run out as at pleasure. Their skill, seamanship and valor, will carry our fame upon the wings of the wind, and the waves of the waters, teach all nations to respect us, and acknowledge that though patient, and long suffering, we will neither be injured nor insulted with impunity.

The latest advices induce a belief in some minds that peace may possibly result out of our mission to Europe, and that the thousands and tens of thousands of armed men, who overspread its continent may again unsheath their swords and again struggle for victory and dominion. Let the result of the negotiations at Ghent or at Vienna be what it may, it is the part of wisdom and of patriotism to calculate upon, and prepare for, war rather than peace. If honorable peace comes, come when it will, it will be welcome, and we shall always be prepared to receive it; but if we mistakenly repose in the prospect of peace, we may unpreparedly be awakened by the thunder of the enemy's cannon. In energy,

decision and preparation, there is safety and honor, but any other course will inevitably lead to suffering and disgrace. To you, the representatives of the people, the people have a right to look, and do look for the performance of all those extraordinary duties which the times impose on you. The last summer has read to us such a lesson as I trust we shall profit by, and that, if these ruthless invaders come again, they will find us every where prepared and resolute.

The conflagration of Washington and the continued menacing language and attitude of the enemy having excited general anxiety and solicitude for the safety of Philadelphia, I repaired to that city, accompanied by the secretary of the commonwealth and state treasurer, whose presence and advice very much facilitated the objects of my journey, which were to get into the field, arm and equip a force adequate to the defence of that city and the shores of the Delaware: by an unremitting attention, and acting in concert with the general commanding for the United States in this district, such a force was obtained, notwithstanding considerable embarrassment caused by the almost exhausted condition of the United States' arsenal. From an order by the war department directing the generals of military districts to supply with equipments the militia called into service, I had inferred that camp equipments, arms and munitions of war were in store ready for delivery. I was mistaken: in consequence of large requisitions having been previously made from the south. These difficulties, however, and many others were surmounted, and so respectable a force encamped as has probably contributed to deter the enemy from any attempt against the capital of the state.

Whilst on this subject, I may be permitted to remark that the various and important duties incumbent on the executive, which can only be discharged at the seat of government, where the records and state seals are kept, will not allow of his absence for long periods, without great public inconvenience; it is therefore to be avoided. The exposure to invasion of the eastern and western sections of Pennsylvania requires, for their defence, that the earliest and most correct information of the situation of those parts of the state should be conveyed to the executive by persons in whose talents, integrity and devotion to the support of the government of the state and United States, in all their lawful and constitutional measures, he can fully confide. I suggest the utility of authorizing a commission of such persons as well for the above specified purpose as for that of confidentially communicating and co-operating with the United States' commanding general of the district. The sanction of legislative authority would give respectability to such a body,

and their being appointed by, and responsible to, the government, would insure more confidence, and be less liable to distrust or suspicion, than an irregular or unauthorized association.

The militia of this state, now and lately in the field, under requisitions from the president of the United States, turned out at their country's call, with a promptitude which reflects upon them signal honor. It was particularly gratifying to observe that when danger was impending, many volunteer companies were formed, uniformed and officered, in compliance with an invitation contained in general orders of the 27th of August last. These corps, composed of the most respectable citizens, repaired with a laudable zeal to Philadelphia, then considered in imminent danger. They were then organized into battalions and regiments, and officered agreeably to the provisions of our militia law. It is much to be regretted that any portion of such companies, animated by honorable motives and intentions, and received into the United States service, under a special guarantee of the rights and privileges secured to them by the laws of Pennsylvania, should have had their ardor damped, their harmony destroyed, and their officers treated with disrespect arrested and arraigned. It would be in vain to seek for any honorable or public spirited incentive to a proceeding, which, while it wounds the just pride of men of worth and courage, it essentially injures the public service.

I would be culpable, while thus doing justice to the merits of the militia of one section of the state, were I to omit stating to the legislature the high sense I entertain of the patriotism and courage of those generous militia who, without order or invasion, flew to arms, and of their own good will marched to Baltimore and had the honor to aid in repulsing the enemy. Such devotion to the public weal, if universal, would soon compel the enemy to abandon the system of marauding and depredating, upon which he has so uniformly acted. While we acknowledge the high deserts of those who marched to the defence of the seaboard, let us not be unmindful of the brave Pennsylvania militia, who, at the battles of Chippewa and Bridgewater, gloriously redeemed the honor which had been compromised on the shores of the Niagara. This regiment, having faithfully performed its tour of duty, was honored by the thanks of the commanding general. They deserve well of the state and of their country.

Although the laudable enterprise and emulation of our fellow-citizens has hitherto in a great measure, supplied the many defects of our militia law, yet so numerous and obvious are its imperfections, that to apportion equally upon all the burthens caused by the war, an entire revision of the system is indispensa-

ble. One of its sections, commanding militia officers of certain grades to communicate to the legislature the defects they may discover, and a persuasion that much information has been collected in the summer by the gentlemen of the legislature, I shall not attempt to detail the errors and contradictions of the law. I will, however, take occasion to remark that there is in Pennsylvania an over proportion of cavalry. It is ascertained that for service they are not in demand; except as videttes none have been required by the general government. It follows that a horseman and an exempt are, in our militia law, almost synonymous. I recommend, that rifle and artillery corps be promoted and cherished; they are believed to be the best defence of our country, and it is presumed that experience has demonstrated that our sharp shooters and gunners are equal to any in the world.

Uniform certainly produces a most valuable effect in our militia, as it never fails to excite a portion of soldierly pride. When well appointed volunteer corps and not uniformed militia companies are encamped together, or meet on parade, the one is apt to feel envy, and the other to show contempt; these and other considerations induce me to suggest the uniforming the militia at the public expense; when called into actual service. The expense of a cheap uniform and a provision for the family of the poor man, who endangers health and life without any other stake in the public cause than his personal, political and religious liberty, would be a tax which should be willingly paid by the opulent. If this scheme be deemed ineligible, I suggest that the promise of the state to repay the price of the uniform to every man who performs faithfully a full tour of duty, would probably be inducements sufficiently strong for the militia to uniform themselves.

That a well organized and well disciplined militia is the truest safeguard of the republic, I am firmly convinced. Yet when we are at war with a vigilant and veteran enemy, who with his numerous fleets commands our bays and rivers, by facility of transportation, excites constant alarms, and makes necessary the stationing of forces at all exposed places; when we take into consideration the great sacrifices made by individuals, and the injury to the state by the interruption of the labor of farmers, mechanics and manufacturers, that is occasioned by frequent calls upon the militia. When the enormous expense caused thereby, and the time lost in marching them from distant places, and training them for service, are also considered, I cannot but deem it my duty to recommend the raising immediately a few regiments to serve during the war for the defence of the state. Such a permanent, well disciplined force, supported and reinforced as occasion might require by drafted or volun-

teer militia would prove economical, preserve many valuable lives, prevent individual distress and public loss, and add much to the security of the country. I would call your attention to the establishment of a medical department, as essential to the health of the troops, and will take occasion also to remark, that the duties imposed on the adjutant general are so important, various and diffuse, that it is impossible, particularly in a state of war, for any individual to perform them.

Amongst the munitions of war provided for our militia, of which a detailed account will be furnished in the adjutant general's report, will be found, tents sufficient to cover more than 17,000 men, and a large quantity of other camp equipments: 1000 rifles have been received out of the United States' arsenal, and repaired at the expense of the state, and 360 new ones have been purchased. These arms, with nearly 8000 muskets received from the United States, as part of the quota of Pennsylvania, under an act of congress for arming the whole militia, added to the state arms repaired and repairing, and a respectable park of artillery will furnish a force sufficient, under providence, to repel any army the enemy may land. There is now in the state arsenal in the city of Philadelphia, much valuable property. The discharge of the militia now and lately in the service of the United States, will considerably increase it. The care of the arsenal ought to be confined to some persons of known integrity, who might also superintend the safe keeping and repairing of the public arms.

Some disbursements may have been made not in the contemplation of the last legislature, such as the purchase of blankets and warm clothing for those of our volunteers and militia who left home in the summer, and were to continue in the field in very severe weather, and had not the means nor the opportunity to provide for themselves; these articles were tendered for so much as they cost, and so accepted by the receiver on account of his pay. The health and comfort of the men could only by such a measure be secured. I trust, therefore, that this act, and an advance of money to contractors to purchase provisions for our troops hastily collected for the defence of Philadelphia and the shores of the Delaware, will meet the approbation of an enlightened legislature.—As many, if not all of the men furnished with blankets and clothing are poor, and have families to maintain by their daily labor, it would be an act of kindness, if not of justice, to relieve them from the condition on which those articles were furnished—the sum expended amounts not to more than 11,624 dollars 63 cents.

Under a law passed the 25th February last, a loan was obtained from the Philadelphia bank of \$100,000, before the rising of the

last legislature, to replenish the treasury, which had been exhausted by extraordinary expenses at Erie, and by the purchase of munitions of war there and elsewhere. The receipts of the commonwealth, however, proving adequate in the month of August last to a repayment, and deeming the anticipated receipts as sufficient to meet any probable demands on the treasury, I ordered a repayment of the loan, connecting with the act the expression of a wish that the bank, if required, would again aid the government. In the autumn an application was made, and that institution very honorably, at the rate of interest prescribed in its charter, relented to the state \$100,000. The hostile attitude maintained by our enemy on our seaboard, and the peculiar situation of the general government required the application of the resources of the commonwealth to provide the necessary means of defence; heavy expences were necessarily incurred, which, together with large demands lately made under the act entitled "An act for the improvement of the state," made additional loans necessary; a general account of which, and of other matters relative to the financial concerns of the state reported to me, accompanies this communication. This and a more detailed account hereafter to be exhibited, embracing also the accounts of the adjutant general and his deputies, and of payments made to Pennsylvania militia in the service of the United States, will be such an exhibition of our finances as will satisfactorily show the necessity of the loans, and the faithful and economical appropriation of the public means, and induce the legislature to adopt measures for replenishing the public treasury, and providing against the want of future loans: It is gratifying to know that our resources are abundant and untouched.

Heretofore to express my opinion against an increase of the banking institutions has been a painful duty. That bank paper has been too much multiplied is now generally admitted; but inasmuch as it exists under the guarantee of legislative acts, and as much of the property of the state, as well as of individuals, is involved, it is incumbent to protect the banks, as far as justice and the constitution will permit. By the purchase of British government bills and British goods smuggled into our country, and through other means adopted by enemy partisans, such immense sums of gold and silver have been drawn from the banks of the middle and southern states to the eastward, and thence into the coffers of the enemy, as has made it necessary for most of our banks to stop specie payments. This precautionary measure, I have learned, has produced a threat of a suit at law being commenced against one of the banks. Should this be realized, and judg-

ment and execution follow, the presumption is that a similar fate would await the other banks. Thus the whole system would become shaken, and the state and individuals be seriously embarrassed. Fully aware of the delicacy of this subject, yet satisfied that it demands legislative interference, I submit it to your judgments to make such provision as the interest of the commonwealth and the welfare of the community require.

Although numerous and interesting subjects, arising out of the peculiar situation of our country, will occupy much of your attention, it is hoped the importance of education and diffusion of knowledge, the encouragement and fostering of manufactures, as the principal mean to perpetuate the real and practical independence of our country will have a share of your deliberations, as will also the report of the attorney general on the subject of criminal jurisprudence—the suppression of that baleful and immoralizing practice, horse-racing, and its concomitant vices, gambling—the regulation and equalization of tavern licenses—certain suggestions relative as well to the sale of unseated lands, for taxes, as to the arbitration system—to the frequent sitting aside verdicts of juries—to larcenies committed without the state—to the inefficiency of the writ of habeas corpus—to the frequent petitions for pardon, urging the want of employment for convicts as the ground for the application—to the want of a court of revision in capital cases—are subjects, some of them, if not all, of much interest, which in a communication dated the 10th of December, 1813, I had submitted to the consideration of the last legislature, but from the great press of more important business, it is presumed, were passed over, I beg leave to submit them again, and for motive and object to refer the legislature to that communication.

At a period so eventful as the present it cannot be too often inculcated that the integrity, freedom and happiness of our country eminently depends on the energy and wisdom of those who administer the national government, and the confidence which the people shall manifest in them, as well as in the support which that government receives from the states composing the union; in proportion as these truths are felt and acknowledged will be the regret you will feel, as citizens and legislators, at the undisguised hostility which is manifested in the eastern section of the union, against the measures adopted or proposed for the preservation of our rights, national and individual. Rights which the God of nature has bountifully bestowed upon us, and the enjoyment of which is inseparable from our existence as an independent nation. This conduct is the more justly offensive, inasmuch as the ground taken for hostility is produced by those opponents who withhold as much as

in them lies, men, money, credit, confidence and affection, in a word, all means vigorously to conduct the war and honorably attain peace. These men no longer in private whisper their schemes, but in public legislative debate and acts avow their intention to sever the union. These are events deeply to be deplored by every friend of freedom and humanity, as precludes to a civil war, the most unprofitable, disastrous, and sanguinary of all conflicts; however we may regret or disapprove of such unnatural and unjustifiable dispositions and deportment, we are not now called upon to legislate or act upon them; if we were I am sure the constituted authorities and people of Pennsylvania, would unitedly, rally round the standard of the union, and put down the machinations of all disorganizers, and execute the laws upon all traitors who should dare to take up arms against our happy union, and set at nought the constitution which is hallowed by the name of the immortal Washington.

The situation of our country is perilous, but by no means desperate. Our cause is just, our resources great, our fellow-citizens brave, intelligent and patriotic; it is only necessary, that competent authority should bring them into action, and our country will, by the blessing of Heaven, ride triumphantly through the storm. It will be my pride and pleasure to co-operate with you in every measure which shall promise to promote the happiness of our constituents and country.

SIMON SNYDER.

*Harrisburg, December, 10th, 1814.*

## LEGISLATURE OF MARYLAND.

### GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

*Council chamber, Dec. 10, 1814.*

GENTLEMEN—On addressing you at the opening of the present session, it is to be regretted that the aspect of our public affairs affords little cause for congratulation.

The appearance of the enemy on our coast early in the summer as was predicted by the legislature at their last session, rendered it necessary to make the best preparations for defence of which the state was capable. Accordingly the militia of counties most liable to invasion were called into actual service; and as the situation of the country became more alarming, such a portion of the troops as could with prudence be spared from the third division (two thousand of them having marched, agreeably to the president's requisition of April, for the defence of Baltimore) were also directed to hold themselves in readiness to repair at a moment's notice to the scene of danger.

These armaments together with the incidental purchase and transportation of military stores and provisions, have necessarily required very considerable disbursements: yet if we advert to the desultory kind of warfare which

the enemy is pursuing, and consider the harassing service to which our men must consequently be exposed, it is presumed that the expenditures will not be found incompatible with the most judicious economy.

In compliance with the requisition of the president on the executive, dated the 4th of July, for the state to furnish six thousand troops for the general defence, orders were issued to the different brigadiers to organize, and cause to proceed to the designated rendezvous, their respective quotas of men. These orders were obeyed with as much promptitude as our present militia system is capable of enforcing. On the 19th of August last, we received a letter (of which No. 1 is a copy) from the general commanding the tenth military district, stating that he had "been authorised by the president to accept on behalf of the United States, all the militia then in service, under the authority of the state of Maryland, as well elsewhere as at Annapolis." Giving to this communication the construction which the liberality of its proposition appeared to justify, and which seemed so congenial with the spirit of the constitution, which provides for the general defence, the executive of Maryland, on the 17th of October; wrote the letter marked No 2, to the secretary of war, requesting explicit information as to the time when the acceptance of our militia took effect; they also referred him to an act of congress passed on the 18th of April last, which provides, that the expences incurred in cases of calls on the militia made by the authority of a state or territory, which may be approved by the president, shall be adjusted and paid by the United States. Conscious that our calls upon the militia had been made exclusively for the purpose of repelling invasion, which might reasonably be considered one of the cases contemplated by the above recited act, it could not be presumed that the president would hesitate to sanction them. In this just expectation we have, however, been disappointed. No notice having been taken of our first application to the secretary, it was repeated on the 11th ultimo, but an answer from him has not yet been received.

Of the loans authorized by the resolution of May, 1813, for four hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and of the last session for one hundred and fifty thousand; four hundred and thirty-six thousand have been obtained. Of this sum one hundred and twenty-seven thousand two hundred and ten dollars and twenty three cents, have been expended under the appropriation of one hundred and eighty thousand dollars for the purchase of arms; and one hundred and seventy-four thousand eight hundred and one dollars and twenty-three cents, in defraying the expences of the militia; a balance therefore remains of one

hundred and thirty-three thousand nine hundred and eighty-eight dollars and fifty-four cents, from which, if the balance of the appropriations for arms, viz: fifty-two thousand seven hundred and eighty nine dollars and seventy-seven cents be deducted, there will remain but eighty-one thousand one hundred and ninety-eight dollars and seventy-seven cents; a sum, we believe, inadequate to satisfy the claims already incurred for militia services.

To raise funds for this object, and for our defence for the ensuing year, whether by loan at an additional interest, or by a sale of public stock, (for taxation seems to have been extended to its utmost bounds) rests with the wisdom of the legislature.

We beg leave to observe, that as the general government has given so many equivocal proofs of a defect either of ability or inclination to afford us protection, nothing remains but that we call forth those means of defence which are still in our possession. We would, therefore, suggest the propriety of considering whether it would not be advisable to raise, by enlistment, a certain number of troops expressly for the defence of the state, their service to continue during the war, and they to receive the same pay and to enjoy the same privileges as soldiers of the United States. It appears to us that eight or ten regiments might be advantageously organized in this manner, and employed according to circumstances, either in conjunction with or separately from the militia. This corps would speedily communicate to the latter an emulative spirit and habits of subordination, and thus the state of Maryland might soon boast of an efficient force, without having recourse to an unconstitutional and slavish conscription. Should the plan now proposed not meet the approbation of the legislature, a revision of our militia laws will become indispensable.

In the third year of a war, which we ever deprecated as unnecessary in its origin, and ruinous in its consequences, we behold our national treasury exhausted, our councils confused and vacillating, and the people bowed down with difficulties, while the administration are as far from obtaining the ostensible object of contention as when they issued the first Canadian proclamation; nay, they have even abandoned it as a forlorn hope; for in the late instructions to our envoys, it is no longer insisted on, as a *sine qua non* of a treaty, that Great Britain shall relinquish the right of impressment. Amidst this general suffering we have, however, the consolation to perceive a spirit of liberty and love of country, animating the breasts of our citizens. Though we are baffled in all our attempts at foreign conquests, success attended our gallant navy, and (with one disgraceful exception) victory has crowned us in every conflict

undertaken in defence of our homes. Here we fight the cause of virtue, and may therefore rely on the protection of Heaven.

We have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servants,

WILLIAM B. MARTIN.

*President of the council.*

The hon. the General Assembly.

(No. 1)

*Washington, August 18, 1814.*

Sir—I have been authorised by the president to accept on behalf of the United States all the militia now in the service under the authority of the state of Maryland, as well elsewhere, as at Annapolis. This includes the cavalry here, as also general Stuart's command below. As I have no doubt that it will be acceptable to you, I have been making provisional arrangements with colonel Tilghman and general Stuart. You will please, therefore, send your order to general Stuart to that effect, and direct colonel Hood to take my order, and to send without delay a return of his strength.

(Signed)

WM. H. WINDER.

*His excellency Levin Winder,  
gov. of Maryland, Annapolis.*

(Copy.)

NINIAN PINKNEY,

*Clerk of the council.*

(No. 2)

*Council Chamber, Oct. 17, 1814.*

Sir—We sometime ago received a letter from brig. gen Winder, informing us, that he had 'been authorised by the president to accept on behalf of the United States all the militia then in service under the authority of the state of Maryland, including cavalry as well as infantry,' but as we do not know the exact period whence to date this acceptance, we must request the favor of you to give us the necessary information, that we may give directions to have the pay rolls and militia accounts arranged in conformity thereto, preparatory to their being presented for a final adjustment.

As connected with this subject, we beg leave to call your attention to the 10th section of an act of congress, passed on the 18th of April last, entitled "an act in addition to the act to provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, &c." by this clause it is provided "that the expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by marching the militia of any state or territory of the United States to their places of rendezvous, in pursuance of a requisition of the president of the United States, or which shall have been or may be incurred in cases of calls made by the authority of any state or territory which shall have been or may be approved by him, shall be adjusted and paid in like manner as the expences incurred after their arrival at such place of rendezvous on the requisition of the president of the United States, &c."

It appears evidently to us that this law intended to embrace all expences of the militia necessarily incurred in the defence of any state or part thereof; we therefore deem it expedient to inform you, that a considerable portion of the militia of Maryland were called into service for the express purpose of aiding commodore Barney's flotilla in the Patuxent; an entire brigade was also engaged in defending the shores of St. Mary's and Charles counties, when the enemy entered the Potomac; a number of troops were employed also in repelling marauding parties from some of the counties on the eastern shore, and others were ordered out for the defence of Baltimore, prior to the president's first requisition. As all these calls were made for the safety of the state, and such only as her exposed situation imperiously demanded, we trust that the president will have no hesitation to sanction them, and order an adjustment in the mode contemplated by the act of congress. We respectfully solicit your early attention to this subject, and are, sir, with due consideration,

Your obedient servants,

LEVIN WINDER.

*The hon. the secretary of war.*

True copy from the letter-book of the council of the state of Maryland,

NINIAN PINKNEY,

*Clerk of the council.*

### LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, OCT. 10, 1814.

*Fellow citizens of the senate and house of delegates.*

Weighty considerations, arising from the peculiar state of our affairs, induced the executive to convoke the legislature.

The war continues to rage with unabated malignity on the part of the enemy, who, profiting by the course of events in Europe, has greatly enlarged the scale, while he has materially changed the theatre of his operations. The war is no longer waged at a distance—it has been brought into the bosom of our country, conducted in a spirit of Vandalism, and with a view to ulterior purposes, which cannot fail to arouse whatever of patriotism, of courage, of pride, and of indignation, exists among men who duly appreciate their liberty and honor, and who are resolved to defend them. To repel these audacious pretensions, it is necessary to call forth the energies of the nation. The representatives of the people, the depository of the public will, can alone effect this desirable object; and hence you have been thus early convened in general assembly.

It is not to be disguised that the present is a day of trial to our country—a consequence of the extraordinary revolution which has occurred in Europe, and which will form an epoch in its history. For the war, which had so long desolated that portion of the earth,



terminated against all human calculation in the downfall of France. The overwhelming confederacy which had been leagued against her, entered her capital in triumph, and from thence dictated the terms of her submission. She was compelled to relinquish those conquests which had extended her empire to distant lands, and, retiring within her ancient limits, exhausted and spiritless, she reposes again under the sceptre of a Bourbon.

In this wonderful revolution some among us believed they saw the sure pledges of universal peace. The pretexts to which Great Britain resorted as a justification of her continued outrage and injury to us no longer existed.—The spectre of universal conquest which had so long haunted her own imagination, and the fear of which she had but too successfully imparted to others, was suddenly laid by the humiliating deposition and exile of the extraordinary character who had so long filled the world with the renown of his exploits, while he disturbed its repose by the restlessness of his ambition.

Had the counsels of Great Britain been directed by moderation, a sense of justice, or a regard of the happiness of mankind, the world, once more, would have been at peace. The result, however, shews that there are considerations, which have no influence with her. For at a moment so favorable to her interest, when the course of events had left her nothing to ask for, and when in some degree she was lulling our vigilance to sleep by holding out prospects of peace, as likely to result from a negotiation solicited by herself, and met by us in the sincerest spirit of conciliation, she determined to execute against us a fell and malignant purpose. Suddenly relieved from fear by the downfall of her once formidable rival, and availing herself of the great means of annoyance prepared for European operations, she dispatched formidable armaments to the United States, to lay waste and desolate every assailable point, if not annihilate our very existence as a nation. It is a source of joy and pride, mingled with devout gratitude to the Great Disposer of events, that these hostile designs have been uniformly resisted with firmness and success, with the exception of an intrusion by surprise into the capital of the union, and the humiliating capitulation of a neighboring town. We have seen inferior numbers, directed by experienced generals, achieving prodigies of valor. We have seen raw and undisciplined militia driving the conquerors of Portugal, of Spain, and of France, and whilst binding around their own brows unfading laurels, throwing an everlasting shade on the military character of the enemy. Champlain, Plattsburg, Niagara and Erie, have been the theatres of our glory, and will be cherished by every genuine American with the fondest recollections; while the

names of heroes by whose valorous spirit these splendid achievements have been effected, are by the common consent of mankind, consecrated to imperishable fame. Upon these propitious events, I beg leave to congratulate you.

In the interesting period which I have been describing, Virginia has been called to act an important part. The enemy has continually carried on a war against our Atlantic frontier, marked with circumstances of atrocity, which, while ruinous to individuals, has been infamous to himself. Wheresoever he has landed, his footsteps are to be traced by scenes of rapine and conflagration. His invasions were sudden and by surprise, while his retreats were precipitate and cowardly. He was every where met by the local militia.

So soon as the great events before alluded to had occurred in Europe, the executive of this commonwealth, expecting nothing from the forbearance of England, was apprehensive that Virginia, for various reasons, would become the theatre of her hostile operations. Studiously avoiding, however, on the one hand either the unnecessary harassment of our militia or the premature expenditure of the small fund appropriated to military purposes, we avoided for some time actually employing a force for the defence of the interior; but on the other hand, feeling the necessity of being prepared as well as our limited means would permit, we directed twenty-four regiments of the neighbouring militia to be held in readiness, completely armed and equipped to take the field at a moment's warning. At length appearances became so menacing, that it was deemed advisable to aid the local militia by a respectable detachment from a distance, a measure which received the sanction of the general government. Upon the entering of our waters of the last formidable armament of the enemy, the number of the troops assembled in the neighborhood was doubled, and after the successful attack on Washington, with the destruction of property which attended it, large masses of militia were directed to take the field. To this course we were invited by a determination to cause our measures to be equal to a successful defence, and to supply the defect of discipline by superiority of numbers.—In addition to which, I appealed to the patriotism of my fellow citizens, and called upon them to rally around the unfurled banners of their country. This appeal was not made in vain. For the moment, party distinctions were forgotten;—every description of citizens, the high and the low, from the east and the west, and from the north and the south, animated by one sentiment came rushing on; they surrounded their capitol, the monument of their independence, and swore they would defend it or die;—a spectacle was exhibited most grateful to the

friends of republican government. It presented the proudest day which Virginia has seen since the foundation of the commonwealth. A few days only elapsed before it became necessary to arrest by another proclamation the influx of our martial citizens—and, indeed, upon ascertaining the numbers already arrived, multitudes were disbanded. Nor were the exertions of our fellow citizens confined within the limits of Virginia. Washington and Baltimore also witnessed their patriotism and ardor; and in the defence of the latter, they acquitted themselves so honorably as to attract the attention and receive the approbation of their commanding general.

As the assemblage of so large a force for the defence of the state had not been anticipated, many of these brave men for weeks together were deprived of every accommodation. With no other shelter than the canopy of heaven, they stretched themselves on the naked earth encountering every privation without a murmur. And were the records of time to be explored, I know not the nation of any age which would bear the palm from Virginia, for devotion to the laws, subordination to discipline, acquiescence under privations, and distinguished proofs of zeal and patriotism, and courage.

Whilst candor requires we should admit, that the conflict in which we are engaged is of the last importance to the interest and happiness of our country, and calls for great sacrifices, both of personal services and money, yet we may look with confidence to the issue, when we reflect on the character of the American people, who hold all things worthless, when compared with their honor, their rights, and their independence—that, however humiliating to us the conflict may be in opposing high minded and honorable freemen, to the outcasts of every nation which compose the legions of the enemy, yet we are in some degree consoled by the reflection, that in this very circumstance we see the most satisfactory assurances of success. That if to this be added union of council and of effort (which happily begins to prevail) through this widely extended country, we may hope, without the charge of presumption, that we have, under Providence, the direction of our own destinies.

Although the state of things which brought together the force assembled at this place has somewhat changed, by a portion of the enemy's fleet having left our waters, yet the greater part of the militia are still in service. This course has been dictated by various considerations—viz. the enemy may be practising a finesse; satisfactory intelligence having been received that large reinforcements are daily expected on our coast; a belief that whether he returns or not, it is important to avail ourselves of the opportunity which the occasion presents of imparting some por-

tion of discipline to the troops, who, upon their return to their respective counties would communicate it to others, and because, as the legislature was about to convene, an opportunity would be presented to the representatives of the people to adopt such a course as the exigency of the crisis might call for.

Whilst I am disposed to believe that the general government feels the strongest disposition to acquit itself of every obligation it owes to Virginia, yet this is not the time to be guided by a circulating policy, which is contented with drawing an abstract line, marking with scrupulous nicety the limits where the duty of the one government terminates, and the other begins. On the contrary, it belongs as well to the extraordinary times in which we are called to act, as to the generosity of our character, to look in part to our own resources. To what extent they shall be employed, is a subject properly confided to you. Under such auspices, no doubt can be entertained but the result of your deliberations will be stamped with *energy*. With such sentiments towards the legislature, I may be permitted to suggest, without the imputation of an arrogant intrusion of my opinion, that the system to be adopted should correspond with the extent of our means, the power of the enemy with whom we have to contend, and a conviction that nothing is to be expected but a protracted duration of the war; for the pursuit of the ignus fatuus of a speedy return of peace, if further indulged, will lead to our undoing. Independently of the rumors that our commissioners are returning without having effected their object, and that large reinforcements are daily looked for in our waters; a reference to the continued series of aggressions practised on us by Great Britain, which produced the war, the barbarous spirit which has marked its progress, the very great force she has now at her disposal, the known inveterate hostility she entertains towards us and our republican institutions—and, above all, the character of her government, watching with the sleepless eye of disquieting jealousy, the growing prosperity of every commercial country—all irrevocably lead to the conclusion, that no rational ground remains on which to rest the expectation of peace.

Under these impressions, it is submitted to the wisdom of the legislature to consider whether a substitution of a permanent military force, combined with fortifications around the places meant to be defended, furnished with adequate trains of artillery, would not be preferable to calling out and continuing in service large masses of militia; a system as burthensome to our citizens, as expensive to the commonwealth. Although it is readily admitted, that some difficulties present themselves in opposition to such a course, it cannot be doubted that, by proper representa-

tions on the subject to the general government, such arrangements might be made as would render the measure satisfactory to both governments.

Arsenals should also be erected in some inaccessible parts of the commonwealth, supplied with the whole apparatus of war, and particularly a large number of rifles, the value of which, from the face of our country, is daily manifesting itself.

I must press upon the legislature the necessity of an early attention to our fiscal affairs. The border war which the enemy has kept up has induced many commandants of regiments to keep in service through the year portions (and sometimes the whole) of their regiments. The expenses thereby accruing had nearly exhausted the fund appropriated by the legislature at their last session to military purposes—when the last efforts we were compelled to make far exceeded it. Although we were duly sensible of the high responsibility of adopting measures producing expenditures far beyond those which had been provided for by law, we, nevertheless, weighed the safety of the commonwealth against every other consideration, either public or private, and fearlessly encountered the consequences; confiding in the known liberality of our constituents, of which their representatives delight to give continued proofs. It is but an act of justice to the banks, to make known, that they have advanced, when the treasury was entirely exhausted, considerable sums, by which, together with the forbearance of individual claimants, we have been enabled to keep up the present expensive military establishment. To provide for these claims, as well as the pay of our fellow citizens in arms, needs only to be mentioned to receive the prompt attention of the general assembly. The President of the United States having strongly recommended to the attention of congress a general revisal of our militia laws, I forbear to call your attention to that subject, till the pleasure of congress is made known, which I hope will occur during the present session. I cannot, however, forbear to suggest, that the last law relating to the collection of fines still admits of doubts, by which difficulties have interposed most injurious to the service, particularly as to the question, what officer is to collect those fines, or to enforce the judgment by imprisonment in the event of insolvency. From the experience of several years, I am induced to suggest also the necessity of the repeal of so much of the militia law as prevents the executive from granting commissions to volunteer corps. Numerous are the instances of tenders of service from such associations, the acceptance of which has been prevented from our incapacity to commission those under whom they are willing to serve.

I would recommend to the legislature to new-model the divisions of the militia, so as to cause the number of major-generals to conform to the organization of the United States; which prescribes one major-general to two brigadiers. Of the latter, since your last session, four have resigned, viz. generals Blackwell, Biggs, Tate and Cohoon.

The office of register has become vacant by the death of the former incumbent, Charles Blagrove, Esq. which we forbore to supply in consequence of your approaching session. An early attention to this subject would be a convenience to the public. I have also to communicate the death of Samuel Pleasants, Esq. printer to the commonwealth, which vacancy was not supplied for the like reason.

As a few weeks will place me in the condition of a private citizen, this, of course, is the last time I shall have the honor of thus addressing you. I deem an apology unnecessary for embracing it to render to you and our constituents an unfeigned expression of profound gratitude, at the recollection of the numerous proofs of kindness, indulgence and confidence I have received at the hands of my country, in the various situations in which I have been called to act. While in devotion to the faithful discharge of my duties I should dread a comparison with no man, I am well aware of the very limited capacity which I have carried into the service of my country. While, therefore, I am constrained to tax anew that indulgence I have so often experienced for those errors into which I have been unintentionally betrayed, I repose with full confidence in the belief that all will do justice to my motives, and award to me the meed that the whole scope of my conduct, as far as intention was concerned, has been invariably directed to the best interests of my country. I shall carry with me into retirement an indelible impression of the favors I have experienced; and unceasingly pray that a good Providence may perpetually have in his holy keeping, those to whom the destinies of my country may be confided, and that the legislature of Virginia may continue to be the sleepless guardians of the liberty and honor of their country.

JAS. BARBOUR.

LEGISLATURE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

*House of Commons, November 21, 1814.*

Mr. Porter, of Rutherford, introduced the following resolution by some observations.—He said that at the present moment he hoped there would be but one voice in the nation. Whatever may have been the opinions as to the commencement of the war—whether it was wise or foolish, good or bad policy—all would agree in the necessity of prosecuting it with vigor and determination. It was proper that we should shew to the enemy, that however we may differ on small matters, there is

no difference of sentiment as to this point. The general government also, should know that we are ready to support their measures. "United we stand, divided we fall." It appeared that a majority *could declare war*, but that a majority *could not make peace*. He therefore, wished to shew the enemy that we were not tired of the war, but felt willing to continue it forever rather than give up. The resolution was as follow :

*Resolved*, That the most efficient measures be adopted by this general assembly to aid the general government in a vigorous prosecution of the war against Great Britain and her allies.

This resolution was unanimously adopted.

### GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

*To the honorable the general assembly of the state of North Carolina.*

Gentlemen—At no former period have the representatives of the free people of this state convened when the situation of the country more imperiously demanded the adoption of bold and energetic measures for the preservation and promotion of its character and general welfare. While, therefore, gentlemen, the opening of your present session cannot fail to excite a degree of interest and solicitude not heretofore experienced, an assurance is to be found in your wisdom and patriotism, that the result of your deliberations will be the adoption of a system of measures, corresponding with the feelings and high expectations of our fellow citizens, and commensurate with the pressure and urgency of the circumstances in which we are placed.

The communications from the plenipotentiaries of the United States charged with negotiating peace with Great Britain, afford evidence not to be controverted that it is neither the wish nor the intention of the British government to conclude a peace upon terms honorable to both nations. The professions and acts of that government are so completely at variance with each other, that in reviewing them, we are insensibly led to doubt the correctness of our own perception and the existence of facts demonstrated before our eyes—When we view the declaration of the prince regent in his speech to parliament relative to the war with the United States, that he is "*sincerely desirous of the restoration of peace between the two nations upon conditions honorable to both*," we think we have grounds to suppose that the same spirit of justice and conciliation, and the same desire to terminate the war, existed in the British cabinet that prevailed in our government, and that peace would be the result of the pending negotiation. But when we turn from this delusion, when we reverse the picture and view *realities*, we find the perfidy of the prince portrayed in the most glaring colors, and the prospect of

peace placed at a distance from us. The world is told by the British ruler that he is sincerely desirous of terminating the war upon terms honorable to both parties:—His commissioners disclaim all pretensions to an acquisition of territory; and as a proof of the sincerity of their professions, and as an illustration of the truth of the declarations of their prince they demand as the conditions of peace, that we surrender one of our territories, a large portion of two of our states, and an immense tract of country between lake Superior and the Mississippi river; that we define the boundary of the indian possessions within our territories, guarantee to the indians the right of sovereignty of those possessions, and stipulate not to acquire by purchase or otherwise any territory within the specified limits; that we stipulate that Great Britain shall possess, and have the military occupation of both shores of the lakes, and that we relinquish our right to maintain and construct fortifications on them, or within a limited distance of their shores, or to maintain or to construct any vessel of war upon the same, or in the rivers which empty into them. Demands inadmissible under any circumstances. In the prosecution of the war the enemy have evinced a total disregard of the law of nations. They have not only perpetrated on our borders a series of acts whose parallels, in point of atrocity, are not to be found in the annals of civilized warfare, but in a hasty invasion of our capital they have burnt and destroyed our *public buildings*, edifices of taste and elegance and not contributing to our power in warlike operations. And to complete the catalogue we are officially notified by their commanding admiral that orders have been given for the destruction of every town and district of the seacoast that can be assailed. When we view the effect which those outrages and the arrogant and insulting demands of the British government, as the conditions of peace, has produced upon the great contending parties in our country, we find real cause of exultation. The eyes of all are opened. The character and designs of the enemy stand exposed. Party prejudices and distinctions are done away. The love of country preponderates. The determined spirit which animated and nerved the arms of our *revolutionary fathers* in achieving the independence which we now enjoy, pervades this extensive continent. The resolution is now formed to bring into action the united energies of the nation, to chastise our perfidious and insolent foe, and to compel him to abandon his iniquitous pretensions, and give us peace upon honorable terms. In this happy *union* our destinies are portrayed. The preservation of our invaluable institutions is now guaranteed. Peace will be conquered, and a splendor given to our character which will secure to us that respect which a

powerful, just, and enlightened people ought at all times to command.

When we take a retrospective view of the situation of our country, since the commencement of the war, of the disadvantages under which it has been carried on, our surprise is not a little excited, that under every paralyzing circumstance an army should finally arise competent, as our recent splendid victories have shown, to cope with equal, and in some instances, superior numbers of the best disciplined troops belonging to the British nation. The achievements of our naval heroes surpass in brilliancy those of any other nation recorded in the annals of history. They have inflicted wounds upon British pride deeper and more mortifying than any other causes could have produced. They have stabbed it in its vital part. If while the energies of the nation were *paralyzed*, an army and a navy so respectable, and so brilliant, capable of achievements which reflect lustré upon our national character, could be raised, *now* when the shackles are thrown off, when the attention of all is directed to the promotion of every measure calculated to bring into action the strength and resources of the nation, we have grounds for the agreeable anticipation, that an efficient army, an increased navy and ample means to prosecute the war, will be the certain result.

Notwithstanding it is the duty of the general government to provide for the general welfare and common defence, yet every state in the union, as members of the great body, and particularly those most exposed to danger, should place themselves in an attitude to furnish, whenever necessity may require it, prompt and efficient aid. In order that this state may be placed in that situation, I would recommend in the first place, that an opportunity be afforded the whole body of the militia adjacent to our sea coast and most vulnerable points, to acquire a better knowledge of discipline, by compelling them to muster in their respective companies two successive days in every two weeks, and in their respective battalions or regiments two successive days in every three weeks. That arms and ammunition for the use of those militia when called into service be deposited at the several places of battalion or regimental musters, in depots established for that purpose, at each of which a guard should be stationed in constant service, and whose duty it should be to keep the guns freed from rust and in good order, and that on the days of training at those places, the men be permitted to exercise with them. In the second place, that an auxiliary force, consisting of five thousand minute men, be set a part from the main body of the militia for discipline and actual service, (which no doubt might in a very short time be made up of volunteer corps) to be armed

and equipt at the expense of the state, and organized in the same manner as the army of the United States, to serve two years, and held in requisition during the war, unless sooner discharged by having actually served the term specified. That all the officers of corps wear the uniform of the United States army, and to be encamped and *disciplined* at or near the seat of government in the spring for fifteen successive days, and in the fall a like number, at the expense of the state. That after the officers have been thus disciplined, they return to their respective limits, and that the whole of the several regiments be called out by the commandants thereof, to meet at their respective places of regimental musters, there to be *drilled* for six successive days, and that *depots* be established at each of those places of regimental musters for the arms, &c. designed for the regiment, which should be kept in order at the expense of the state, and which should be placed in the hands of the men only on days of training, or when they are called into actual service. And in the third place, that funds be created and appropriated to carry into effect the above plan; and commensurate with the probable expenses that would be incurred by the militia when called out in the defence of the state, which no doubt will ultimately be reimbursed by the general government. If the above system was adopted, those two descriptions of force would not only be rendered far more efficient by their improvement in discipline than they otherwise would be, but, in the event of an attempt by an invading army to penetrate into our country, the first might with the utmost promptness be placed in a state of preparation, and marched to co-operate with the troops in the service of the United States stationed on our sea coast. In the mean time, the second description, as well as the requisition of the general government, might be had out. A junction of those several detachments formed, a front would be presented not easily to be withstood. As the situation of the country requires energetic measures should be pursued, permit me, gentlemen, to invite your attention to the propriety of adopting the system above recommended, or some one more efficient.

We have been for some time past progressively advancing in defensive preparations; a portion of the funds appropriated by the legislature at their last session for the purpose of purchasing munitions of war has been disbursed for those articles, which have been deposited at convenient and proper points on and near the seaboard, in the care of quarter masters and other trusty persons, and liable to be placed in the hands of the militia only in the event of an actual or threatened invasion. The attention of the general government seems now also to be directed to the

protection of our seaports with more effect than formerly.—Lieutenant colonel Armistead, an accomplished officer of the United States corps of engineers, is now engaged with a considerable force of regulars and militia in constructing a fortification at a point where the best protection may be afforded to the eastern section of this state. It is true that this work at its commencement was apportioned to a very limited appropriation to effect it, and of course promised no sort of security: but from a recent communication from major general Pinkney, I feel assured that it will be extended in such manner as to approach much nearer the object for which it is intended. Works are also progressing at other points; we have more troops stationed on our coast, and have the promise of a further supply of arms. Much, however, yet remains to be done to render us efficient on land, while the defence of our rivers and sounds is far from being adequate, the promised barges (which might long since have been built in this state) have not yet arrived, and our flotilla of gun boats have received no increase.

Since the adjournment of the last assembly the enemy, in small plundering parties, have made a few hasty incursions on the sea coast, but none of a character to render it necessary or even to allow time to call out the local militia. One company, however, was ordered on duty for a short time, to relieve a detachment of militia drafts which had garrisoned Fort Hampton, and whose term of service was about to expire. This company was subsequently recognized as being in the service of the United States by colonel Long, of the United States' army, commanding in this state, who received their returns, and informed me they would be paid. Several detachments of the requisition of the general government have, however, been called into service. In the early part of the year a regiment under the command of colonel Jesse A. Pearson, marched to the Creek nation to aid in suppressing the hostile part of those Indians. I had the gratification to learn from the commanding general, and it gives me pleasure to communicate it to the legislature, that this regiment, in point of discipline, soldier like demeanor, and promptness in the execution of every command that was given them, could not have been surpassed by any troops who had been no longer in service. After their term of service had expired, they were marched to this state, received their pay, and were honorably discharged. Another regiment is now in service in this state, a third at Norfolk, Virginia, and a fourth is ordered to rendezvous on the 28th inst. to reinforce the garrison of that place.

In pursuance of the resolution of the last assembly, I have transmitted to the secretary

of war, a roll furnished to the auditors, exhibiting the amount as passed upon them of pay and rations of the local militia, and other expenses incurred by them in the months of July and August of the last year, when the state was invaded, as also an account of monies advanced by this state to purchase munitions of war, and supplies for the detached militia called out on that occasion. Those demands have been accompanied with a request that the proper department of the general government be directed to reimburse to this state the amount thus ascertained and allowed, and the monies thus advanced. I expect daily to have it in my power to lay before you the result of this application. Nearly the whole of the local militia, as well as the claims of individuals for supplies furnished them, have been paid off. The detached militia ordered out on that occasion, who had it not in their power to comply with the rules of the war department before they were disbanded, (as the United States had not appointed an officer in this state to inspect them) have not as yet been paid, nor have the claims of individuals who furnished them supplies. We have not as yet been able to ascertain whether the general government will refuse to pay the expenses incurred by those troops. As soon as all the returns and claims were received, I instructed the adjutant general to transmit a roll of them to the secretary of war, and to ask him to say whether it was the intention of government to pay them. Several communications have passed upon the subject, but no decision has yet been had. It is now, however, daily looked for in the answer which will be given to the last communication made by the adjutant. It will be necessary, in the event of those claims being finally rejected by the general government, to renew such part of the resolutions of the last assembly as provided for their payment. It may be proper here to state that the then secretary of war refused to pay the United States' contractor, who furnished rations to the company of local militia ordered to garrison Fort Hampton, as mentioned above; that as soon as I was apprised of that fact, and furnished with the secretary's letter by the contractor, I gave a draft upon the treasury for the amount due, to be paid out of the fund appropriated by the last assembly to defray the expenses of local militia who might be called into service during the present year, and that this sum also forms an item in my application for reimbursement.

Permit me to invite your attention to the encouragement of manufactures, as an important mean of national independence. While the war is productive of many evils and inconveniences, it is not without its beneficial results. The establishment of manufactories owe their origin exclusively to that event.

Had not the necessity of providing for our own wants been created, we should have remained ignorant of our ability and resources to do so. The best interests of the country require that every attention should be bestowed on establishments of this kind. They should not be left entirely to individual exertions. It therefore may properly be considered as the duty of the legislature, not only to make every provision which may seem calculated to aid the attempts of individuals, but to establish manufactories at the expense and for the benefit of the state, upon a liberal and extended scale, and to place them under the direction of qualified manufacturers, in order that they may be brought in the shortest time possible to the highest perfection, and thereby placed upon a permanent basis. Then upon the return of peace, our manufactories would maintain their ground, our manufactures become objects claiming the protecting provisions of government, and the enemy would feel the full force of having driven us into a practical knowledge of our resources and best interests. Our climate and soil are admirably adapted to the production of all kinds of raw materials, the acquisition of a large portion of which does not require the interposition of legislative provisions, but some of them do. The article of wool is important, nay, indispensably necessary in our manufactories of clothing. It is a well known fact, that the difficulty of procuring this valuable article is much enhanced by the destruction among the animals which produce it. I therefore invite your attention also to the propriety of adopting some efficient measures for the protection of sheep.

Whilst the last assembly was in session, and in pursuance of their request, I transmitted to his excellency the governor of South-Carolina, an authenticated copy of an act passed by that honorable body, ratifying the provisional article entered into on the 4th September, 1813, between the commissioners appointed by the states of North and South Carolina, to establish the boundary line between them, and as a substitute for the 3d article of the conventional agreement of the 11th of July, 1818, upon that subject. In the month of February I received a communication from his excellency informing me that a similar act had been passed by the legislature of South Carolina, a copy of which was shortly after received from the secretary of that state. It is a source of gratification that the long disputed question of boundary between the two states is at length nearly settled. It now remains only to run and mark the line from the termination of the line of 1772, according to the courses laid down in the above mentioned provisional article to the East bank of Chatooga river, where the 35th degree of north latitude has been found to

strike it, and where a rock has been set up and marked by the commissioners of the two states.

In the course of the present year I have received communications from the governors of Tennessee and Pennsylvania, enclosing authenticated copies of resolutions, adopted by the legislatures of those states, proposing an amendment to the constitution of the United States, to reduce the term of service of senators in congress from six to four years. Those resolutions are herewith laid before you, as also two communications not long since received from New-Hampshire and Massachusetts, declaring their disapprobation of the proposed amendment.

Not long since I received a communication from John Stevens, esq. of New-York, endorsing a memorial to the legislature, praying an extension of the limitation specified in their grant to him of an exclusive right of navigating, by means of steam, the waters of this state. This memorial is herewith submitted.

In the month of February last, the honorable Francis Locke transmitted to me his resignation of the office of one of the judges of the supreme court of law and equity for this state. I convened the council of state, who *unanimously* advised that the vacancy should be filled by granting a temporary commission to general Duncan Cameron, of Orange.

You will receive herewith such resignations of militia officers and justices of the peace as have been received at my office since the adjournment of the last assembly.

The letters and documents accompanying this communication are marked and numbered in the order in which the subjects to which they relate have been mentioned.

My private secretary will lay before you my letter book, to which you are referred for any information touching my official transactions.

The period having now arrived, when, according to the provisions of the constitution, I can no longer hold the office of chief magistrate of the state, permit me, gentlemen, to express to you the sentiments of gratitude which I entertain for the frequent manifestations of confidence with which I have been honored. In taking leave of your honorable body, I cannot forbear expressing my ardent desire, that in your deliberations may be cherished that harmony and unanimity so essential to the promotion of the honor, welfare, and security of the state.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM HAWKINS.

Raleigh, Nov. 23, 1814.

## LEGISLATURE OF S. CAROLINA.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE, DELIVERED NOVEMBER 29TH, 1814.

Fellow citizens—We assemble at the close of a year so extraordinary and eventful, that the history of the world furnishes no parallel. The tide of war suddenly rolled back upon an empire accustomed to dictate to the most powerful nations around her, and peace prescribed in her capital; a dynasty; to which the military prowess and gigantic genius of its illustrious founder seemed to have imparted a strength more than that derived from the opinions and prejudices of centuries, annihilated without the slightest civil commotion, and almost without an effort to maintain it: Europe, as if that quarter of the globe had been arrayed against a single man, satisfied with his dethronement, and terminating the dissensions which had so long agitated and convulsed her by a general pacification: are occurrences, which had they not been realized, would hardly have been admitted within the range of political speculation.

How far the revolutions we have recently witnessed are calculated to ameliorate the condition of those more directly concerned; whether the renovated devotion to the ancient order of things, on the one hand, may not in the excess of its zeal, lead to the restoration of many ancient abuses; and whether, on the other, the dread of innovation may not blindly cause the rejection of modern institutions, truly valuable and worthy to be preserved, are questions which, however interesting to the philosopher, are not for our enquiry. The influence of the pacification in Europe upon the political relations of our own country is more certain, and cannot fail to command attention. While, by enabling our enemy to concentrate against us her whole disposable force, it has greatly increased her capacity for carrying on the war; by restoring her accustomed intercourse with other nations, it has considerably lessened her inducements to a renewal of friendly intercourse with this. The advantages thus unexpectedly acquired by Great Britain, considerable as they certainly are, have evidently been estimated by her greatly beyond their actual importance. Intoxicated with the result of the late coalition against France; forgetting that her allies, who constituted the real strength of that coalition, can have no disposition to embark in her present crusade; and, above all, forgetting that the overthrow of a particular dynasty is one thing, the subjugation of a free and powerful people, another; she seems to have vainly imagined that the direction against us of her undivided force, was all that was necessary to coerce submission to her most insolent demands. Hence, preliminaries of peace had scarcely been signed at Paris, when, availing herself of her immense naval superiority, her

veteran legions from the Peninsula were transported to the banks of the St. Lawrence and Niagara; powerful expeditions fitted out against our sea ports; and the strongest indications exhibited, that though the peace in Europe had removed almost every ground of collision between us, a restoration of harmony, upon terms mutually just and honorable, no longer constituted any part of her policy.

This disposition of the British government has not been left to inference, however manifest: the result of the conference at Ghent, places it beyond question.—*If peace be desired, it must now be evident to all, that it is to be obtained only by an active and vigorous prosecution of the war.* Great Britain must be made to feel how much the power of the United States has increased since she was compelled to acknowledge them sovereign and independent. Upon the novel and extravagant pretensions announced as the *sine qua non* of accommodation, there can exist but one opinion. While the moderation and conciliatory temper manifested by our own government to wrest from faction itself every ground of cavil or opposition, the arrogance and injustice of the enemy have roused even the most lukewarm to indignation and determined resistance. The unanimity of sentiment was all that was wanting to give to the national effort, in vindication of our rights, its proper character. With union among ourselves, and a just degree of energy in our councils, the resources of our country are too ample not to be adequate to a far more trying crisis. Of the capacity of our fellow citizens for military operations, the late campaign furnishes prodigious proof: it has demonstrated that to sustain the high reputation of our ancestors, it was only necessary to shake off the habits of peace. While the capture of a second fleet, and repeated triumphs in our naval conflicts, have evinced our accustomed superiority on that element of which Great Britain proudly boasts herself the mistress; the exploits of our armies have shed a correspondent lustre upon our exertions on land. In the north, and in the south, whether combating the vainly styled *invincibles* of our enemy, or her savage allies, to engage has been to conquer.—The campaign may truly be said to have been, on our part, a series of bold and brilliant achievements. The unprofitable seizure of Washington by the enemy, can scarcely be considered an exception. However calculated to effect the sensibility of the nation, the substantial advantages which have resulted to us from that event render it an object hardly to be regretted. It has not only united all ranks, all parties, in one common and just resentment towards the enemy, whose momentary possession of our capital was marked by barbarian disregard alike of science, of taste, of the arts, and of civilized war.



fare; but by impressing upon the inhabitants of our cities, in a manner more forcible than all the arguments which could have been urged, both the practicability and the probability, of their being attacked in turn, it has every where induced the most salutary measures of precaution and preparation. In every city along our extensive sea coast, the work of fortification has either been completed, or is in a state of rapid advancement. In Charleston, our fellow-citizens have manifested a patriotism, a zeal, and a manly spirit, honorable not only to themselves, but to South Carolina. That city, heretofore defended only at the entrance into its harbor, will soon be so strongly fortified on every side, as to be placed beyond the reach of insult. The means of constructing these works have been furnished partly by voluntary contributions of labor and money from patriotic individuals, and partly by the corporation of the city. The monies thus advanced, there can be no doubt will, eventually, be repaid by the general government: but as the time of re-payment will probably be distant, I submit to you the expediency of relieving the city from the burden of this debt, and including it in the demands which, on a settlement of our war accounts, the state may have against the general government. The preservation of Charleston is an object of too much interest, not merely to those who inhabit it, but to the state generally, to bear any doubts as to the justice of this measure.

To meet the increased means of annoyance, with which the present state of Europe will enable Great Britain to commence the next campaign, by a correspondent increase of means on our part, will be the province of the general government, and a just confidence is felt that it will be respected. While your fullest co-operation in every measure, which may be adopted for this desirable purpose, will doubtless be given; there are several measures connected with the immediate defence of the state, which a due regard to our own safety strongly presses upon your attention. Among the most prominent of those is the better organization of our militia. A complete change of system is demanded, not only that it may be more in conformity with that of the United States army, an object of itself of great importance, but by the radical defects of the existing system. With our ranks filled with men equal to any in the world, more than half their efficiency is lost from not being properly directed. In your deliberations on this subject, the expediency of increasing the number of our brigades and divisions, adapting the rank of our officers to those of the United States, and conforming the organization of companies, battalions and regiments, to that of the regular army, will not be overlooked. As the first step, however, towards the work of reformation, I strongly recommend

to you a general vacation of all existing commissions, and the adoption of some mode in the future appointment of officers, which may promise a happier result from those heretofore tried. In recommending a vacation of commissions, I am not unmindful of the merits of many officers among us, of all grades, who would do honor to any service; but while the proposed measure will remove those without merit, it will interpose no obstacle to our availing ourselves of the talents of those better qualified. With regard to future appointments, a variety of modes will no doubt suggest themselves; the simplest, and perhaps the most eligible, will be to give the nomination of officers of every grade to the executive, and the appointment to the senate. If this plan be successfully pursued by the general government, its good effects, in a less extended sphere, it is obvious must be still more certain. While in such a sphere, the responsibility will be the same, the judgment of the officer who will nominate, and of those who will appoint, will be directed in many cases by personal knowledge, and in all may be aided by correct and easily obtained information.

With a sea coast, however, which, though assailable at scarcely at any point by the larger vessels of the enemy, is vulnerable at almost every point by her lighter squadron; and with the great body of our population so remote from the scene of danger, as to render their assistance, in the event of sudden emergency, utterly impracticable; the improvements of our militia system, desirable as it certainly is, will not be sufficient. It is essential to our security that a force adequate, with the local militia on the coast, to repel such attacks as may be expected, be constantly kept on foot. I submit to you, therefore, the expediency of immediately organizing for this purpose, at least one brigade, to serve during the war. Whether the proposed force shall be raised by enlistment, by draft, or by accepting the services of volunteers, will be questions for your consideration. Whatever be the plan, however, for its organization, I recommend to you that when organized, it be offered to the general government as part of our quota, stipulating on our behalf, that it be constantly kept on duty within the state, or that, if its services should be required elsewhere, an equal number of the residue of our quota be maintained by the general government within the state, during its absence. But the maintenance of the proposed force is of too much importance to us to be made dependent upon its being received into the service of the general government: it ought to be maintained at all events. The appropriations which will be necessary, if this expence be devolved upon the state, considered in the abstract, may appear large; but considered in

comparison with the immense amount of property to which it will afford protection, it becomes insignificant.

In devising measures for the security of our maritime frontier, the protection of our inland coasting trade is of too much consequence, and too intimately involved with it, to be neglected. While our ports are blockaded, and the outward navigation of the smallest vessels interrupted, the importance of preserving the inland communication open and safe, is obvious. To effect this interesting purpose, it will be necessary either to establish a chain of strong military posts between Georgetown and Savannah, or to provide such a number of suitable barges, as in addition to those appropriated to our defence by the United States, will be competent to guarding effectually the several bays and inlets between those places. The latter is recommended as the more economical, and at the same time better adapted to the object, particularly the protection of our islands.

Connected with the service of the militia is a subject of minor importance, indeed, but of too much interest to permit me to pass it over without inviting to it your attention. While it has been provided that the militia called into the service of the United States, shall be furnished with arms by the state government, and with pay, rations, and camp equipage by the general government, no provision has been made for their being furnished by either, with blankets or clothing. When it is recollected how much the spirit and patriotism of the militia men usually exceed his means of providing for his comforts; and that, in consequence, there are, at this moment on duty many meritorious citizens, who, destitute of suitable covering, have volunteered, at the call of their country, to encounter not merely the perils of battle, but the still more formidable severities of the season; the expediency of making some provision on this subject will not require to be pressed upon you—I recommend to you that the commissary general of purchases be instructed to supply for every musket put into the hands of a militia man, one watch coat and blanket, to be delivered as early as shall be practicable.

Among the important measures which will unavoidably occupy your attention during the present session, a very interesting one will be the means of providing for the increased expenses of the ensuing year. In the present utter stagnation of commerce, when the produce of the farmer remains upon his hands without value, it may perhaps be justly questioned, whether the system of taxation has not already become oppressive; and whether, instead of increasing our taxes, it be not more eligible to adopt some mode of raising the supplies required, which, by throwing the burden of

the present period of difficulty upon future years of prosperity and peace, may lighten the inconveniences to which our fellow citizens might otherwise be subjected. The loans which might readily be obtained from our own banks, and others, would no doubt be more than equal to this purpose. As a mean, however, of providing not only for the present, but for any future emergency, I recommend to you the consolidation, upon such terms as shall be mutually agreed upon by the parties interested, of all the banks heretofore established, with the bank of the state of South Carolina; reserving to the state the right of increasing her shares, by extending the capital to such an amount as shall be deemed expedient; and pledging the faith and revenue of the state for the payment of all issues by the institution. This consolidation would constitute a capital fully adequate, it is confidentially believed, not only to all the purposes of the state, but to the purposes of every citizen of good credit who might find it necessary, in consequence of the present interruption of our commercial relations, to resort to loans. To the state, it would prove highly beneficial, not only by affording an ample source of accommodation, whenever accommodation might be desirable, but it would obtain for the public funds vested in bank stock, that security which is best derived from the care and vigilance of interested individuals; to the banks it would be equally beneficial, inasmuch as it would be a virtual renewal in perpetuity, of charters which will shortly terminate, and which, it is beyond question, would otherwise never be extended on any terms. To both the state and the stockholders the proposed consolidation promises other and very important advantages upon which I forbear to remark, but which will not fail to suggest themselves.

As the period for which I was elected, will shortly terminate, I shall lose no time in laying before you such other communications as it will be necessary to make.

I supplicate for you the guidance of that Being from whom all wisdom cometh, and devoutly pray that your patriotic labors may promote the welfare and happiness of our beloved country.

JOS. ALSTON.

*Columbia, Nov. 29, 1814.*

## LEGISLATURE OF GEORGIA.

*Monday, October 17.*

Both houses having convened agreeably to proclamation, and a quorum of each being formed, after the usual formalities they regularly proceeded to the election of their officers, and made choice of the following gentlemen:

*In Senate.*—William Rabun, esq. President; William Robertson, esq. Secretary.

*House of Representatives.*—Benj. Whitaker, esq. Speaker; A. S. Clayton, Clerk.

Both houses then adjourned to Tuesday, 10 o'clock.

Tuesday, Oct. 18.—The governor transmitted to both houses the following message:

*Executive Department, Georgia,*  
Milledgeville, Oct. 18, 1814.

*Fellow Citizens of the Senate,  
and House of Representatives,*

It has been deemed advisable, in the existing posture of public affairs, to convene the legislature at a period earlier than that prescribed by law. The reasons for this measure have arisen from the new and unprecedented features given by our enemy to the war in which we are engaged, and the obligations thereby imposed on us, to make corresponding exertions for meeting and repelling his efforts.

The war has not only assumed an aspect abhorrent to the principles of civilized nations, but its object has, to us, become essentially changed. The contest is now in reality, for independence on our part, and subjugation on that of our adversary.

The legislature will feel the necessity of making, without delay, radical changes in our militia system. Recent events have more than ever demonstrated that our militia must be better organized and better disciplined.—Our system has been calculated for a peace establishment. It is high time that one should be substituted fitted for a state of war.

The law passed at the last session of the legislature for organizing detachments which might be required for the public service, has been found impracticable of execution in some of its provisions, and tedious and difficult in most of its arrangements. It prescribes that the officers shall be elected by the men, after their arrival at a place of rendezvous, thus having no means by which troops are to be marched there. It prescribes that the officers thus elected shall be brevetted by the commanding officer of the detachment, when in detachments, requiring a commander under the rank of a general officer, that commander must himself be elected at the same time.

When, in the course of the present year, events rendered it necessary to organize and hold in readiness for service one third of the militia of this state, these and other difficulties presented themselves in their full force. To obviate them as far as possible, I ordered the elections to be held in their respective counties, and have issued special commissions—thus preserving the leading principle of the law, the election of officers by those who were to serve under them; but departing from the law in its forms, which were found impracticable of execution.

To the principle, however, of election for detachments, there are serious and weighty objections. It is tedious; it tends to produce insubordination, and is injurious to officers already in commission. And I earnestly recommend to the legislature its abolition.

Whilst the attention of the legislature shall be engaged on this subject, there is also another provision highly deserving their attention. The organization of our local militia varies materially from that prescribed for the army of the United States. And in order to have militia received into the service of the latter, they must be organized according to their plan. There ought to be an authority given by law to the executive for this purpose, whenever detachments are required to be placed in a state of preparation. And there ought especially to be an efficient method prescribed for enforcing obedience, in attending at any appointed rendezvous.

The condition of the volunteer corps also calls imperiously for revision. This species of force is always valuable when it can be brought into service; but under existing circumstances, the public is deprived almost entirely of its aid. Very few volunteer companies contain the number of privates necessary for their reception into the service of the United States; and whilst they appear desirous to take their share of duty, they will not consent to be consolidated. A power to consolidate where they are not full, and a mode for determining the selection of officers amongst them is highly necessary.

The situation of the cavalry, in particular, merits the consideration of the legislature. The mode in which the war has been conducted, and appears likely to be continued, affords but little use for this species of troops. In truth, they, as well as the volunteer infantry corps, although composed of the best materials which the country affords, are for the most part exempt from the public service.

The war department, on the fourth of July last, issued a requisition to most of the states in the union, for detaching, organizing and holding in readiness a quota of the militia. The proportion required from Georgia was three thousand five hundred. This requisition was the more easily complied with here, in consequence of the steps which had been previously taken, to have the militia arranged into classes, and to cause one third to be in constant readiness. The organization of the first class made them ready to fill up the quota. And one complete brigade has, by the directions of the major general commanding the United States troops in the sixth military district, been ordered to the neighborhood of Savannah. Besides these it is entirely probable, that a force of considerable strength will be speedily marched to the south west. The movements of the enemy in that quarter, have for some time indicated a plan, which it is seriously interesting to the general government, and to us in particular, should be frustrated. I have accordingly been required by the war department to hold in readiness, two thousand five hundred men for the pur-

pose of co-operating with reinforcements ordered from other sections of the union. This number will be supplied from the balance of the first class, together with some volunteer companies. They are in a state of readiness.

The exposed and defenceless situation of our principal sea-port town, became a source of anxiety, so soon as the mode of warfare intended to be pursued by the enemy, became known. The fund appropriated at the last session for military disbursements was nearly exhausted, and without money I could not order troops to the field on state account. It was important too, that suitable fortifications should be erected on the land side, to repel the approach of the enemy. The corporation of Savannah, pursuing the example set them at other places, and stimulated by the recommendation of the major general having charge of this military district, as well as by that of the state executive, adopted the idea of fortifying that city by voluntary contributions in money and labor, on the part of the inhabitants, confiding in the belief that the general government would ultimately reimburse the expenditure.

But the citizens of that place, not being very numerous, and the place itself requiring extensive works, an appeal was made to me for aid. The appeal was felt to be reasonable. The state government appeared bound to defray the expenditure for the present; especially when it was considered that large and liberal disbursements had heretofore been made for the defence of our interior frontier; and that the duties of protection extended alike to all. But here again my means were limited by existing appropriations. Under these circumstances I have applied for and obtained from the Planter's Bank of Savannah, a loan without interest, for an amount calculated to meet the present emergencies. This, together with a small advance from the treasury, have been deposited with the corporation of Savannah, to be expended in works of defence. For the reimbursement of the loan, I have pledged the faith of the executive. This pledge I rely with confidence on the legislature to enable me to make good: And I recommend to them to make such further appropriations as may defray the expense of completing the necessary fortifications; thereby taking the burthen of present advances from the shoulders of the citizens, and trusting to the justice of the general government for reimbursement in better times.

I also submit to the consideration of the legislature the propriety of ordering into the field a party of cavalry in aid of the forenoon in the service of the United States. Such a corps may be highly useful on the maritime frontier; and should be placed under the immediate command of the lieutenant colonel commanding the cavalry in that quarter.

The provision made by law at the last session, for paying into the treasury of the United States, the amount of direct tax due from Georgia, was carried into effect without difficulty. The payment was effected by discounting with the United States, an equal amount of the monies due from them to us under the articles of cession and agreement, in relation to the Mississippi territory, entered into on the 21th day of April, 1802.

The act of congress imposing a direct tax being temporary, it is not now known whether any provision need be made for meeting the payment of another year. But inasmuch as the power of the enemy to annoy, has by the peace in Europe, been increased in proportion to the desolating spirit with which he is disposed to prosecute the war, there can be no doubt that an increase of the means of resistance has become also necessary. We ought therefore to calculate on meeting a direct tax greater than that of the present year.

The report of the treasurer, at the close of the political year will inform you of the state of our finances; as there appears evidently to be a necessity for an increase of expenditure, it will at once occur to you that there must be a proportionate increase of receipts. I therefore recommend to the legislature to augment the ordinary taxes in a degree commensurate with the public wants. A free people, estimating at their proper value, the rights which belong to them will with cheerfulness contribute whatever may be necessary for their defence and protection.

The mode now in use in this state, of adjusting and liquidating accounts against the public appears to require revision. The settlements are all made at the executive office, thereby burthening that department with matters which in the nature of things do not appertain there. The affairs ought to be adjusted by the comptroller of the state.

A treaty has been negotiated with the friendly Creek Indians, by which their title is extinguished to a considerable extent of territory within the limits of this state. The acquisition is, however, of little value, either for the purposes of cultivation, or of strengthening our interior frontier. I am not yet informed whether the treaty has been sanctioned by the proper authority.

A list of appointments made by the executive during the recess of the legislature is herewith submitted.

Some subjects of minor importance to those now brought before the view of the legislature, will form the contents of a separate communication.

*Fellow-citizens.*—The era to which it is our lot to live, is pregnant with prominent events beyond that of any past times. The great hand is withered, which almost at will, put down and raised up empires in Europe, and himself has become a pensioner. The powers who prostrated him appear all desirous for repose to the world, except our inveterate foe. He is implacable towards us because we were growing in commerce, and have acquired so much naval character. These are at war with the policy and pride of our adversary. Long ago we committed an unpardonable sin, by asserting and achieving our national independence. The blaze of glory which our gallant sons of the ocean have shed around the American name is a source of mortification too deadly for forgiveness. Our armies too have recently inflicted some 150,000 of deep humiliation to a foe, acting on the belief, that with the means now at his command, our subjugation was within his reach. All the usages of war are dispensed with in relation to us, and we are already treated as if our rank in the scale of nations was nothing.

But the enemy mistakes his means, and mistakes us. The spirit of party is rapidly vanishing, and union and resistance are becoming the watchwords of the day.

This is one effect likely to be produced by the struggle, which humanity must deplore. The bitter animosities engendered by the war of the revolution, were fast wearing away. Commercial intercourse; reciprocal advantage; the reflection that England had some palliation in the belief that we were then in a state of rebellion against parental authority; these circumstances were eradicating the feelings that had arisen from the atrocities practised by her armies during our former struggle. But the case is now reversed. The present war was commenced between nations confessedly independent; connected by language, ties of relationship, manners, religion. All that could create tenderness and respect for each other. Yet under all these circumstances, her commanders are pursuing towards us an unrelenting system of confiscation, devastation and plunder. They make war on the female and the babe; they pillage the temples of the Most High; they consume to ashes defenceless houses and villages. Such a contest so conducted, will create animosities which ages cannot efface. The American child will learn in his cradle to abhor the British name, and the loss will be handed down from generation to generation.

Public Papers.

Copy of a letter from captain SINCLAIR, commanding on lake Erie, to the secretary of the navy, dated

*United States sloop of war Niagara, off St. Joseph, 22d July, 1814.*

Sir—The wind became favorable on the evening of the 3d inst—the troops were embarked, and I sailed from Detroit that night; but such were the difficulties I had to encounter on the flats of lake St. Clair, where, instead of ten feet, as I had been led to believe there was, I only found eight, and the rapid current of that river, that I did not reach lake Huron till the 12th. From thence I shaped my course, as directed, for Matchadash bay, and used every possible effort to gain it, but not being able to procure a pilot for that unfrequented part of the lake, and finding it filled with islands and sunken rocks, which must inevitably prove the destruction of the fleet, as it was impossible to avoid them, on account of the impenetrable fog with which this lake is almost continually covered; and finding the army were growing short of provisions from the time already elapsed, it was agreed between col. Croghan and myself to push for this place, where we should procure such information as would govern our future operations. We were favored in winds and arrived here on the 20th—The enemy had abandoned his work, consisting of a fort, and large block house, &c. those we destroyed, but left untouched the town and N. W. company's store houses.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to remain, sir, your obedient servant.

A. SINCLAIR.

*The Hon. William Jones, secretary of the navy.*

Copy of a letter from capt. SINCLAIR, commanding on lake Erie, to the secretary of the navy, dated,

*U. S. sloop of war Niagara, off Michilimackinac, July 30th, 1814.*

Sir—Whilst wind-bound at St. Joseph's I captured the N. W. company's schooner Mink, from Michilimackinack of St. Mary's with a cargo of flour—receiving intelligence through this source, that the schooner Perseverance was laying above the Falls, at the lower end of lake Superior, in waiting to transport the Mink's cargo to Fort Williams; I despatched the ship's launches under lieutenant Turner of the Scorpion, an active and enterprising officer, to capture her, and if possible to get her down the Falls. Colonel Croghan attached major Holmes with a party of regulars to co operate in the expedition, in which the capture of St. Mary's was included. The official report of the result, made by lieutenant Turner, I herewith enclose you. The capture of the Perseverance gave us the complete command of lake Superior—and had it not been for the strong

force at Michilimackinack, forbidding a separation of our means of attacking that place, and feeling myself bound by my instructions to do so, before I was at liberty to enter into any extensive enterprize of my own planning, I should have availed myself of this unlooked for advantage, and have broken up all their important establishments on lake Superior. The capture of Fort William alone would have nearly destroyed the enemy's fur trade, as that is his grand depot and general rendezvous, from which his extensive trade branches in all directions, and at which place there is never less than a million in value of property, and at this season of the year, it is said, there is twice that amount—I fear such another opportunity may never occur. The capture of those two vessels and the provisions, will, however, prove of very serious inconvenience to the enemy in that remote quarter, where the loss cannot possibly be retrieved. Flour was, before this loss, worth 60 dollars per barrel with them, and salt provisions 50 cents per pound. &c.

I have the honor to remain, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant.

A. SINCLAIR.

*The hon. Wm. Jones, secretary of the navy.*

Copy of a letter from lieutenant TURNER, to captain A. SINCLAIR commanding on lake Erie, dated

*U. S. schooner Scorpion, off Michilimackinack, July 28, 1814.*

Sir—I have the honor to inform you, that agreeable to your orders of the 22d inst. I proceeded on the expedition to lake Superior with launches, I rowed night and day, but having a distance of 60 miles against a strong current, information had reached the enemy at St. Mary's of our approach about two hours before I arrived at that place, carried by indians in their light canoes: several of whom I chased, and by firing on them and killing some, prevented their purposes: some I captured and kept prisoners until my arrival, others escaped. The force under major Holmes prevented any thing like resistance at the fort, the enemy with their indians carrying with them all the light valuable articles, peltry, clothes, &c. I proceeded across the strait of lake Superior without a moment's delay; and on my appearance, the enemy finding they could not get off with the vessel I was in quest of, set fire to her in several places, scuttled and left her. I succeeded in boarding her, and by considerable exertions extinguished the flames, and secured her from sinking. I then stripped her and prepared for getting her down the falls. Adverse winds prevented my attempting the falls until the 26th, when every possible effort was used, but I am sorry to say without success, to get her over in safety. The fall in 34 of a mile is

45 feet, and the channel very rocky; the current runs from 20 to 30 knots, and in one place there is a perpendicular leap of 10 feet, between three rocks; here she bilged, but was brought down so rapidly that we succeeded in running her on shore below the rapids before she filled, and burned her. She was a fine new schooner, upwards of 100 tons, called the Perseverance, and will be a severe loss to the M. W. company. Had I succeeded in getting her safe, I could have loaded her to advantage from the enemy's store-houses. I have, however, brought down four captured boats loaded with indian goods to a considerable amount, the balance contained in four large and two small store-houses were destroyed, amounting in value to from 50 to 100,000 Dollars. All private property was according to your orders respected. The officers and men under my command behaved with great activity and zeal, particularly midshipman Swartwout.

I have the honor to be sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

DANIEL TURNER.

*Copy of a letter from captain A. Sinclair to the secretary of the navy, dated*

U. S. sloop of war *Nirvana*, off Thunder Bay,  
August 9, 1814.

Sir—I arrived off Michilimackinack on the 28th July; but owing to a tedious spell of bad weather, which prevented our reconnoitering, or being able to procure a prisoner who could give us information of the enemy's indian force, which from several little skirmishes we had on an adjacent island, appeared to be very great, we did not attempt a landing until the 4th inst. and it was then made more with a view to ascertain positively the enemy's strength, than with any possible hope of success; knowing at the same time, that I could effectually cover their landing and retreat to the ships, from the position I had taken within 300 yards of the beach. Col. Croghan would never have landed, even with this protection, being positive, as he was, that the indian force alone on the island, with the advantages they had, were superior to him, could he have justified himself to his government, without having stronger proof than appearances, that he could not effect the object in view.

Mackinack is, by nature, a perfect Gibraltar, being a high inaccessible rock on every side, except the west, from which to the heights, you have near two miles to pass through a wood, so thick that our men were shot in every direction, and within a few yards of them, without being able to, see the indians who did it; and a height was scarcely gained before there was another within 50 or 100 yards commanding it, where breast works were erected and cannon opened on them. Several of those were charged and the enemy driven

from them; but it was soon found the further our troops advanced the stronger the enemy became, and the weaker and more bewildered our force were; several of the commanding officers were picked out and killed or wounded by the savages, without seeing any of them. The men were getting lost and falling into confusion, natural under such circumstances, which demanded an immediate retreat, or a total defeat and general massacre must have ensued. This was conducted in a masterly manner by col Croghan, who had lost the aid of that valuable and ever to be lamented officer major Holmes who with captain Vanhorn, was killed by the indians. The enemy were driven from many of their strong holds; but such was the impenetrable thickness of the woods, that no advantage gained could be profited by. Our attack would have been made immediately under the lower fort, that the enemy might not have been able to use his indian force to such advantage as in the woods, having discovered by drawing a fire from him in several instances, that I had greatly the superiority of metal of him; but its scite being about 150 feet above the water, I could not, when near enough to do him an injury, elevate sufficiently to batter it. Above this, nearly as high again, he has another strong fort, commanding every point on the island, and almost perpendicular on all sides. Col. Croghan not deeming it prudent to make a second attempt upon this place, and having ascertained to a certainty that the only naval force the enemy have upon the lakes consists of one schooner of 4 guns, I have determined to despatch the *Lawrence* and *Caledonia* to lake Erie immediately, believing their services in transporting our armies there will be wanting; and it being important that the sick and wounded, amounting to about 100, and that part of the detachment not necessary to further our future operations here, should reach Detroit without delay. By an intelligent prisoner captured in the *Mink*, I ascertained this, and that the mechanics and others sent across from York during the winter, were for the purpose of building a flotilla to transport reinforcements and supplies to Mackinack. An attempt was made to transport them by the way of Matchadash, but it was found impracticable, from all the portages being a morass; that they then resorted to a small river called *Nautawasaga*, situated to the south of Matchadash, from which there is a portage of three leagues over a good road to lake Simcoe. This place was never known until pointed out to them last summer by an indian. This river is very narrow, and has six or eight feet water in it about three miles up, and is then a muddy rapid shallow for 45 miles up to the portage, where their armada was built, and their store houses are now situated. The navigation is dangerous and dif-

fault, and so obscured by rocks and bushes, that no stranger could ever find it. I have however, availed myself of the means of discovering it. I shall also blockade the mouth of French river until the fall; and those being the only two channels of communication by which Mackinack can possibly be supplied; and their provisions at this time being extremely short, I think they will be starved into a surrender. This will also cut off all supplies to the N. W. company, who are now nearly starving, and their furs on hand can only find transportation by the way of Hudson bay. At this place I calculate on falling in with their schooner, which, it is said, has gone there for a load of provisions, and a message sent to her not to venture up while we are on the lake.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to remain, sir, your obedient servant.

ARTHUR SINCLAIR.

HON. WM. JONES,  
secretary of the navy.

*Extract of a letter from capt. A. Sinclair, to the hon. Wm. Jones, secretary of the navy, dated*

On board U. S. sloop Niagara, Erie, Sept. 3, 1815.

SIR—Immediately after the attack on Michilimackinack, I despatched the Lawrence and Caledonia with orders to lieutenant commandant Dexter, to make all possible despatch to lake Erie, and there co-operate with our army, &c. while I shaped my course in pursuit of the enemy's force, supposed to be about Nautauwasauga; and I cannot but express my surprise at having passed those vessels and arrived at Erie before them. By that opportunity I apprised you of my movements up to the 9th ult. since which time I have been fortunate enough to find his B. M. schooner Nancy, loaded with provisions, clothing, &c. for the troops at Mackinack.

She was two miles up the Nautauwasauga river, moored under a block-house, strongly situated on the S. E. side of the river, which, running nearly parallel with the bay shore for that distance, forms a narrow peninsula;—this and the wind being off shore, afforded me an opportunity of anchoring opposite to him, and within good battering distance; but finding the sand hills and trees frequently interrupting my shot, I borrowed an eight inch howitzer from colonel Croghan, mounted it on one of my carriages, and sent it on the peninsula, under command of lieutenant Holdup; a situation was chosen by captain Gratiot of the engineers, from which it did great execution. The enemy defended himself very handsomely, until one of those shells burst in his block house, and in a few minutes blew up his magazine. This set fire to a train which had been laid for the destruction of the vessel, and in an instant she was in flames. I had made the necessary preparation with boats

for getting on board of her; but frequent and heavy explosions below deck made the risk of lives too great to attempt saving her. She was, therefore, with her valuable cargo, entirely consumed. I cannot say whether those who defended her, were blown up in the block-house, or whether they retreated in the rear of their work, which they might have done unseen by us, as it afforded a descent into a thick wood. I hope the latter. A number of articles were picked up at a considerable distance off; among them was the commander's desk, containing copies of letters &c. several of which I herewith enclose you for your information. They serve to show the vessel to have been commanded by lieutenant Worsley of the royal navy; of what infinite importance her cargo was to the garrison at Mackinack, and that they have nothing afloat now on that lake. The Nancy appeared to be a very fine vessel, between the size of the Queen Charlotte and Lady Prevost. There were three guns on the block-house, two 24 pounders, and one 6 pounder. I cannot say what was on the vessel, as all her ports were closed. I also got a new boat, called by them a gun-boat, but unworthy the name, being calculated to mount only a 24 pound carronade.

The Nautauwasauga is too narrow, and overhung with bushes, for a vessel to get up, except by warping, which prevented my sending gun-boats in, or col. Croghan from attempting to turn his rear; as we saw a number of indians skulking, and occasionally firing across from the banks; it was in this way the only man we had touched, was wounded.

You will see, by the enclosed letters, the short state they are in for provisions at Michilimackinack; and I am assured, from the best authority, that this is the only line of communication by which they can be supplied, that of the Grand river being rendered impassable for any thing heavier than a man to carry on his back, by sixty portages; I have therefore left the Scorpion and Tigress to blockade it closely, until the season becomes too boisterous for boat transportation. Col. Croghan thought it not advisable to fortify and garrison Nautauwasauga, as the enemy's communication from York is so short and convenient, that any force he could leave there would be cut off in the winter.

I was unfortunate in getting embayed, in a gale of wind, on a rocky, iron bound shore, which occasioned the loss of all the boats I had in tow, amongst which was the captured gun-boat and my launch; I felt fortunate, however, in saving my vessel, lumbered as she was with 450 souls on board, and shipping such immense quantities of water as to give me very serious alarm for some hours. I was compelled to strike some of my guns below, and nothing saved her, at last, but a sudden shift of wind, as there is nothing like anchor-

age in lake Huron, except in the mouths of rivers, the whole coast being a steep perpendicular rock. I have been several times in great danger of total loss, in this extremely dangerous navigation, entirely unknown to our pilots, except direct to Mackinack, by falling suddenly from no soundings into 3 fathoms, and twice into 1-4 less twain, all a craggy rock. Those dangers might be avoided, from the transparency of the water, but for the continued thick fogs which prevail almost as constantly as on the Grand Bank.

By the arrival of the mail a few hours after I anchored at Detroit, I learned the critical state of our army on the peninsula, and that the Somers and Ohio had been captured.—The craft from the flats, with part of my guns and shot, had not yet arrived—but being certain my presence would be necessary at the earliest possible moment, I availed myself of a fair wind, and sailed for this place, where I am happy to learn that our army feel themselves perfectly secure where they are. I have, however, sent the Lawrence, Lady Prevost and Porcupine, to Buffalo there to render any assistance which may be required, and shall follow myself, in the course of 24 hours.—There is such an imminent risk of the loss of the fleet, at this season of the year, lying to an anchor near Buffalo, where the bottom is composed entirely of sharp rock, a strong current setting down, and exposed to the open lake, from whence the heaviest gales are experienced, that I shall not, unless ordered positively to do so from the department, continue there a moment longer than I can ascertain the commanding general's views, and in what way the fleet can co-operate with him. Daily and dearbought experience teaches us we ought not to risk our fleet in a situation where they are so liable to be lost. Lieut. Kennedy has, no doubt, informed you of the total loss of the Ariel, after being on float and ready to move from there.

I have the honor to remain, with great respect, sir, your obedient servant,

A. SINCLAIR.

N. B. A company of riflemen from Sandusky, has just arrived here, and have been forwarded on to fort Erie without delay.

#### THE INTERCEPTED LETTERS.

Michilimackinack, 28th July, 1814.

SIR—The American expedition, destined for the attack of this island, having at length made its appearance, under the command of commodore Elliot and lieut. col Croghan, consisting of the Niagara, 20 guns, Lawrence, 20, Hunter brig, 8 guns, and a large schooner of — guns, the Mary of — guns, five gunboats, and the Mink, their prizes. I hasten to apprise you of this circumstance, lest the Nancy and her valuable cargo fall into their hands, and that you may be enabled to take such steps for their preservation as will ap-

pear to you most expedient under the present circumstances. I have taken such precautions as were in my power, to make you acquainted with this event, in case you should be on your passage. If so, I would recommend you to return to the Nothawasaga river, and to take the Nancy up as high as possible, place her in a judicious position, and hastily run up a strong log house (such as were made when the boats were built, but larger) with loop holes and embrasures for your two six pounders, which will enable you to defend her should you be attacked, which is not unlikely. The mode of obtaining her cargo, of such value to us, will depend upon the result of the attack, which we daily expect, and of the duration of the blockade. I see no other way of obtaining the provisions but by bringing them in betteux protected by the carronade in the bows of two of them.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

RT. McDOWELL, *lieut. col.*  
*commanding at Michilimackinack.*

You will probably receive instructions from Kingston as to your conduct.

*Extract from a letter to W. D. Thomas esq.*  
*M. D surgeon 104th regt. York or Kingston,*  
*dated Nautawasauga, 6th Aug. 1814.*

“It is now nearly a month since I left York in company with lieut. Worsley of the navy, on my way to the land of promise, but things have turned out rather unfortunately, for you still behold me a sojourner in the wilderness. We had waited about a week on the banks of this river before the Nancy arrived, during which time we suffered every misery that you can imagine from bad weather and myriads of mosquitoes, &c. &c. The land here is the most barren I have seen and seems to have been formed from time to time by the washing of lake Huron, it being for upwards of two miles composed entirely of banks of sand, on which nothing grows but small brush wood. We found a number of indians encamped on the lake shore, who were extremely troublesome before the vessel arrived, and it was not possible to keep them out of our wigwams.— You may therefore judge what a pleasant sight the Nancy was for us: we found her a very fine schooner with an admirable cabin, her cargo was not completed before Sunday last, and she got under-way on Monday, with every prospect of reaching Mackinack in a short time, which is only 220 miles from hence. We had been out but a few hours, when we met an express from col McDowell to say that the American squadron from lake Erie of large force was blockading the island, and that we could not possibly reach it; we therefore had the mortification to put back into this wretched place where we are busily employed in erecting a block-house to contain and defend the stores and schooner in case of



an attack, which is an event I have no doubt of; but I hope from the strength of the ground Worsley has chosen, and the goodness of his crew, that we shall be able to beat off a very strong force. The river is too narrow to sail up, we shall therefore only have gun-boats to contend with. I hope Mackinack has provisions for three months, and the enemy it is said cannot keep out so long on account of the climate, so that the Nancy can make a run late in the season, with the stores, if we succeed in defending them. I expect the man who brought the express the other day, who has gone to York, and intends going back to Mackinack in a canoe. I shall trust my person with him, as he thinks he can again give Jonathan the slip."

(End of the intercepted letters.)

Copy of a letter from lieut. Conkling to capt. Kennedy, dated

Port George, U. Canada, Aug. 16th, 1814.

Sir—With extreme regret I have to make known to you the circumstances attending the capture of the Ohio and Somers. On the night of the 12th, between the hours of 10 and 12, the boats were seen a short distance ahead of the Somers, and were hailed from that vessel—they answered "provision boats," which deceived the officers of the deck, as our army boats had been in the habit of passing and repassing through the night, and enabled them to drift athwart his hawser and cut his cables, at the same time pouring in a heavy fire before he discovered who they were. Instantaneously they were along side of me and notwithstanding my exertions, aided by Mr. McCally, acting sailing-master, (who was soon disabled,) I was unable to repulse them but for a moment. I maintained the quarter-deck until my sword fell, in consequence of a shot in the shoulder, and all on deck either wounded or surrounded by bayonets. As their force was an overwhelming one, I thought further resistance vain, and gave up the vessel with the satisfaction of having performed my duty, and defended my vessel to the last.

List of killed and wounded.

OHIO.

**Killed**—John Fifehill, boatswain's mate, shot through the body.

**Wounded**—Reuben Wright, shot through the arm. Sailing-master McCally, shot thro' the thigh, and bayoneted through the foot.—Sergeant Eastman, of the 11th regt. of the army, wounded in the neck by a musket ball.—Gauger, 11th regt. wounded in the arm.—Weath, 11th regt. wounded in the arm.—Whillers, 21st regt. wounded, cut in the arm.

SOMERS.

**Wounded**—Samuel Taylor, shot in the arm and cut in the head. Charles Ordena, cut in the shoulder; also one of the Ohio's marines,

whose name the sergeant cannot find, now in the hospital, badly wounded.

The enemy's loss in killed and wounded is much more considerable; amongst the killed is the commanding officer of the Netley, (lying here) capt. Railiff, he fell in attempting to come over my quarters. Notwithstanding the number of muskets and pistols which were fired, and the bustle inseparable from enterprises of this kind, neither the fort or the Porcupine attempted to fire as we drifted past them, nor did we receive a shot until past Black Rock, though they might have destroyed us with ease.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,  
A. M. CONKLING.

P. S. We expect to be sent to Montreal, and perhaps to Quebec directly.

Ed. P. Kennedy, Esq. commanding U. S. naval force on Lake Erie.

Copy of a letter from com. Sinclair to the secretary of the navy dated,

U. S. sloop of war Niagara, off Erie, 10th Oct. 1814.

SIR—I have not transmitted you the inclosed correspondence between lieutenant-colonel McDowall, myself and colonel Croghan, from the circumstance of my having been referred to gentlemen in Detroit for the character of John Johnson, the subject of communication; and not having that enquiry in my power until a few days since. From the best information I have gained, from a very respectable gentleman there, I am induced to believe that major Holmes was misinformed as to the real character of that man, and was no doubt led into error by some of those wretches who are ever ready to profit by the distresses of their neighbors. Johnson, it seems, was never a naturalized citizen or magistrate under our government. He is an Irishman by birth, and at the declaration of war moved over to the Canada side, but neither bore arms or took any active part against the United States, and bears the character of an honest man; it seems also that he has a large family dependent on his exertions for support. It is therefore, my wish, and I am sure the wish of all those under my command, should the above information be found correct, upon a strict enquiry, that the government authorise such property as is known to have belonged to Johnson to be returned, as I cannot feel myself empowered to restore, under such circumstances, what the government and captors are equally interested in, nor could I reconcile it to my feelings to reduce to poverty the honest industrious man for the benefit of enriching myself.

While on this subject, I think it correct to state to you, the pitiful advantage taken of the offer made of payment for the cattle taken from St. Joseph's, which were so miserably poor, that had I seen them before they were brought on board they should not have been

butchered, even to supply the necessities of the hospital department. And yet, knowing, as they did, that we could not in honor, withdraw our offer of payment, they brought in a bill of eight hundred and eighty-eight dollars and some cents, for 1800lbs. of such beef, nearly 50 cents per pound, which was actually paid by the quarter-master of the detachment. Such, sir, is the boasted honor and generosity of our enemy.

I have the honor to remain, with high respect, sir, your obedient servant.

A. SINCLAIR.

HON. WM. JONES,

Secretary of the navy.

*Copy of a note from captain Sinclair and lieutenant-colonel Croghan to lieutenant colonel M Dowall, dated*

U. S. sloop of war Niagara,  
off Michilimackinac, 5th August, 1814.

Commodore Sinclair and lieutenant-colonel Croghan present their compliments to lieutenant-colonel M'Dowall, and request the favor of him to make known to the individuals who owned the stock on the Island of St. Joseph's, that such as they had brought off for the use of the fleet, and army, will be paid for upon application on board the fleet, or at any military post in the United States.

*Copy of a letter from lieutenant-colonel M'Dowall, to commodore Sinclair and colonel Croghan, dated*

Michilimackinac, 6th August, 1814.

GENTLEMEN—I have learned with a degree of astonishment, which I have scarcely words to express, that part of the squadron and force under your command, while at St. Mary's. in defiance of the custom and usages of war between civilized nations, which render the private property of individuals sacred, have conducted themselves while at that place with a degree of rapacity and pillage, most disgraceful to those concerned, and utterly ruinous to the respectable inhabitants who have suffered, consigning several of them, who have large families, from a state of ease and comparative affluence, to poverty and want.

It is with a feeling of pain and disappointment that I find myself compelled to credit, in some degree, the circumstances to which I have alluded. I would hope that they are exaggerated; I would hope that such men as commodore Sinclair and lieutenant-colonel Croghan have not lent the sanction of their name to acts so repugnant to the genuine feelings of a soldier, so destructive to that honorable fame to which they aspire, and which has a tendency to revive in our minds the exploits of the buccancers and their lawless mode of warfare.

I repeat to you, therefore, gentlemen, my conviction that this wanton robbery of unresisting individuals was unauthorised, and doubt not, from the voluntary offer of pay-

ment for the cattle taken from St. Joseph's, that full and complete compensation will be made. Should this be refused, and the acts alluded to not be disavowed, it will become my duty to represent the same to the governor general of the Canadas, and to urge the necessity of a severe retaliation for the outrages which have been committed. This, he has it constantly in his power to inflict, and if Ogdensburg and Hamilton are in consequence plundered and laid waste, their unfortunate inhabitants will not be at a loss to point out to their country the real authors of the misery thus brought upon them.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant.

RT. M'DOWALL, *lieut. col*

*Glengary light infantry,*

*Commanding at Michilimackinac.*

To commodore SINCLAIR,  
and lieut. col. CROGHAN.

P. S. The bearer, Mr. Crawford, is my particular friend, and the proprietor of the the cattle taken from St. Joseph's.

RT. M'DOWALL, *lieut. col.*

*Copy of a letter from commodore Sinclair to lieutenant-colonel M'Dowall, dated*

U. S. ship of war Niagara,  
off Michilimackinac, 6th Aug. 1814.

SIR—Your letter of this day's date has just been handed me by Mr. Crawford, and I am proud to have it in my power to say in reply, that my own sense of honor and justice accord with the instructions received from my government as relates to individuals and their property, both of which, I am convinced, will ever be held inviolate, however much we may be urged to the cruel system of retaliation, by the unrelenting and barbarous excesses committed by his majesty's arms on our maritime frontier.

This is a subject, however, to be discussed between our respective governments. The voluntary offer made yesterday by colonel Croghan and myself to pay for the cattle we had taken for the use of our sick, from the Island of St. Joseph's, supposing them to be private property, might have assured you the honorable course we meant to pursue; but as it appears not to have done so, I will give you further demonstration in the following extract from my orders, given the naval officer commanding the launches sent from my squadron to capture a vessel on lake Superior, &c.

"While executing the foregoing order, individuals and their property *must* be respected; no private houses or property molested in any way, or individuals maltreated."

Orders from colonel Croghan to major Holmes, who commanded the land forces on the expedition, were of a similar nature. The character of that officer, therefore, forbids a shadow of suspicion that he did not see just grounds for seizing as prize the property

brought from the Sault St. Maries, and which you have claimed as the property of John Johnson. The official report of that officer to colonel Croghan says—"Much of the goods we have taken were found in the woods on the American side, and were claimed by the agent of John Johnson, an indian trader. I secured this property, because I thought it was good prize by the maritime law of nations, as recognized in the English courts (witness the case of admiral Rodney, adjudged by lord Mansfield); further, because Johnson had acted the infamous part of a traitor, having been a citizen and a magistrate of Michigan territory before the war, and at its commencement, and now discharging the functions of a magistrate under the British government; because his agents armed the indians from his store house at our approach—and, lastly, because those goods, or a considerable part of them, were designed to be taken to Mackinac: pork, salt and groceries composed the chief part, and Johnson himself passed Mackinac since the squadron arrived at St. Joseph's." Under such circumstances, sir, I cannot but feel it my duty to hold this property for adjudication, or until the pleasure of my government can be known as to the disposal of it. In the mean time, an inventory of every article brought on board my squadron has been taken, and whatever may be the issue, you may rest assured that justice shall be strictly observed, and, if restored to the claimant, a flag be granted for its transportation.

Your friend, Mr. Crawford, has been paid for his cattle.

I have the honor to remain, respectfully,  
sir, your most obedient servant,

A. SINCLAIR,

Commodore, commanding U. S.  
naval force on the Upper Lakes.

Lieut. col. McDOWALL,

Gleagary light infantry,  
commanding at Michilimackinac.

#### BATTLE OF CHAMPLAIN.

To the editors of the *National Intelligencer*.

Gentlemen—Will you have the goodness to publish in the *National Intelligencer* the inclosed copies of a letter to the hon. the secretary of the navy, and of a report to commodore Macdonough, both of which are substantially correct, though perhaps not verbally, having been written in such haste as to deprive me of an opportunity of having a perfectly correct copy made.

Your obedient servant,

ROB. HENLY.

Copy of a letter from lieut. Henly to the secretary of the navy, dated

U. S. brig Eagle, off Plattsburg,  
September 12, 1814.

Sir—Permit me to make you acquainted

with that part of the action of yesterday, which was particularly borne by the vessel which I had the honor to command, as it may not appear in the official report of captain Macdonough, whose duty it is to make a true and impartial statement of facts.

Being at anchor in the harbor of Plattsburg, in a line north and south at the distance of about one hundred yards, the *Eagle* north, the *Saratoga* in the centre, and the *Ticonderoga* south, the enemy approached in a line abreast, with a favorable wind, which enabled him to choose his position; his brig taking her station on the starboard bow of the *Eagle*, at the distance of about a mile, his ship about one point abaft her (the *Eagle's*) beam, and the sloop *Linnet* of eleven guns, making an effort to obtain a raking position under our stern. Perceiving the object of the sloop, I ordered her a broadside, which compelled her immediately to strike her colors.

At the moment when the enemy's ship had approached within point-blank distance, the *Eagle* commenced upon her a most destructive fire of her whole broadside, excepting the two long 18's forward, which were occasionally discharged at the enemy's brig, who frequently relieved her position and kept up a raking and most destructive fire upon this vessel.

I was confident that it was of the highest importance, in order to ensure success, to endeavor first to carry the enemy's ship. For a great length of time after the commencement of the action, the ship levelled her whole force upon the *Eagle*, dealing forth destruction.

After having sustained the severest of the action for more than one hour—having my springs shot away—many of my starboard guns disabled, and not being in a situation to bring one of them to bear upon either the enemy's ship or brig, I ordered the cable cut and cast the brig, taking an advantageous position a little south of the *Saratoga*, bringing my larboard broadside to bear upon the ship, which was very soon compelled to haul down her colors. Our fire was now directed at the brig, which struck in the space of eight minutes, and our contest terminated in victory. We now turned our attention toward the galleys, some of which, it is believed, sunk, and the residue made their escape. The *Eagle* was in too shattered a condition to pursue them.

I have the honor to enclose the surgeon's report of the killed and wounded on board the *Eagle*, by which you will perceive there were 13 killed and 27 wounded, most of them severely. Also a copy of the report of the meritorious conduct of my officers and men, which I made to capt. Macdonough, for your information, and which he has since informed me he had lost.

I have the honor to be, sir, with high respect, your obedient servant,

RO. HENLEY.

*Copy of a letter from lieut. Henly to com. Macdonough, dated*

U. S. brig Eagle, off Plattsburgh  
September 1. th, 1814.

Sir—I have the honor to enclose a report of the killed and wounded on board the United States brig Eagle under my command, in the action of yesterday. And while in the performance of this painful task, permit me sir, to profit by the occasion, to perform a more gratifying part of my duty, in representing to you, for the information of the honorable the secretary of the navy, the brave and good conduct of my officers and crew; all whom, I am proud to say, did their duty. All performed the part of real Americans; during the severest shock of the action their courage remained unshaken. Nothing could surpass the coolness and deliberate firmness with which every officer and man performed his respective part.

Early in the action I was deprived of the services of that excellent officer lieutenant Joseph Smith, who was wounded and carried below, but returned to his duty before the close of the action. He went into action in that cool and deliberate manner which marks the truly brave man.

The gallant acting lieut. William A. Spencer shortly after received a severe wound in the head, and was also carried below, but resumed his station previous to the close of the action.

Acting sailing master Daniel Record was slightly wounded, but did not leave the deck. Acting lieut. James Loomis, midshipmen Chamberlin, Mechesney and Tardy behaved with great spirit—in short, sir, every officer and man acted bravely and much to my satisfaction.

The zealous and active attention of acting surgeon Izrael Stoddart to the unfortunate officers and men who were wounded, entitles him to my warmest thanks, and I should be extremely gratified to see him rewarded by an appointment as surgeon in the navy.

Mr. Augustus Loomis, a volunteer, was very active and useful; and through you, sir, I beg leave to recommend him to the consideration of the honorable the secretary, for a lieutenancy of marines; and earnestly request that acting lieuts. Spencer and Loomis may be confirmed in their appointments as lieutenants.

Mr. Record, whom I appointed at Vergennes as acting sailing master, has proved himself a good and worthy officer, if it should please the honorable secretary to confirm his appointment. I should be much gratified also Messrs. Edward Smith as gunner; Charles Johnson as carpenter, and John Wilson as

boatswain—they behaved well and are worthy of warrants in the navy.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

ROBERT HENLEY.

COM. THOS. MACDONOUGH.

### CRUIZ. OF THE ADAMS.

*Copies of letters from captain Charles Morris to the secretary of the navy.*

Hambden, (D. Maine.) Aug. 22, 1814.  
U. S. ship Adams.

Sir—After leaving Savannah we proceeded to the northward of the Matanilla Reef, where we remained waiting for the Jamaica convoy till the 22d May, when we learned from a neutral vessel they had passed us the preceding night. We then made sail to the northward, and on the 24th got sight of the convoy, from which we were chased by two ships of war; saw them again the next morning, but the weather being pleasant and the wind fair, they kept in very close order, and their convoying force being too strong for us to injure them, except in case of separation, we bore up to the eastward, intending to cruise a few days upon the banks.—On the 9th June met with islands of ice and very thick weather in lat 41, 40—the fog continuing for several days and the thermometer indicating the vicinity of ice very frequently, we stood to the southward and eastward until we were clear of it. June 24th, in lat. 46, captured and destroyed the British brig Hunter, of 10 guns. 20 men, with a cargo of fish from Newfoundland to Corunna, June 28th, in lat 48, captured and destroyed the British brig Mary, from France to Newfoundland with salt. On the 3d July, made the Basquit Islands on the west coast of Ireland; on the 4th chased two vessels into the mouth of the Shannon, but the wind being strong from the westward and a heavy sea, we were obliged to haul out of the bay; stood to the northward and cruised off Broadhaven till the 9th, but the weather was so thick that we saw not a single vessel; we then returned to the southward and eastward. In lat 49. long. 10, while in chase of a large merchant ship discovered a frigate under our lee bow from which we were obliged to tack, she continued in chase of us through the day and by her superior sailing had closed nearly within gunshot by sunset; at 8 P. M. cut away our anchors and hove two boat guns overboard, it falling calm during the night, got our boats ahead to tow, by day light had left the frigate five miles astern; the chase was however continued till 10 o'clock the next night, when by altering our course we lost sight of her. Returning again to the southward on the morning of the 19th in lat. 49. 20, discovered a frigate under our lee bow tacked, and made sail from him; two hours after discovered another ship

of war on our weather beam in chase of us, by noon we had lost sight of the first in the haze, the other continued the chase at about four miles distance, till the evening of the 20th, when in lat. 56 we lost sight of him by changing our course. Although every possible precaution had been taken to guard against the scurvy, we had nothing sufficiently powerful to counteract the effect of continued wet, foggy and cold weather which had prevailed for fifty days, so many of the men were now afflicted with it, and their number so rapidly increasing as to render our immediate return to port indispensable; every diligence was accordingly used in getting to the westward, keeping in the track of the Newfoundland trade. July 25th, captured and destroyed English schooner Favorite with salt for Newfoundland. Aug. 7th, captured the British ship Paris, from Quebec to London, with a cargo of lumber and a few skins, took out a part of the skins and destroyed her. On the 16th August, captured and destroyed the English schooner Maria, with a cargo of lumber from St Andrews, N. B. bound to Newfoundland. At 4 A. M. on the 17th August the weather being very thick and foggy, the ship ran on shore upon the isle of Haute, but after landing the sick, prisoners, and a few stores we succeeded in getting her off and bringing her to this place. The extent of the injury she has received cannot yet be ascertained, but it is feared she will require considerable repairs, as she makes about 9 feet water an hour. Our sick have not yet joined us, but are comfortably situated at Cambden under charge of the purser and surgeon's mate.

Very respectfully, your ob'dt serv't.

C. MORRIS.

*Hon. Secretary of the Navy, Washington.*

### SKIRMISH AT ROCK RIVER.

*Copy of a letter from major Taylor to gen. Howard, dated*

Fort Madison, Sept. 6th 1814.

Sir—In obedience to your orders, I left fort Independence on the 2d ult. and reached Rock river, our place of destination, on the evening of the 4th inst. without meeting a single indian or any occurrence worthy of relation.

On my arrival at the mouth of Rock river, the indians began to make their appearance in considerable numbers; running up the Mississippi to the upper village and crossing the river below us. After passing Rock river, which is very small at the mouth, from an attentive and careful examination as I proceeded up the Mississippi, I was confident it was impossible for us to enter its mouth with our large boats. Immediately opposite its mouth, a large island commences, which, together with the western shore of the Mississippi, was covered with a considerable number of horses; which were doubtless placed in those

situations, in order to draw small detachments on shore. But in this they were disappointed, and I determined to alter the plan which you have suggested; which was to pass the different villages as if the object of the expedition was *Prairie du Chien*, for several reasons—first that I might have an opportunity of viewing the situation of the ground to enable me to select such a landing as would bring our artillery to bear on the villages with the greatest advantage. I was likewise in hopes a party would approach us with a flag, from which I expected to learn the situation of affairs at the Prairie, and ascertain in some measure their numbers and perhaps bring them to a council, when I should have been able to have retaliated on them for their repeated acts of treachery; or if they were determined to attack us, I was in hopes to draw them some distance from their towns towards the rapids, run down in the night and destroy them before they could return to their defence. But in this I was disappointed—the wind which had been in our favor, began to shift about at the time we passed the mouth of Rock river; and by the time we reached the head of the island, which is about a mile and a half long, it blew a perfect hurricane, quarterly down the river, and it was with difficulty we made land at a small island containing six or eight acres covered with willows, near the middle of the river and about sixty yards from the upper end of the island. In this situation I determined to remain during the night if the storm continued—as I knew the anchors of several of the boats in that event would not hold them and there was a great probability of their being drifted on sand bars, of which the river is full in this place, which would have exposed the men very much in getting them off, even if they could have prevented their filling with water.

It was about 4 o'clock in the evening when we were compelled to land; and large parties of Indians were on each side of the river as well as crossing in different directions in canoes—but not a gun was fired from either side. The wind continued to blow the whole night with violence accompanied with severe rain; which induced me to order the sentinels to be brought in and placed in the bow of each boat—about day light capt. Whitesides' boat was fired on at the distance of about 15 paces, and a corporal who was on the outside of the boat was mortally wounded—my orders were, if a boat was fired on to return it; but not a man to leave the boat without positive orders from myself—so soon as it got perfectly light, as the enemy continued about the boat, I determined to drop them from the island, let their numbers be what they might: provided we were able to do so. I then assigned to each boat a proper guard, formed the troops for action and pushed through the

willows to the opposite shore, but those fellows who had the boldness to fire on the boats, cleared themselves as soon as the troops were formed, by wading from the island we were encamped on, to the one just below us. Capt. Whitesides who was on the left, was able to give them a warm fire as they reached the island they had retreated to. They returned the fire for a few moments, when they retreated. In this affair we had two men badly wounded. When capt. Whitesides commenced the fire I ordered captain Rector to drop down with his boat to ground and to rake the island below with artillery, and to fire on every canoe he should discover passing from one shore to the other which should come within reach. In this situation he remained about one hour, and no indians making their appearance, he determined to drop down the island about sixty yards and destroy several canoes that were laying to shore. This he effected, and just on setting his men on board, the British commenced a fire on our boats with a six, a four, and two swivels from behind a *Noll*, that completely covered them. The boats were entirely exposed to the artillery, which was distant about three hundred and fifty paces from us. So soon as the first gun fired, I ordered a six pounder to be brought out and placed, but, on recollecting a moment, I found the boat would be sunk before any impression could be made on them by our cannon, as they were completely under cover, and had already brought their guns to bear on our boats—for the round shot from their six passed through lieut. Hempstead's boat, and shattered her considerably. I then ordered the boats to drop down, which was done in order and conducted with the greatest coolness by every officer, although exposed to a constant fire from their artillery for more than half a mile. So soon as they commenced firing from their artillery, the indians raised the yell and commenced firing on us in every direction, whether they were able to do us any damage or not, from each side of the river. Capt. Rector, who was laying to the shore of the island, was attacked the instant the first gun was fired, by a very large party, and in a close and well contested contest, of about fifteen minutes, they drove them, after giving three rounds of grape from his three pounder. Capt. Whitesides, who was nearest to capt. Rector dropped down and anchored nigh him, and gave the enemy several fires with his swivel; but the wind was so hard down stream as to drift his anchor. Capt. Rector at that moment got his boat off, and we were then exposed to the fire of the indians for two miles, which we returned with interest from our small arms, and small pieces of artillery, whenever we could get them to bear. I was compelled to drop down about three miles, before a proper

place presented itself for landing, as but few of the boats had anchors sufficient to stop them in the river. Here I halted for the purpose of having the wounded attended, and some of the boats repaired, as some of them had been injured by the enemy's artillery. They followed us in their boats until we halted on a small prairie, and prepared for action, when they returned in as great a hurry as they followed us.

I then collected the officers together, and put the following question to them. Are we able, 334 effective men, officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, to fight the enemy, with any prospect of success and effect, which is to destroy their villages and corn? They were of opinion the enemy was at least three men to one, and that it was not practicable to effect either object. I then determined to drop down the river to the La moine without delay, as some of the ranging officers informed me their men were short of provisions, and execute the principal object of the expedition in erecting a fort to command the river. This shall be effected as soon as practicable, with the means in my power, and should the enemy attempt to descend the river in force before the fort can be completed, every foot of the way from the fort to the settlements shall be contested.

In the affair at Rock river, I had eleven men badly wounded, three mortally, of whom one has since died.

I am much indebted to the officers for their prompt obedience to orders, nor do I believe a braver set of men could have been collected than those who compose this detachment.—But, sir, I conceive it would have been madness in me, as well as a direct violation of my orders to have risked the detachment without a prospect of success.

I believe I should have been fully able to have accomplished your views if the enemy had not been supplied with artillery, and so advantageously posted as to render it impossible for us to have dislodged him without imminent danger of the loss of the whole detachment.

I am sir, yours, &c.

Z. A. TAYLOR, brev. maj.

Com. detachment.

#### GENERAL RIPLEY'S REPORT,

Of the battle of the 15th Aug. near fort Erie, not having yet appeared in the REGISTER, and the conduct of some brave officers on the occasion thus passing unnoticed and unrewarded by that tribute of public applause and historic fame enjoyed by others in similar cases; we think the following copy of an official letter to general Gaines, the senior officer at that post, entitled to insertion.

*Brigadier-General Gaines.*

Sir—I take the liberty of reporting to you the course of operations on the left flank of the camp, during the action of the 15th inst.

From indications satisfactory to me, I was persuaded very early of the enemy's design of attacking us in our position. Before any alarm, I caused my brigade to occupy their alarm posts. On the first fire of the picket, captain Towson opened his artillery upon them from Fort Williams, in a style which does him infinite credit; it was continued with very great effect upon the enemy during the whole action.

The enemy advanced with fixed bayonets, and attempted to enter our works between the fort and water. They brought ladders for the purpose of scaling, and in order to prevent their troops from resorting to any other course excepting the bayonet, had caused all the flints to be taken from their muskets. The column that approached in this direction consisted of \_\_\_\_\_ and amounting in number to at least 1500 men—and according to the representation of prisoners they were 2,000 strong. The companies posted at the point of the works which they attempted to escalate, were capt. Ross's, capt. Marston's, lieut. Bowman's, and lieut. Larned's of the 21st regiment, not exceeding 150 men, under command of maj. Wood, of the engineer corps. On the enemy's approach they opened their musketry upon them in a manner the most powerful, Fort Williams and this little band, emitted one broad uninterrupted sheet of light—the enemy were repulsed. They rallied, came on a second time to the charge, and a party waded round our line by the lake, and came in on the flank—but a reserve of two companies posted in the commencement of the action to support this point, marched up and fired upon the party—they were all killed or taken. Five times in this manner did the enemy advance to the charge—five times were their columns beaten back in the utmost confusion by a force one sixth of their numbers; till at length, finding the contest unavailing, they retired. At this point we made 147 prisoners.

During the contest in this quarter, the lines of the whole left wing were perfectly lined, in addition to the reserves; and I found myself able to detach three companies of the 23d regiment from the left, to reinforce the troops at fort Erie, viz: captain Wattles's lieut. Cantine's, and lieut. Brown's companies—and one of the 17th, under capt. Chunn. They were in the fort during the time of the explosion, and their conduct is highly spoken of by maj. Brooke, their commanding officer. Indeed, from the high state to which that regiment has been brought by maj. Brooke, I am convinced that no troops will behave bet-

In submitting to your view the conduct of the troops under my command on this occasion, I find every thing to applaud, and nothing to reprehend. The utmost coolness and subordination was manifested, both by the 21st and 23d regiments. To maj. Wood I feel particularly indebted. This officer's merits are so well known, that approbation can scarcely add to his reputation. He has the merit with his Spartan band, in connection with captain Towson's artillery, of defeating a vaunting foe of six times his force. Major Brooke did every thing in his power; and it affords me pleasure at all times to call the attention of the general commanding to this amiable and accomplished officer.

The officers commanding companies immediately engaged, have my highest commendations—their conduct was most judicious and gallant. I cannot refrain from adverting to the manner in which captain Towson's artillery was served—I have never seen it equalled. This officer has so often distinguished himself, that to say simply that he is in action, is a volume of eulogium—the army, only to be informed he is there, by a spontaneous assent, are at once satisfied that he has performed well his part. I have no idea that there is an artillery officer in any service superior to him in the knowledge and performance of his duty.

The officers I have mentioned as commanding companies of the 21st and 23d regiments, are particularly commended by their commanding officers. Captain Marston, a most valuable officer, commanded a first file of three companies opposed to the enemy's column. Captain Ropes commanded the companies of reserve. Major Wood reports in the highest terms of the good conduct of the subalterns. Lieut. Kiddle of the 15th, attached to the 21st, and Hall, and ensign Bean, Jones, Cumming, and Thomas of the 19th; as being extremely active, and performing their duties with alacrity.

The manner in which lieutenant Belknap, of the 23d, retired with his picquet guard from before the enemy's column, excites my particular commendation. He gave orders to fire three times as he was retreating to camp, himself bringing up the rear. In this gallant manner, he kept the light advance of the enemy in check, for a distance of two or three hundred yards. I have to regret, that when entering our lines after his troops, the enemy pushed so close upon him that he received a severe wound from a bayonet.

Lieutenants Bushel and Cissney, of the 19th, whilst gallantly engaged with the enemy at fort Erie, were both severely, if not mortally wounded. Their conduct merits the warmest approbation.

Permit me to recommend to your notice, the good conduct of my staff, lieut. Kirby, of

the corps of artillery, my aid-de-camp, and lieutenant Holding, acting brigade major; their activity and zeal was entirely to my satisfaction.

I close this long report, with stating to you in the highest terms of approbation, the skillfulness exhibited by doctor Fuller, surgeon of the 23d, and Drs. Trowbridge, surgeon of the 21st infantry, with their mates, Dr. Gale, of the 23d, and Dr. Everett and Allen, of the 21st, their active, humane, and judicious treatment of the wounded, both of the enemy and of our own, together with their steady and constant attention to the duties of their station, must have attracted your personal observation, and I am confident, will receive your approbation.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed) EL. W. RIPLEY,

Brig. gen. com. 2d brigade.

Fort-Erie, U. C. August 17th, 1814.

### SURRENDER OF ALEXANDRIA.

IN COUNCIL, Sept. 7, 1814.

Present—Thos. Herbert, president, John Gird, And. Fleming, Henry Nicholson, J. B. Patton, John Cohagen, James Millan, John Hunter, Reuben Johnston, R. I. Taylor, Wm. Veitch, Anthony Rhodes.

The following narrative of the occupation of this town by the enemy and of the circumstances connected with that unfortunate transaction, having been submitted to council and duly considered and examined, the council do unanimously concur therein, and it is thereupon ordered, that it be published in both of the papers printed in this town.

THOS. HERBERT, *president.*

*At a meeting of the committee of vigilance, this 7th of September, 1814,*

Present—Charles Simms, mayor; Joseph Dean, Matthew Robinson, Jonah Thomson, Wm. Herbert, Thos. Vowell Edmund I. Lee.

The following narrative of the occupation of the town of Alexandria by the British squadron, was submitted to the committee, who, upon examining the same, unanimously concur in it.

CHARLES SIMMS, *Chairman.*

THOS. VOWELL, *Sec.*

A respect for the opinions of others, and a due regard for the character of the citizens of Alexandria, have induced the municipal authorities of the town, to exhibit to the public a faithful narrative of the occupation of Alexandria by the British squadron under the command of captain Gordon, together with the causes which led to that distressing event.

To those who are unacquainted with the situation and condition of Alexandria in regard to its means of defence, it will be proper to state, that it is situate in the District of Columbia, upon the west bank of the river Potomac,

about six miles below the city of Washington; the depth of water admitting large frigates to come to the very wharves of the town.

It is totally destitute of fortifications of any kind, and its protection against invasion by water, depended entirely upon a fort about six miles below the town, commonly known by the name of Fort Warburton, which was exclusively under the control of the government of the United States.

About the month of July last, it was announced that gen. Winder was appointed to the command of the tenth military district of the United States, comprehending the district of Columbia and a portion of the adjoining states of Virginia and Maryland, including the city of Baltimore.

In consequence of reports that the enemy contemplated an attack upon the city of Washington, the municipal authority of Alexandria thought it advisable to appoint a committee of vigilance for the purpose of procuring information of the approaches of the enemy, and obtaining assistance and advice as to the measures which it might be proper to pursue for protection and defence. As soon as this committee was appointed, they caused representations to be made to general Winder of the defenceless condition of the town, and earnestly entreated that some measures should be taken for its protection. Gen. Winder was called on, because it had been distinctly understood that the secretary of war would receive our communications through this channel only. From general Winder every assurance was made that could have been wished, that every thing in his power should be done for the protection of the town. His means however were very inconsiderable—he had no money to expend in fortifications or even in the erection of batteries; and unless some defence of this sort could be obtained, the town would be exposed to the mercy of the enemy, if he should approach by water and should succeed in passing the fort. The committee of vigilance was duly impressed with the necessity of providing some adequate defence against an attack by water, and some of its members, under the authority of the committee, had repeated interviews with gen. Winder on this subject; in one of them, the president of the United States was present, and he was distinctly given to understand, that unless there was provided an adequate defence for the town, it would be at the mercy of the enemy and would be compelled to make the best terms in its power. These representations and requests produced no other effect than the repetition of the assurance of an earnest desire on the part of general Winder to afford every assistance in his power.

On the 19th of August, a levy en masse, was made of the militia of the town and county of Alexandria, and on the 20th and 21st



they were ordered to cross the Potomac, and stationed between Piscataway and fort Warburton. They took with them all the artillery which had been mounted at the expense of the corporation, except two 12 pounders, which were left without ammunition, and nearly all the arms belonging to the town. They left no men but the exempts from age, and other causes, and a few who had not reported themselves or had found substitutes; and it is not believed that, after their departure, one hundred effective armed men could have been mustered in the town. The two iron twelve pounders remained until the 25th, when, Alexandria being open to the enemy, then in full possession of Washington, they were removed at some distance from the town, by orders received from gen. Young.

On the night of the 24th, the Alexandria militia were ordered to re-cross the Potomac: they did so, and were marched through town without halting, to the country, and without giving information to the authorities or inhabitants of the place of their destination, and on the evening of the 27th, when the fleet approached, the municipal authorities of the town knew not where they were. It has since appeared that they were *then* stationed about nineteen miles from town by the orders of gen. Winder. It is here proper to state that gen. Winder on the morning of the 24th informed the committee of vigilance, who waited on him, that he could send no part of the forces with him to Alexandria; but that he had ordered gen. Young to cross over to Alexandria, if practicable, if not to fall down the river. The committee of vigilance, on receiving this information, sent boats over to the Maryland shore sufficient in number to bring over the whole of gen. Young's force at once; but when the boats reached him, he had received orders from the secretary of war to retain his position, as gen. Young in a communication to the mayor stated.

The committee of vigilance, despairing of obtaining any assistance from the general government, and having information of the rapid approach of the enemy towards the capital by land, and that their squadron was approaching Alexandria by water, deemed it their duty to recommend to the common council a resolution to the following effect:

"That in case the British vessels should pass the fort, or their forces approach the town by land, and there should be no *sufficient* force on our part to oppose them, with any reasonable prospect of success, they should appoint a committee to carry a flag to the officer commanding the enemy's force about to attack the town, and to procure the best terms for the safety of persons, houses, and property, in their power."

This recommendation was made on the day of the battle at Bladensburg, and on the same

day was unanimously adopted by the common council.

The battle of Bladensburg having terminated in the defeat of our troops, and gen. Winder having been obliged to retreat from the capital towards Montgomery court-house, about fifteen miles to the west of it, the city of Washington was left in the entire possession of the enemy. The citizens of Alexandria saw nothing to impede the march of the British to their town—saw nothing to restrain them from committing the most brutal outrages upon the female portion of society, having neither arms nor men to make defence with; the president of the United States and the heads of the departments were absent, and it was not known where they were to be found; no military commander or officer of the general government was present to direct or advise.

In this state of things it was considered by the common council as their duty to send a flag to the British commander at Washington to know what treatment might be expected from him in case his troops should approach Alexandria, and should succeed in obtaining possession of the town. Admiral Cockburn, to whom the communication was made, assured the very respectable gentlemen who bore that flag, that private property of all descriptions should be respected; that it was probable that fresh provisions and some flour might be wanted, but that whatever they did take should be paid for.

While these things were going on in the city of Washington, the British squadron had been gradually ascending the Potomac, and on the 27th of August, three days after the battle at Bladensburg, it reached fort Warburton. No change had taken place in relation to the means of the defence of the town of Alexandria. Upon the fort did the safety of Alexandria now entirely depend. The citizens looked with great anxiety to this point for protection. But, to their great surprize and mortification, and without the concurrence or wish of the municipal authority of the town or of any member of it, the fort was abandoned and the magazine blown up by the United States' garrison on the evening of the 27th, without firing a single gun.

This relinquishment of the fort decided the fate of Alexandria. Nothing was left to oppose the progress of the squadron, and on the morning of the 28th it passed the ruins of the fort on its way to the town; their barges had sounded a considerable distance above. About ten o'clock of the morning of the 28th, after the squadron was above the fort, the committee appointed by the council to bear the flag to the enemy, *in case they should pass the fort*, set out upon their mission, and proceeded to the ship commanded by capt. Gordon. They requested to know what his intentions were in regard to the town of Alexandria.—

They were informed by capt. Gordon that he would communicate his terms when he came opposite the town. But he assured them, that, in the mean time, if the squadron was not molested by the inhabitants, the persons, houses and furniture of the citizens should not be injured. One of the gentlemen who attended the flag was the mayor. Upon his return from the squadron, he was informed that a small detachment of cavalry from the army of gen. Hungerford had been in town, probably for the purpose of reconnoitering the enemy; that it had remained but a short time. Upon enquiry it was understood that the army of general Hungerford was at that time about sixteen miles from Alexandria, on its march to that place, having followed the British squadron along the shores of Potomac a great part of its way up. The force of gen. Hungerford was composed of infantry and cavalry, with two or three small pieces of artillery, not calculated to afford any protection to the town.

The municipal authority of the town had received no advices of the approach of this army; and after the return of the flag, it was too late to enter into any arrangements with general Hungerford for defence—he was too distant to afford relief.

The squadron having suspended its approach to the town, did not reach it until the evening of this day. On the morning of the next day, to wit, the 29th of August, it arranged itself along the town, so as to command it from one extremity to the other. The force consisted of two frigates, to wit, the Sea-Horse, rating 33 guns, and Euryalus, rating 36 guns, two rocket ships, of 18 guns each, two bomb ships, of 8 guns each, and a schooner of 2 guns, which were but a few hundred yards from the wharves, and the houses so situated that they might have been laid in ashes in a few minutes. About ten o'clock in the morning of the 29th, capt. Gordon sent to the mayor the following terms:

His majesty's ship Sea-Horse, off Alexandria,  
the 29th day of August, 1814.

**GENTLEMEN**—In consequence of a deputation yesterday received from the city of Alexandria, requesting favorable terms for the safety of their city, the undermentioned are the only conditions in my power to offer.

The town of Alexandria (with the exception of public works) shall not be destroyed, unless hostilities are commenced on the part of the Americans; nor shall the inhabitants be molested in any manner whatever, or their dwelling houses entered, if the following articles are complied with.

*1st article.* All naval and ordnance stores, (public and private) must be immediately delivered up.

*2nd article.* Possession will be immediately taken of all the shipping, and their furniture

must be sent on board by the owners without delay.

*3d article.* The vessels that have been sunk must be delivered up in the state they were in on the 19th of August, the day of the squadron passing the Kettle Bottoms.

*4th article.* Merchandize of every description must be instantly delivered up; and, to prevent any irregularities that might be committed in its embarkation, the merchants have it in their option, to load the vessels generally employed for that purpose, when they will be towed off by us.

*5th article.* All merchandize that has been removed from Alexandria since the 19th inst. is to be included in the above articles.

*6th article.* Refreshments of every description to be supplied the ships and paid for at the market price by bills on the British government.

*7th article.* Officers will be appointed to see that the articles Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5, are strictly complied with, and any deviation or non-compliance on the part of the inhabitants of Alexandria will render this treaty null and void.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

**JAMES A. GORDON,**

*Captain of his majesty's ship Sea-Horse, and senior officer of H. M. ships before Alexandria.*  
To the Council of the town of Alexandria.

Upon the mayor's receiving them he sent for the members of the committee of vigilance. These terms were borne by one of the officers of captain Gordon's frigate, who stated but one hour was allowed him to wait for a reply to them. Upon their being read by the mayor and the committee, it was observed to the officer by the mayor and one of the committee, that it would be impossible that the common council could accede to several of them—that the municipal authority of the town had no power to recall the merchandize that had been sent out subsequent to the 19th of August. The reply of the officer was, in that case it could not be expected.

He was further informed that it would not be in the power of the common council to compel the citizens to assist in getting up the sunken vessels. The officer answered that their sailors would then do it. He was required to explain what was intended by the term merchandize, as used in the 4th article. He answered that it was intended to embrace that species of merchandize only which was intended for exportation, such as tobacco, flour, cotton, bale goods, &c.

The mayor and one of the committee requested to know whether the commodore intended to require a delivery of any more of the merchandize than he could take away with him. He answered it would not be required. This explanation was afterwards recognized

by captain Gordon. With these verbal explanations the preceding terms were submitted to the common council. It will be here proper to remark, that when these terms were proposed and submitted to the common council, general Hungerford had not arrived with his army, nor did it reach the suburbs of the town until the night of that day.—The town was still without any means of defence, and it was evident that no defence could avail, but that species of force which would be calculated to drive the ships from their mooring. No communication had been received from the officers of the general government, and the town appeared to be abandoned to its fate. Under these circumstances the common council could have no hesitation as to the course to be pursued. The citizens of the town of all descriptions, with an immense value of property were entirely in the power of the enemy, whose naval commander, according to the proclamation of the president of the United States, dated on the first of September, has declared his "purpose to be, to employ the force under his direction in destroying and laying waste such towns and districts upon the coast as may be found assailable." A similar declaration had been made by captain Gordon to the committee who bore the flag. Against the attack of such an enemy was the town of Alexandria without any means of defence whatever. The people of the town were at his mercy, and compelled to yield to such terms as the "victor" might prescribe. If the members of the municipal authority and citizens of the town had given loose to the feelings of indignation which the occasion had excited, and had sacrificed the town and had exposed their wives and daughters to the wanton insults of an unrestrained enemy, they would have betrayed their trusts and have deplored the consequences.

The common council therefore were obliged to yield submission to the terms as explained, and did thereupon pass and publish the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the common council of Alexandria, in assenting to the conditions offered by the commander of the British squadron now off the town, has acted from the impulse of irresistible necessity, and solely from a regard to the welfare of the town. That it considers the assent by it given as only formal, inasmuch as the enemy already had it in their power to enforce a compliance with the demand by a seizure of the property required from us; and believing the safety of the persons of the inhabitants, of their dwellings, and of such property as is not comprehended within the requisition, to depend entirely upon the observance of the terms of it, the common council recommends to the inhabitants an acquiescence: at the same time it does expressly disclaim the power of doing any act on

its part to enforce compliance; its authority in this particular being limited to recommendation only."

In the execution of the terms imposed by the enemy it is proper to state that the verbal explanations made by the officer to the mayor were generally adhered to. No merchandize was required to be brought back to the town; no assistance was required of or offered by the citizens in getting up the sunken vessels. The depredations of the enemy, with a few exceptions, were confined to flour, cotton and tobacco, which they carried off in some of the vessels then at the town; only one vessel was burnt; no private dwelling was visited or entered in a rude or hostile manner, nor were citizens personally exposed to insult.

The loss sustained from the enemy it is believed will not exceed the following:—three ships, three brigs, several bay and river craft, the number of which has not been ascertained; all of which were carried away, and one ship burnt. The quantity of flour carried away it is believed will not exceed sixteen thousand barrels—about one thousand hogheads tobacco, one hundred and fifty bales of cotton, and of wine, sugar and other articles not more than five thousand dollars worth.

The editors of newspapers throughout the United States, are respectfully requested to re-publish the above.

The following is the official letter of J. A. Gordon to vice admiral Cochrane, giving the details of the capture of this place by the squadron under his command, dated

Sea-horse, Chesapeake, September 9, 1814.

Sir—In obedience to your orders I proceeded to the river Potomac, with the ships named in the margin\* on the 17th of last month, but from being without pilots to assist us through the most difficult parts of the river called the Kettle Bottoms, and from contrary winds, we were unable to reach fort Washington until the evening of the 27th—nor was this effected but by the severest labor. I believe that each of the ships was no less than twenty different times aground, and each time was obliged to haul off by main strength, and we were employed warping for five whole successive days, with the exception a few hours, a distance of more than 50 miles.

The bomb-ships were placed on the evening of the 27th, and immediately began the bombardment of the fort, it being my intention to attack it with the frigates at day-light the following morning. On the bursting of the first shell, the garrison were observed to retreat; but supposing some concealed design, I directed the fire to be continued. At 8 o'clock, however, my doubts were removed, by the

\* Sea-horse, Euryalus, Devastation, Etna, Meteor, Erebus, Anna Maria dispatch boat.

explosion of the powder magazine, which destroyed the inner buildings, and at day-light the 28th we took possession. Besides the principal fort, which contained two 52, two 32 and eight 24 pounders, there was a battery on the beach of five 18 pounders, a martello tower with two 12 pounders and loop holes for musketry, and a battery in the rear of two 12 and six pound field pieces. The whole of these guns were already spiked by the enemy, and their complete destruction, with their carriages also, was effected by the seamen and marines, sent on that service in less than two hours. The populous city of Alexandria thus lost its only defence; and, having buoyed the channel, I deemed it better to postpone giving any answer to a proposal made to me for its capitulation until the following morning, when I was enabled to place the shipping in such a position as would ensure assent to the terms I had decided to enforce.

To this measure, I attribute their ready acquiescence, as it removed that doubt of my determination to proceed, which had been raised in the minds of the inhabitants by our army having retired from Washington; this part of our proceedings will be further explained by the accompanying documents.

The hon. lieu. Gordon of this ship, was sent on the evening of the 28th to prevent the escape of any of the vessels comprized in the capitulation, and the whole of those which were sea-worthy, amounting to 71 in number, were fitted and loaded by the 31st.

Capt. Baker, of the Fairy, bringing your orders of the 26th, having fought his way up the river, past a battery of five guns, and a large military force, confirmed the rumors which had already reached me of strong measures having been taken to oppose our return; and I therefore quitted Alexandria without waiting to destroy those remaining stores which we had not the means of bringing away.

Contrary winds again occasioned us the laborious task of warping the ships down the river, in which a day's delay took place, owing to the Devastation grounding. The enemy took advantage of this circumstance to attempt her destruction by three fire vessels attempted by fire row boats; but their object was defeated by the promptitude and gallantry of captain Alexander, who, with his own boats, and being followed by those of the other ships, chased the boats of the enemy up to the town of Alexandria. The cool and steady conduct of Mr. Moore, midshipman of the Seahorse, in towing the nearest fire vessel on shore, whilst the others were removed from the power of doing mischief by the smaller boats of the Devastation, entitles him to my highest recommendation.

The Meteor and the Fairy, assisted by the Ann Maria dispatch boat, a prize gun boat, and a boat belonging to the Euryalus, with a

howitzer, had greatly impeded the progress of the enemy in their works, notwithstanding which, they were enabled to increase their battery to 11 guns, with a furnace for heating shot. On the third, the wind coming to the N. W. the *Ætna* and the *Erebus* succeeded in getting down to their assistance, and the whole of us, with the prizes, were assembled there on the 4th, except the *Devastation*, which in spite of our utmost exertion in warping her, still remained five miles higher up the river. This was the moment when the enemy made his greatest efforts to effect our destruction,

The *Erebus* being judiciously placed by captain Bartholomew in an admirable position for harrassing the workmen employed in the trenches, was attacked by three field pieces, which did her considerable damage before they were beaten off. And another attempt being made to destroy the *Devastation* with fire vessels, I sent the boats, under captain Baker, to her assistance; nothing could exceed the alacrity with which captain Baker went on this service, to which I attributed the immediate retreat of the boats and fire vessels. His loss, however, was considerable, owing to their having sought refuge under some guns in a narrow creek, thickly wooded, from which it was impossible for him to dislodge them.

On the 5th, at noon, the wind coming fair, and all my arrangements being made, the *Sea Horse* and *Euryalus*, anchored within musket shot of the batteries, while the whole of the prizes passed betwixt us and the shore—the bombs, the *Fairy* and *Erebus*, firing as they passed, and afterwards anchored in a favorable position for facilitating by means of their force, the further removal of the frigates. At 3 P. M. having completely silenced the enemy's fire, the *Seahorse* and *Euryalus* cut their cables and the whole of us proceeded to the next position taken up by the troops, where they had two batteries mounting from 14 to 18 guns, on a range of cliffs of about a mile in extent, under which we were obliged to pass very close. I did not intend to make the attack that evening, but the *Erebus* grounded within range, we were necessarily called into action. On this occasion the fire of the *Fairy* had the most decisive effect, as well as that of the *Erebus*, whilst the bombs threw their shells with excellent precision, and the guns of the batteries thereby completely silenced by about three o'clock.

At day-light on the 6th, I made signal to weigh, and so satisfied were the whole of the parties opposed to us of their position being ineffectual, that they allowed us to pass without further molestation. I cannot close this detail of operations, comprising a period of twenty-three days, without begging leave to call your attention to the singular exertion of

those whom we have the honor to command, by which our success was effected. Our hammocks were down only two nights during the whole time; the many laborious duties which we had to perform were executed with a cheerfulness which I shall ever remember with pride, and which will ensure, I hope, your favorable estimation of their extraordinary zeal and abilities.

To captain Napier, I owe more obligations than I have words to express. The *Euryalus* lost her bowsprit, the head of her foremast, and the heads of all her topmasts, in a tornado, which she encountered on the 25th, just as her sails were clued up, whilst we were passing the flats of Maryland Point: and yet, after 12 hours work on her refitall, she was again under weigh, and advancing up the river.—Capt Napier speaks highly of the conduct of lieut. Thomas Herbert on this as well as on every other of the many trying occasions which have called his abilities into action. His exertions were also particularly conspicuous in the prizes, many of which, already sunk by the enemy, were weighed, masted, hove down, caulked, rigged and loaded by our little squadron, during the three days which we remained at Alexandria.

It is difficult to distinguish amongst officers who had a greater share of duty than often falls to the lot of any, and which each performed with the greatest credit for his professional character. I cannot omit to recommend to your notice the meritorious conduct of captains Alexander, Bartholomew, Baker and Kenan, the latter of whom led us through many of the difficulties of the navigation; and particularly to captain Roberts, of the *Meteor*, who, besides undergoing the fatigues of the day, employed the night in coming the distance of ten miles to communicate and consult with me upon our further operations, preparatory to our passing the batteries.

So universally good was the conduct of all the officers, seamen and marines of the detachment, that I cannot particularize with justice to the rest. But I owe it to the long tried experience I have had of Mr. Henry King, 1st Lt. of the *Seahorse*, to point out to you, that such was his eagerness to take the part to which his abilities would have directed him on this occasion, that he even came out of a sick bed, to command at his quarters, whilst the ship was passing the batteries; \* nor can I ever forget how materially the service is indebted to Mr. Alexander Loutham, the master, for both finding and buoying the channel of a navigation which no ship of similar draft of water had ever before passed with their guns and stores on board, and which, according to the report of a seaman now in this ship, was not accom-

\*The two first guns pointed by lieut. King disabled each a gun of the enemy.

plished by the President, American frigate, even after taking her guns out, under a period of 42 days.

Enclosed is a list of killed and wounded, and also of the vessels captured.

I have the honor to be, &c.

JAS. A. GORDON, Captain.

To Sir A. Cochrane, commander in chief, &c.

Killed and wounded on board H. M. ships employed in the Potomac river, between the 1st and 5th Sept. 1814.

Total—7 killed; 45 wounded.

(Signed) JAS. A. GORDON, Captain.  
[there follows the capitulation of Alexandria, as heretofore published.]

*Admiralty Office, Sept. 27, 1814.*

Capt. Wainwright, of his majesty's ship *Tonnant*, arrived this morning at this office, with despatches from vice admiral sir Alexander Cochrane, K. B. to John Wilson Croker, Esq. of which the following are copies:

*Tonnant, in the Patuxent, Sept. 2, 1814.*

Sir—I have the honor to acquaint you, for the information of my lords commissioners of the admiralty, of the proceedings of his majesty's combined forces since my arrival within the capes of Virginia; and I beg leave to offer my congratulations to their lordships upon the successful termination of an expedition, in which the whole of the enemy's flotilla under commodore Barney has been captured or destroyed; his army, though greatly superior in number, and strongly posted with cannon, defeated at Bladensburg—the city of Washington taken; the capitol, with all the public buildings, military arsenals, dock-yard, and the rest of their naval establishment together with a vast quantity of naval and military stores, a frigate of the largest class ready to launch, and a sloop of war afloat, either blown up or reduced to ashes.

Such a series of successes in the centre of an enemy's country, surrounded by a numerous population, could not be acquired without loss, and we have to lament the fall of some valuable officers and men; but considering the difficulties the forces had to contend with, the heat of the climate, and their coming into action at the end of a long march, our casualties are astonishingly few.

My letter of the 11th Aug. will have acquainted their lordships of my waiting in the Chesapeake for the arrival of rear-admiral Malcoha, with the expedition from Bermuda.

The rear admiral joined me on the 17th, and as I had information from rear admiral Cockburn, whom I found in the Potomac, that commodore Barney, with the *Baltimore* flotilla, had taken shelter at the head of the Patuxent, this afforded a pretext for ascending that river to attack him near its source, above Pig Point, while the ultimate destination of the combined force was Washington, should

it be found that the attempt might be made with any prospect of success. To give their lordships a more correct idea of the place of attack, I send a sketch of the country upon which the movements of the army and navy are portrayed; by it their lordships will observe, that the best approach to Washington is by Port Tobacco upon the Potomac, and Benedict upon the Patuxent; from both of which are direct and good roads to that city, and their distances nearly alike; the roads from Benedict divide about five miles inland; the one by Piscataway and Bladensburg, the other following the course of the river, although at some distance from it, owing to the creeks that run up the country; this last passes through the towns of Nottingham and Marlborough to Bladensburg, at which town the river called the Eastern Branch, that bounds Washington to the eastward, is fordable, and the distance is about five miles. There are two bridges over this river at the city; but it was not to be expected that the enemy would leave them accessible to an invading army.

Previously to my entering the Patuxent, I detached captain Gordon, of his Majesty's ship Seahorse, with the ships and bombs named in the margin, in the Potowmac, to bombard fort Washington (which is situated on the left bank of that river, about ten or twelve miles below the city), with a view of destroying that fort, and opening a free communication above, as well as to cover the retreat of the army, should its return by the Bladensburg road be found too hazardous from the accession of strength the enemy might obtain from Baltimore; it was also reasonable to expect, that the militia from the country to the northward and westward would flock in, so soon as it should be known that the capital was threatened.

Captain sir Peter Parker, in the Menelaus, with some small vessels, was sent up the Chesapeake above Baltimore, to divert the attention of the enemy in that quarter, and I proceeded with the remainder of the naval force and the troops, up this river, and landed the army upon the 19th and 20th, at Benedict.

So soon as the necessary provisions and stores could be assembled and arranged, major-general Ross, with his army, moved towards Nottingham, while our flotilla, consisting of the armed launches, pinnaces, barges, and other boats of the fleet, under the command of rear-admiral Cockburn, passed up the river, being instructed to keep upon the right flank of the army, for the double purpose of supplying it with provisions, and, if necessary, to pass it over to the left bank of the river, into Calvert county, which secured a safe retreat to the ships, should it be judged necessary.

The army reached Nottingham upon the 21st, and on the following day arrived at

Marlborough; the flotilla continued advancing towards the station of Commodore Barney, about three miles above Pig Point, who, although much superior in force to that sent against him, did not wait an attack, but, at the appearance of our boats, set fire to his flotilla, and the whole of his vessels excepting one, were blown up.

For the particulars of this well executed service, I must refer their lordships to rear-admiral Cockburn's report, No. 1, who, on the same evening, conveyed to me an account of his success, and intimation from major-general Ross, of his intention to proceed to the city of Washington, considering from the information he had received, that it might be assailed, if done with alacrity, and in consequence had determined to march that evening upon Bladensburg. The remaining boats of the fleet were immediately employed in conveying up the river supplies or provisions for the forces, upon their return to Nottingham, agreeably to an arrangement made by the rear-admiral, who proceeded on in company with the army.

The report No. 2, of rear-admiral Cockburn's, will inform their lordships of the brilliant success of the forces, after their departure from Marlborough, when they returned upon the 26th, and having reached Benedict upon the 29th, the expedition was embarked in good order.

On combined services, such as we have been engaged in, it gives me the greatest pleasure to find myself united with so able and experienced an officer as major-general Ross, in whom are blended those qualities so essential to promote success, where co-operation between the two services becomes necessary; and I have much satisfaction in noticing the unanimity that prevailed between the army and navy, as I have also in stating to their lordships that major-general Ross has expressed his full approbation of the conduct of the officers, seamen and marines acting with the army.

I have before had occasion to speak of the unremitting zeal and exertions of rear-admiral Cockburn during the time he commanded in the Chesapeake under my orders:—the interest and ability which he has manifested throughout this late arduous service—justly entitle him to my best thanks, and to the acknowledgments of my lords commissioners of the admiralty.

Rear-admiral Malcolm, upon every occasion, and particularly in his arrangement for the speedy re-embarkation of the troops, rendered me essential assistance, and to him, as well as to rear-admiral Codrington, captain of the fleet, I am indebted for the alacrity and order with which the laborious duties in the conveying of supplies to the army were conducted.

For the conduct of the captains and officers of the squadron employed in the flotilla, and with the army, I must beg leave to refer their lordships to the reports of rear-admiral Cockburn, and to call their favorable consideration to those whom the rear-admiral has had occasion particularly to notice. While employed immediately under my eye, I had every reason to be perfectly satisfied with their zealous emulation, as well as that of every seaman and marine, to promote the service in which they were engaged.

Captain Wainwright, of his majesty's ship *Tonnant*, will have the honor to deliver this despatch to you, and as he was actually employed both with the flotilla and with the army in the whole of their proceedings, I beg leave to refer their lordships to him for any farther particulars.

I have not yet received any returns from the ships employed in the Potomac, the winds having been unfavorable to their coming down; but, by the information I gain from the country people, they have completely succeeded in the capture and destruction of fort Washington, which has been blown up.

I have the honor to be. &c.

(Signed) ALEX COCHRANE,

*Vice-admiral and commander in chief.*

*John Wilson Croker, Esq*

On board the *Resolution* tender, off Mount Calvert,  
Monday night, 22d Aug. 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to inform you that after parting from you at Benedict on the evening of the 20th instant, I proceeded up the Patuxent with the boats and tenders, the marines of the ships being embarked in them, under the command of captain Robyns (the senior officer of that corps in the fleet) and the marine artillery, under captain Harrison, in their two tenders; the *Severn* and *Hebrus* frigates, and the *Manly* sloop, being directed to follow us up the river as far as might prove practicable.

The boats and tenders I placed in three divisions; the first under the immediate command of captains Sullivan (the senior commander employed on the occasion) and Badcock; the second, under captains Money and Somerville; the third, under captain Ramsay;—the whole under the superintendance and immediate management of captain Wainwright of the *Tonnant*, lieutenant James Scott (1st of the *Albion*) attending as my aid de-camp.

I endeavored to keep with the boats and tenders as nearly as possible abreast of the army under major general Ross, that I might communicate with him as occasion offered, according to the plan previously arranged; and about mid-day yesterday I accordingly anchored at the ferry-house opposite Lower Marlborough, where I met the general; and where the army halted for some hours, after which he marched for Nottingham, and I pro-

ceeded on for the same place with the boats. On our approaching that town a few shot were exchanged between the leading boats and some of the enemy's cavalry; but the appearance of our army advancing caused them to retire with precipitation. Captains Nourse and Palmer, of the *Severn* and *Hebrus*, joined me this day with their boats, having found it impracticable to get their ships higher than Benedict.

The major-general remained with the army at Nottingham, and the boats and tenders continued anchored off it during the night; and soon after day-light this morning, the whole moved again forward, but the wind blowing during the morning down the river, and the channel being excessively narrow, and the advance of our tenders consequently slow, I judged it advisable to push on with the boats, only leaving the tenders to follow as they could.

On approaching Pig Point (where the enemy's flotilla was said to be,) I landed the marines under captain Robyns on the left bank of the river, and directed him to march round and attack, on the land side, the town situated on the point, to draw from us the attention of such troops as might be there for its defence, and the defence of the flotilla; I then proceeded on with the boats, and, as we opened the reach above Pig Point, I plainly discovered commodore Barney's broad pendant in the head most vessel, a large sloop, and the remainder of the flotilla extending in a long line astern of her. Our boats now advanced towards them as rapidly as possible; but, on nearing them, we observed the sloop bearing the broad pendant to be on fire, and she very soon afterwards blew up. I now saw clearly that they were all abandoned, and on fire, with trains to their magazines; and out of the seventeen vessels which composed this formidable and so much vaunted flotilla, sixteen were in quick succession blown to atoms, and the seventeenth (in which the fire had not taken) we captured. The commodore's sloop was a large armed vessel; the others were gun-boats, all having a long gun in the bow, and a carronade in the stern; the calibre of the guns and number of the crew of each differed in proportion to the size of the boat, varying from 32 pounders and sixty men to 18 pounders and forty men. I found here lying above the flotilla, under its protection, thirteen merchant schooners, some of which not being worth bringing away, I caused to be burnt; such as were in good condition I directed to be moved to Pig Point. Whilst employed in taking these vessels, a few shot were fired at us by some of the men of the flotilla from the bushes on the shore near us, but lieutenant Scott, whom I had landed for that purpose, soon got hold of them and made them prisoners. Some horsemen likewise showed themselves on the

neighboring heights, but a rocket or two dispersed them; and capt. Robyns, who had got possession of Pig Point without resistance, now spreading his men through the country, the enemy retreated to a distance, and left us in quiet possession of the town, the neighborhood, and the prizes.

A large quantity of tobacco having been found in the town at Pig Point, I have left captain Robyns, with the marines, and capt. Nourse, with two divisions of the boats, to hold the place and ship the tobacco into the prizes, and I have moved back with the third division to this point, to enable me to confer on our future operations with the major-general, who has been good enough to send his aid-de-camp to inform me of his safe arrival, with the army under his command, at Upper Marlborough.

In congratulating you, sir, which I do most sincerely, on the complete destruction of this flotilla of the enemy, which has lately occupied so much of our attention, I must beg to be permitted to assure you, that the cheerful and indefatigable exertions on this occasion, of captains Wainwright, Nourse and Palmer, and of captain Sullivan, the commanders, officers, and men, in the boats you have placed under my orders, most justly entitle them to my warmest acknowledgments and my earnest recommendation to your favorable notice.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) G COCKBURN, *rear-adm.*  
*The hon. sir A. Cochrane, K. B.*

H. M. ship *Mainly*, off Nottingham, Patuxent, Aug. 27.

Sir—I have the honor to inform you that, agreeably to the intentions I notified to you in my letter of the 22d inst. I proceeded by land on the morning of the 23d to Upper Marlborough, to meet and confer with maj. gen. Ross as to our further operations against the enemy, and were not long in agreeing on the propriety of making an immediate attempt on the city of Washington.

In conformity therefore with the wishes of the general, I instantly sent orders for our marine and naval forces at Pig-Point, to be forthwith moved over to Mount Calvert, and for the marines, marine artillery, and a portion of the seamen to be there landed, and with the utmost possible expedition to join the army, which I also most readily agreed to accompany.

The major gen. then made his dispositions, and arranged that capt. Robyns, with the marines of the ships, should retain possession of Upper Marlborough, and that the marine artillery and seamen should follow the army to the ground it was to occupy for the night. The army then moved on, and bivouacked before dark, about five miles nearer Washington.

In the night, captain Palmer of the *Hebrus*, and captain Money of the *Trave*, joined us

with the seamen and with the marine artillery, under capt. Harrison; capt. Wainwright, of the *Tonnant*, had accompanied me the day before, as had also lieutenant James Scott (acting first lieutenant) of the *Albion*.

At day light in the morning of the 24th, the major-general again put the army in motion, directing his march upon Bladensburg; on reaching which place, with the advanced brigade, the enemy was discovered drawn up in force on a rising ground beyond the town; and by the fire he soon opened upon us as we entered the place, gave us to understand he was well protected with artillery. General Ross, however, did not hesitate in immediately advancing to attack him, although our troops were almost exhausted with the fatigue of the march they had just made, and but a small proportion of our little army had yet got up; this dashing measure, was, however, I am happy to add, crowned with the success it merited; for, in spite of the galling fire of the enemy, our troops advanced steadily on both his flanks and in his front; and as soon as they arrived on even ground with him, he fled in every direction, leaving behind him ten pieces of cannon, and a considerable number of killed and wounded, amongst the latter commodore Barney and several other officers; some other prisoners were also taken, though not many, owing to the swiftness with which the enemy went off, and the fatigues our army had previously undergone.

It would, sir, be deemed presumption in me to attempt to give you particular details respecting the nature of this battle; I shall, therefore, only remark, generally, that the enemy, 8000 strong, on ground he had chosen as best adapted for him to defend, where he had time to erect his batteries, and concert all his measures, was dislodged as soon as reached, and a victory gained over him by a division of the British army, not amounting to more than 1,500 men, headed by our gallant general, whose brilliant achievement of this day it is beyond my power to do justice to, and indeed no possible comment could enhance.

The seamen, with the guns, were, to their great mortification, with the rear division during this short but decisive action; those, however, attached to the rocket brigade, were in the battle, and I remarked with much pleasure the precision with which the rockets were thrown by them, under the direction of first lieutenant Lawrence, of the marine artillery; Mr. Jeremiah M'Daniel, master's mate of the *Tonnant*, a very fine young man, who was attached to this party, being severely wounded, I beg permission to recommend him to your favorable consideration. The company of marines I have on so many occasions had cause to mention to you, commanded by first lieutenant Stephens, was also in the action as were the colonial marines, under the tem



porary command of capt. Reed, of the 6th West India regiment (these companies being attached to the light brigade,) and they respectively behaved with their accustomed zeal and bravery. None other of the naval department were fortunate enough to arrive up in time, to take their share in this battle, excepting capt. Palmer, of the Hebrus, with his aide-camp, Mr. Arthur Wakefield, midshipman of that ship, and lieu. James Scott, first of the Albion, who acted as my aid-de-camp, and remained with me during the whole time.

The contest being completely ended, and the enemy having retired from the field, the general gave the army about two hours rest, when he again moved forward on Washington; it was however dark before we reached that city, and on the general, myself, and some officers advancing a short way past the first houses of the town, without being accompanied by the troops, the enemy opened upon us a heavy fire of musquetry, from the capitol and two other houses; these were therefore almost immediately stormed by our people, taken possession of, and set on fire, after which the town submitted without further resistance.

The enemy himself, on our entering the town, set fire to the navy yard (filled with naval stores,) a frigate of the largest class, almost ready for launching, and a sloop of war laying off it, as he also did to the fort which protected the sea approach to Washington.

On taking possession of the city we also set fire to the president's palace, the treasury, and the war office; and in the morning capt. Wainwright went with a party to see that the destruction in the navy yard was complete; when he destroyed whatever stores and buildings had escaped the flames of the preceding night, a large quantity of ammunition and ordnance stores were likewise destroyed by us in the arsenal, as were about 200 pieces of artillery of different calibres. as well as a vast quantity of small arms. Two rope walks, of a very extensive nature, full of tar-rope, &c. situated at a considerable distance from the yard, were likewise set fire to and consumed; in short, sir, I do not believe a vestige of public property, or a store of any kind, which could be converted to the use of the government, escaped destruction; the bridges across the Eastern Branch and the Potomac were likewise destroyed.

This general destruction being completed during the day of the 25th, we marched again at nine that night on our return, by Bladensburg, to Upper Marlborough.

We arrived yesterday evening at the latter without molestation of any sort, indeed without a single musket having been fired, and this morning we moved on to this place, where I have found his majesty's sloop Manly, the

tenders and the boats, and I have hoisted my flag *pro tem.* in the former. The troops will probably march to-morrow, or next day at farthest, to Benedict for re-embarkation, and the flotilla will of course join you at the same time.

In closing, sir, my statement to you, of the arduous and highly important operations of this week, I have a most pleasing duty to perform, in assuring you of the good conduct of the officers and men who have been serving under me. I have been particularly indebted, whilst on this service, to capt. Wainwright of the Tonnant, for the assistance he has invariably afforded me; and to captains Palmer and Money, for their exertions during the march to and from Washington. To capt. Nourse, who has commanded the flotilla during my absence, my acknowledgments are most justly due, as well as to capt. Sullivan, Badoeck, Somerville, Ramsay and Bruce, who have acted in it under him.

Lieut. James Scott, now first lieu. of the Albion, has, on this occasion rendered me essential services, and, as I have had reason so often of late to mention to you the gallant and meritorious conduct of this officer, I trust you will permit me to seize this opportunity of recommending him to your favorable notice and consideration.

Capt. Robyns (the senior officer of the marines on board the fleet,) who has had, during these operations, the marines of the ships under his orders, has executed ably and zealously the several services with which he has been entrusted, and is entitled to my best acknowledgments accordingly, as is also capt. Harrison of the marine artillery, who, with the officers and men attached to him, accompanied the army to and from Washington.

Mr. Dobie, surgeon of the Melpomene, volunteered his professional services on this occasion, and rendered much assistance to the wounded on the field of battle, as well as to many of the men taken ill on the line of march.

One colonial marine killed, one master's mate, two serjeants, and three colonial marines wounded, are the casualties sustained by the naval department; a general list of the killed and wounded of the whole army will of course, accompany the report of the major general.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) G. COCKBURN, R. Adm.

Vice admiral the hon. sir

A. Cochrane, K. B. &c.

From a late London paper.

A letter from an officer of his majesty's ship *Regulus*, dated Patuxent river, Aug. 30, communicates some particulars of the destruction of fort Washington, by the division appointed for that purpose:

"On the morning of the 25th, I was sent with three officers and 200 men, down to des-

troy fort Washington, built to prevent ships coming up the river to attack the town. About 150 barrels of gunpowder, found here, were thrown into the well of the fort; when one of the artillery men most unfortunately dropped a lighted port-fire into the well, which, with a magazine about twelve yards distant, full of shells, charged and primed, blew up with the most tremendous explosion I ever heard. One house was unroofed, and the walls of two others, which had been burnt an hour before, were shook down; large pieces of earth, stones, bricks, shot, shells, &c. burst into the air, and falling amongst us (who had no where to run, being on a narrow neck of land, with the sea on three sides), killed about 12 men, and wounded above 30 more, most of them in a dreadful manner. I had the good fortune to escape with whole skin and bones but somewhat bruised. The groans of the people, almost buried in the earth, or with legs and arms broke, and the sight of pieces of bodies lying about, was a thousand times more distressing than the loss we met with in the field the day before."

*From a letter of a young midshipman of his majesty's brig Espoir.*

Never was bravery more conspicuous, and never did soldiers behave more gallantly.—They advanced through a narrow defile under a dreadful fire from the American artillery and musketry; on coming to the foot of the hill, the Americans gave three cheers, and fired a tremendous volley, appearing, as if it was an expiring effort; they charged up the hill, some dying, whilst others fell through fatigue (the day being dreadful hot.) On arriving at the moment, the Americans fled in all directions, with Mr. Madison at their head. We took possession of all the cannon and pursued the flying enemy; took commodore Barney previously, who was mortally wounded.

On the remainder of the army coming up, we continued our march, and towards evening we entered Washington without any further opposition. We immediately went to all the public buildings and to Mr. Madison's house in the capitol, and blew up the dock yard, destroyed a 60 gun frigate and a sloop of war that were just ready for launching. When the general entered Mr. Madison's house, he found the table spread for dinner, and all the fruits and wines in cool. The officers regaled themselves with whatever they wanted, and then set fire to the house. Private houses were respected except the Josephine hotel, one of the most beautiful hotels ever built—it was burnt. We remained in possession of Washington 23 hours, when finding there was nothing more to do, we commenced our retreat on the evening of the 26th, not having been in the least molested

in our retreat by the Americans. We embarked the troops that night and the following day on board our respective ships. The general, during the action, behaved most gallantly, riding through the ranks, cheering the soldiers. He had three horses shot under him. It is supposed we shall attack Portsmouth, or New London—if fortune favors us much as it has, we shall do great things.

#### DEATH OF SIR PETER PARKER.

ADMIRALTY OFFICE, SEPT. 27.

[Transmitted by Vice-Admiral Cochrane.]

*His majesty's ship Menelaus, off Poob's island, Chesapeake, Sept 1, 1814*

Sir—With grief the deepest it becomes my duty to communicate the death of sir Peter Parker, Bart. late commander of his majesty's ship Menelaus, and the occurrences attending an attack on the enemy's troops, on the night of the 20th ult. encamped at Bellair. The previous and accompanying letters of sir Peter Parker, will, I presume, fully point out the respect the enemy on all occasions evinced at the approach of our arms, retreating at every attack, though possessing a superiority of numbers of five to one; an intelligent black man gave us information of 200 militia being encamped behind a wood, distant half a mile from the beach, and described their situation, so as to give us the strongest hopes of cutting off and securing the largest part as our prisoners, destroying the camp, field-pieces, &c. and possessing also certain information that one man out of every five had been levied as a requisition on the eastern shore, for the purpose of being sent over for the protection of Baltimore, who were only prevented crossing the bay by the activity and vigilance of the tender and ship's boats. One hundred and four bayonets, with 20 pikes, were landed at eleven o'clock at night, under the immediate direction of capt. sir Peter Parker, Bart. the first division headed by myself, and the second division by lieutenant Pearce. On arriving at the ground we discovered the enemy had shifted his position, as we were then informed, to the distance of a mile farther; having taken the look-out picket immediately on our landing, we were in assurance our motions had not been discovered, and with the deepest silence followed on for the camp. After a march of between four and five miles in the country we found the enemy posted on a plain, surrounded by woods, with the camp in their rear; they were drawn up in line, and perfectly ready to receive us; a single moment was not to be lost; by a smart fire and instant charge, we commenced the attack, forced them from their position, putting them before us in full retreat to the rear of their artillery, where they again made a stand, showing a disposition to out flank us on the right; a movement was instantly made by lieutenant

Pearce's division to force them from that quarter; and it was at this time, while animating his men in the most heroic manner that sir Peter Parker received his mortal wound which obliged him to quit the field, and he expired in a few minutes. Lieut. Pearce, with his division, soon routed the enemy, while that under my command gained and passed the camp. One of the field pieces was momentarily in our possession, but obliged to quit it from superior numbers.

The marines, under Lieutenants Beynon and Post, formed our centre, and never was bravery more conspicuous. Finding it impossible to close on the enemy, from the rapidity of their retreat, having pursued them upwards of a mile, I deemed it prudent to retire towards the beach, which was effected in the best possible order, taking with us from the field 25 of our wounded—the whole we could find, the enemy not even attempting to regain the ground they had lost; from three prisoners (cavalry) taken by us, we learn their force amounted to 500 militia, a troop of horse, and five pieces of artillery, and since by flags of truce, I am led to believe their number much greater.

Repelling a force of such magnitude with so small a body as we opposed to them, will I trust speak for itself; and although our loss has been severe, I hope the lustre acquired to our arms will compensate for it. Permit me, sir, to offer to your notice the conduct of Mr. James Stepford Hore, master's mate of this ship, who on this, as well as on other trying occasions, evinced the greatest zeal and gallantry. In justice to sub-lieut. Johnson, commanding the Jane tender, I must beg to notice the handsome manner in which he has at all times volunteered his services.

Herewith I beg leave to enclose you a list of the killed, wounded, and missing in this affair.

I have the honor, to be, &c.

(Signed)

HEN. CREASE, act. com.

Total—14 killed; 27 wounded.

#### [AMERICAN ACCOUNT.]

Not having before inserted col Reed's official letter respecting the affair with capt. Parker, we take the opportunity to present it, as follows:

*Copy of a letter from col. Philip Reed, of the 1st. regt. of Maryland militia, to brig. gen. Benj. Chambers.*

Camp at Belle Air, 3d Sept. 1814.

Sir—I avail myself of the first moment I have been able to seize from incessant labor, to inform you that about half past 11 o'clock, on the night of the 30th ult. I received information that the barges of the enemy, then lying off Waltham's farm were moving in

shore. I concluded their object was to land and burn the houses, &c. at Waltham's and made the necessary arrangements to prevent them, and to be prepared for an opportunity which I had sought for several days to strike the enemy. During our march to the point threatened, it was discovered that the blow was aimed at our camp. Orders were immediately given to the quarter-master, to remove the camp and baggage, and to the troops to countermarch, pass the road by the right of our camp, and form on the rising ground about three hundred paces in the rear—the right towards Caulk's house, and the left retiring on the road, the artillery in the centre, supported by the infantry on the right and left. I directed capt. Wickes and his second lieutenant Beck, with a part of the rifle company to be formed, so as to cover the road by which the enemy marched, and with this section I determined to post myself, leaving the line to be formed under the direction of major Wickes and capt. Chambers.

The head of the enemy's column soon presented itself and received the fire of our advance party, at seventy paces distance, and, being pressed by numbers vastly superior, I repaired to my post in the line; having ordered the riflemen to return and form on the right of the line. The fire now became general along the whole line, and was sustained by our troops with the most determined valor. The enemy pressed our front; foiled in this he threw himself on our left flank, which was occupied by capt. Chambers's company. Here too his efforts were equally unavailing. His fire had nearly ceased, when I was informed that in some parts of our line the cartridges were entirely expended, nor did any of the boxes contain more than a very few rounds, although each man brought about twenty into the field.—The artillery cartridges were entirely expended. Under these circumstances I ordered the line to fall back to a convenient spot where a part of the line was fortified, when the few remaining cartridges were distributed amongst a part of the line, which was again brought into the field, where it remained for a considerable time, the night preventing a pursuit. The artillery and infantry for whom there were no cartridges were ordered to this place. The enemy having made every effort in power, although apprized of our having fallen back, manifested no disposition to follow us up, but retreated about the time our ammunition was exhausted.

When it is recollected that very few officers or men had ever heard the wh of a ball; that the force of the enemy, most accurate information enables us to estimate, was double ours; that it was commanded by sir Peter Parker of the *Menela* of the most distinguished officers in the British navy, and composed (as their off

mitted in a subsequent conversation,) of as fine men as could be selected from the British service, I feel fully justified in the assertion, that the gallantry of the officers and men engaged on this occasion, could not be excelled by any troops. The officers and men performed their duty. It is however but an act of justice to notice those officers who seemed to display more than a common degree of gallantry. Major Wickes and captain Chambers were conspicuous—captain Wickes and his lieutenant Beck of the rifle corps, lieutenant Eunick and ensign Shrivens of captain Chambers' company exerted themselves, as did captain Hynson and his lieutenant Grant, capt. Ussleton of the brigade artillery and his lieutenants Reed and Brown—Lieut. Tilghman who commanded the guns of the volunteer artillery, in the absence of captain Hands who is in ill health and from home, was conspicuous for his gallantry, his ensign Thomas also manifested much firmness.

I am indebted to captain Wilson of the cavalry, who was with me, for his exertions, and also to adjutant Hynson, who displayed much zeal and firmness throughout—To Dr. Blake, Dr. Gordon and to Isaac Spencer, Esq. who were accidentally in camp, I am indebted for their assistance in reconnoitering the enemy on his advance.

You will be surprised, sir, when I inform you that in an engagement of so long continuance in an open field, when the moon shone brilliantly on the rising ground occupied by our troops, while the shade of the neighboring woods, under the protection of which the enemy fought, gave us but an indistinct view of any thing but the flash of his guns; that under the disparity of numbers against us, and the advantage of regular discipline on the side of the enemy, we had not one man killed, and only one serjeant, one corporal, and one private wounded, and those slightly. The enemy left one midshipman and eight men dead on the field, and nine wounded; six of whom died in the course of a few hours. *Sir Peter Parker* was amongst the slain—he was mortally wounded with a buck-shot, and died before he reached the barges, to which he was conveyed by his men. The enemy's force, consisting of marines and musqueteers, was in part armed with boarding pikes, swords, and pistols, no doubt intended for our tents, as orders had been given by sir Peter not to fire—many of these arms, with rockets, muskets, &c. have fallen into our hands, found by the picket guard under ensign Shrivens, which was posted on the battle ground for the remainder of the night—nothing but the want of ammunition saved the enemy from destruction.

Attached are the names of the wounded; and, as an act of justice to those concerned, I enclose you a list of the names of every officer

and soldier engaged in the affair—certain information from the enemy assures us, that his total loss in killed and wounded was forty-two or forty-three, including two wounded lieutenants.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,  
PHIL. REED.

*Lieut. Col. commandant.*

*Benjamin Chambers, brigadier-general,*

*6th brigade Maryland militia.*

*Names of the wounded of capt Chambers' company.*

John Magnor, serjeant, slightly, in the thigh.—Philip Crane, corporal, a ball between the tendons and the bone of, the thigh near the knee.

*Of captain Page's company.*—John Glanville, a private, in the arm.

### COCKBURN'S EXPEDITIONS.

In the London Gazette of October 1. we find a series of communications from admiral Cockburn, embracing an account of his operations in the CHESAPEAKE, previous to the arrival there of admiral Cochrane.

#### THE EXTRACTS.

*June 1.*—The rear-admiral incloses a letter from captain Ross, of his majesty's ship *Albion*, dated off Tangier Sound, the 29th of May, giving an account of his having with the boats of that ship, and the *Dragon*, proceeded into the river Pungoteak, in Virginia, for the purpose of destroying any batteries or capturing any vessels that he might find there. There were no vessels in the river: but a party of seamen and marines were landed to attack a battery, which they took possession of, after a smart firing, notwithstanding the militia which collected on the occasion, and re-embarked after destroying the work, barracks, and guard-houses, and bringing away a six pounder gun with its carriage.

*June 22.*—The rear-admiral transmits four letters from captain Barrie, of his majesty's ship *Dragon*, dated between the 1st and 19th of June, reporting his proceedings while dispatched by rear-admiral Cockburn, against the flotilla fitted out at Baltimore, under the orders of commodore Barney.

On the 1st of June, captain Barrie, with the *St. Lawrence* schooner, and the boats of the *Albion* and *Dragon*, fell in with the flotilla standing down the Chesapeake, and retreated before it towards the *Dragon*, then at anchor off Smith's Point. This ship having got under weigh, captain Barrie wore with the schooner and boats, but the flotilla made off and escaped into the Patuxent river. The *Dragon* being obliged to come again to an anchor, and the boats not being strong enough to attack the flotilla, captain Barrie endeavored to induce the enemy to separate his force by detaching two boats to cut off a schooner under Cove Point; but the Americans suffered this vessel to be burnt in the face of the flotilla, without attempting to save her.

On the 8th the flotilla retreated higher up the Patuxent, and captain Barrie being joined on the following day by the Loire and Jaseur brig, he proceeded up the river with them, the St. Lawrence schooner, and the boats of the Albion and Dragon. The enemy retreated into St. Leonard's creek, into which they could only be pursued by the boats, which were too inferior in force to allow of any attack being made by them alone; captain Barrie endeavored, however, to provoke the enemy by rockets and cannonades from the boats, to come down within reach of the ship's guns. The flotilla was at one time so much galled by these attacks, that it quitted its position, and chased the boats, and after a slight skirmish with the smaller vessels it returned precipitately to its original position. With a view to force the flotilla to quit this station, detachments of seamen and marines were landed on both sides of the river, and the enemy's militia (though assembled to the number of three to five hundred) retreating before them into the woods, the marines destroyed two tobacco stores, and several houses, which formed military posts. On the 15th the Narcissus joined, and captain Barrie determined to proceed up the river with 12 boats, having in them one hundred and eighty marines, and thirty of the black colonial corps; they proceeded to Benedict whence a party of regulars fled at the approach, leaving behind several muskets, and part of their camp equipage, with a six pounder, which was spiked; a store of tobacco was also found there—captain Barrie advanced from thence towards Marlborough, and although only eighteen miles from Washington, took possession of the place, the militia and inhabitants flying in the woods.—A schooner was loaded with tobacco, and the boats plentifully supplied with stock, after which having burnt tobacco stores, containing two thousand five hundred hogsheads, the detachment re-embarked. The enemy collected three hundred and sixty regulars and some militia on some cliffs which the boats had to pass; but some marines being landed, traversed the skirts of the heights, and re-embarked without molestation; and the enemy did not show himself till the boats were out of gun shot. Captain Barrie commends in high terms, the conduct of all the officers and men, seamen and marines, under his orders as well as that of the colonial corps, composed of armed blacks, and rear-admiral Cockburn takes the opportunity of expressing his high sense of the personal exertions and able conduct displayed by captain Barrie.

June 25.—The rear-admiral transmits a report from lieutenant Urmston, first of the Albion, of a successful attack made by the boats of the squadron, under the lieutenant's direction, on a post established by the enemy at Cnisene siek, on the main land, abreast of Watt's

island. The detachment landed, notwithstanding a fire of grape and musquetry, drove the enemy from the post, and destroyed the guard-houses, &c. bringing away a six pounder, the only gun of the enemy at that place. Great gallantry was displayed by all employed on this occasion.

July 6.—The rear-admiral incloses two reports addressed to him by captains Brown and Nourse, of the Loire and Severn: the former, dated the 27th of June, states that the enemy having established a battery on the banks of the Patuxent which opened on the Loire and Narcissus, he had judged it proper to move the two ships lower down the river, when the flotilla, under com. Barney moved out of St. Leonard's creek and ran higher up the Patuxent, with the exception of one row-boat, which returned to the creek apparently damaged by the fire of the frigates. The letter from captain Nourse, dated the 7th of July, reports his joining the ships in the Patuxent; and having moved them up beyond St. Leonard's creek, he sent captain Brown with the marines of the ships up the creek, by whom two of the enemy's gun boats that were found drawn up and scuttled, were with other vessels burnt, and a large tobacco store destroyed.

July 19.—The rear admiral states that having been joined by a battalion of marines, he proceeded up the Potomac with a view to attack Leonard's town, the capital of St. Mary's county, where the 56th regiment was stationed. The marines were landed under major Lewis, whilst the boats pulled up in front of the town; but on discovering the British, the enemy's armed force quitted the place and suffered them to take quiet possession of it. A quantity of stores belonging to the thirty-sixth regiment, and a number of arms of different descriptions, were found here and destroyed; a quantity of tobacco, flour, provisions, and other articles, were brought away in the boats and in a schooner lying off the town. Not a musket being fired, nor an armed enemy seen, the town was accordingly spared.

July 21.—The rear-admiral reports, that the enemy having collected some Virginia militia at a place called Nominny ferry, in Virginia, a considerable way up Nominny river, he proceeded thither with their boats and marines (the latter commanded by captain Robyns, during the illness of major Lewis.) The enemy's position was on a very commanding eminence, projecting into the water; but some marines being landed on its flank, and soon getting up the craggy side of the mountain, while the main body landed at the ferry, the enemy fell back, and though pursued several miles till the approach of night, escaped with the loss of a few prisoners. They had withdrawn their field artillery, and hid it in the woods; fearing that if they kept it to use against the British, they would not be able to retreat with it quick

enough to save it from capture.—After taking on board all the tobacco, and other stores found in the place, with a quantity of cattle, and destroying all the store-houses and buildings, the rear-admiral re-embarked; and dropping down to another point of the Nominy he observed some movements on shore upon which he again landed with marines. The enemy fired a volley at them, but on the advance of the marines, fled into the woods.—Every thing in the neighborhood was therefore also destroyed or brought off; and after visiting the country in several other directions, covering the escape of the negroes who were anxious to join him, he quitted the river, and returned to the ships with one hundred and thirty five refugee negroes, two captured schooners, a large quantity of tobacco, dry goods, and cattle, and a few prisoners.

*July 21.*—The rear-admiral gives an account of his having gone up St. Clement's creek, St. Mary's county, with the boats and marines, to examine the country. The militia showed themselves occasionally, but always retreated when pursued; and the boats returned to the ships without any casualty, having captured four schooners and destroyed one. The inhabitants having remained peaceably in their houses, the rear-admiral did not suffer any injury to be done to them excepting at one farm, from which two musket shots were fired at the admiral's gig, and where the property was therefore destroyed.

*July 31.*—The rear admiral reports, that having on the 28th proceeded to the head of the Machodick river, in Virginia, where he burnt six schooners, whilst the marines marched without opposition, over the country on the banks of that river, and there not remaining any other place on the Virginia or St. Mary's side of his last anchorage that he had not visited, he, on the 28th, caused the ships to move above Blackstone's Island, and on the 29th proceeded with the boats and marines up the Wicomoco river; he landed at Hamburgh and Chaptico, from which latter place he shipped a considerable quantity of tobacco and visited several houses in different parts of the country, the owners of which living quietly with their families, and seeming to consider themselves and their neighborhood at his disposal, he caused no farther inconvenience to them, than obliging them to furnish supplies of cattle and stock for the use of his forces.

*Aug. 4.*—The rear-admiral states, that on the 2d the squadron dropped down the Potomac, near the entrance of the Yocomoco river, which he entered the following day with the boats and marines and landed with the latter. The enemy had here collected in great force and made more resistance than usual; but the ardor and determination of the rear-admiral's gallant little band carried all before them; and after forcing the enemy to give way, they

followed him 10 miles up the country, captured a field piece, and burnt several houses which had been converted into depots, for militia, arms, &c. Learning afterwards that gen. Hungerford, had rallied his men at Kinsale, the rear-admiral proceeded thither; and though the enemy's position was extremely strong, he had only time to give the British an ineffectual volley, before they gained the height, when he again retired with precipitation, and did not re-appear. The stores found at Kinsale were then shipped without molestation; and having burnt the storehouses and other places, with two old schooners, and destroyed two batteries, the rear-admiral re-embarked, bringing away five prize schooners, and a large quantity of tobacco, flour, &c. a field piece and a few prisoners. The American general, Taylor, was wounded and unhorsed, and escaped only through the thickness of the wood and bushes, into which he ran. The British had three men killed, and as many wounded. The conduct of the officers and men on this occasion calls for the rear-admiral's particular commendation; with 500 men they penetrated ten miles into the enemy's country, and skirmished back surrounded by woods, in the face of the whole collected militia of Virginia, under generals Hungerford and Taylor; and after this long march carried the heights of Kinsale in the most gallant manner.

*August 8.*—The rear-admiral states, that Coan river, a few miles from Yocomoco, being the only inlet on the Virginia side of the Potomac that he had not visited, he proceeded on the 7th to attack it with the boats and marines: after a tolerably quick fire on the boats, the enemy went off precipitately with the guns: the battery was destroyed, and the river ascended, in which three schooners were captured, and some tobacco brought off.

*August 13.*—The rear-admiral gives an account of his having, on the 12th, proceeded up St. Mary's creek and landed in various parts of the country about that extensive inlet, but without seeing a single armed person, though militia had formerly been stationed at St. Mary's factory for defence; the inhabitants of the state appearing to consider it wiser to submit than to attempt opposition.

*August 15.*—The rear-admiral reports his having again on that day landed within St. Mary's creek, but found on the different parts of the country, the same quiet and submissive conduct on the part of the inhabitants, as in the places visited on the 12th.—Throughout the whole of these operations, rear admiral Cockburn repeats the highest encomiums on all the officers and men of the ships and marines, under his orders. Although from the nature of the country, and the excessive heat of the climate, these services must have been more harassing, they were carried on with greater cheerfulness and perseverance.

The captains of his majesty's ships on all occasions, volunteered to accompany the rear admiral. To lieutenant-colonel Malcolm and major Lewis, of the Royal marines, he expresses his obligations, as well as to the other officers of that corps. The conduct of the men was also deserving of the greatest praise; and though the re-embarkations frequently took place in the night, yet during the whole of the operations neither a sailor nor a marine was reported missing.

In transmitting the reports of these services, which come down to the period of sir Alexander Cochrane in the Chesapeake, the vice-admiral expresses the very high sense he entertains of the arrangement, zeal and activity which have, on all occasions, been shewn by rear-admiral Cockburn during the time he has commanded in the Chesapeake, under the vice-admiral's orders

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN GENERAL HUNGERFORD AND ADMIRAL COCKBURN.

*From the Richmond Enquirer.*

We publish the following article that the Virginians may see the contemptuous and contemptible terms in which that "accomplished gentleman," admiral Cockburn, addresses himself to an officer of the state. We are disposed to blame our officers for their condescension in submitting the imputations of such an enemy to a military enquiry. It would have been better to have passed over charges, which the enemy either fabricated, or did not believe themselves, in silent contempt:

[No. 1.]

"H. Q. Henderson's Store, Aug. 15, 1814.

SIR—I enclose for the information of the commander in chief, copies of a correspondence transmitted to this department by general Hungerford between him and admiral Cockburn, together with an opinion of the court of enquiry, the proceedings of which were enclosed to the admiral.

I am yours, respectfully,

JN. TORREVILLE, As. Ad. Gen.

*To the adjutant general.*

"H. Q. August 5, 1814.

"Admiral Cockburn, commanding H. B. M. forces in the Potomac."

"SIR—Being called into command of the forces in this quarter, colonel Parker reported to me the correspondence which had taken place between you and himself, and the proceedings connected with it. At the same time he claimed it as due to the command which he had held, and as due to the character of our people, that a court of enquiry should be constituted to investigate the imputation that poisoned spirit had been left in the way of your troops in their attack upon Nominy—Although well assured as I was, that no citizen could have perpetrated a deed so base, and disdaining too a charge coming from a deserted slave, I have condescended to wave,

for the purpose of a fair adjudication, my confidence in the former, and my distrust in the latter, and ordered the court which colonel Parker solicited. A copy of their proceedings and decision, I have thought proper to enclose you.

I am, sir, with due consideration, yours,  
J. P. HUNGERFORD,  
*Brig. gen. comd'g.*"

"H. B. M. S. Albion, in the Potomac, Aug. 11.

"SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, bearing date the 5th August, accompanying the report of a court of enquiry, which you inform me you had "condescended" to order respecting the spirits reported to have been poisoned and left in the porch of a house at Nominy.

"As this "condescension" on your part has certainly not proceeded from any enquiries of mine, and as the tenor of your letter admits not of other reply from me, I beg to decline any further discussion with you on the subject.

"I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
G. COCKBURN.  
*"Brig. gen. Hungerford, &c. &c."*

H. Q. Yeocomico Church, August 3.

"The court, after the most mature deliberation upon the evidence, hesitate not to declare to the commanding general, and to the world, their decided opinion that the charge 'o poisonous matter having been infused in any spirit left in the house at Nominy, on the evening of the 20th July,' is utterly without foundation, and they rejoice at the opportunity which this investigation has afforded them, to declare their abhorrence at so dishonorable an act.

VINCENT BRAHAM, *President.*

Test, J. W. JONES, *Judge Advocate.*

[No. 2.]

Camp, August 8, 1814. "

SIR—Since my last of the 5th, I have learnt that the following prisoners are now in the squadron under your command, taken near Monday's Point, on the 3d instant. viz. Elisha Williams, aged about 66 years; Luke Dameton, aged about 53 do.; Thomas Beuchum, aged about 45 do.; Christopher Dawson, John King and Thomas Nutt. It is my duty to represent to you that the three first are over the military age prescribed by law, and that none were taken in arms, but were, as I understand, peaceably remaining at their own homes; from which they were forcibly taken and the houses of several burnt; under these circumstances, their detention would be manifestly contrary to the laws and usages of civilized nations, and to the declarations of British commanders in similar cases—and I request their discharge.

I have the honor to be your very obedient servant,

JOHN P. HUNGERFORD,  
*Brig. gen. comd'g.*

P. S. Since writing the foregoing, I have understood from the lieutenant colonel, to whose regiment Thomas Beachum was formerly attached, that he once held a commission in the militia as captain, but that about nine months since, his company was dissolved and that he holds no command; also that Thomas Nutt is a supernumerary officer in the militia.

J. P. H.

H. B. M. ship *Albion*, in the *Potomac*, the 11th Aug. 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, bearing date the 8th instant, respecting six prisoners in the squadron under my command; and representing to me that three of them are above what you are pleased to term the military age prescribed by law, and that none of them were taken in arms; and therefore that their detention is manifestly contrary to the laws and usages of civilized nations, and to the declarations of British commanders in similar cases, in consequence of which you request their discharge: As, sir, I beg permission to judge for myself how far the people in question can be considered to have conformed to the declarations and usages you have quoted, I am sorry that it is neither in my power to agree with, or meet your ideas herein.

I have the honor to be your most obedient humble servant,

G. COCKBURN.

*Brig. general Kemperford, &c.*

#### COM. RODGERS AT BALTIMORE.

*Copy of a letter from com. Rodgers to the secretary of the navy, dated*

NEW CASTLE, Sept. 23, 1814.

SIR—From the time of my arrival at Baltimore until my departure, the various duties I had to perform, and the different situations in which I was placed, must plead my apology for not furnishing a report of the services of the naval force employed there under my command at an earlier period, and more particularly as my situation, a large portion of the time, was such as to deny me the use of pen, ink or paper.

The advance and retreat of the enemy you have been made acquainted with from other sources, and it now only remains for me to make known to you the dispositions made of, and the services rendered by the force under my command, and which I feel a pleasure in doing, as the conduct of all was such as to merit my entire approbation.

In the general distribution of the forces employed in the defence of Baltimore, with the concurrence of the commanding general, I stationed lieutenant Gamble, first of the *Guerriere*, with about 100 seamen, in command of a seven gun battery, on the line between the roads leading from Philadelphia and Sparrow's point.

Sailing master De La Rouch of the *Erie*, and midshipman Field of the *Guerriere*, with

20 seamen, in command of a 2 gun battery, fronting the road leading from Sparrow's Point.

Sailing master Ramage, of the *Guerriere*, with 20 seamen, in command of a 5 gun battery, to the right of the Sparrow's Point road.

And midshipman Salter, with 12 seamen, in command of a one gun battery a little to the right of Mr. Ramage.

Lieut. Kuhn, with the detachment of marines belong to the *Guerriere* was posted in the entrenchment between the batteries occupied by lieutenant Gamble and sailing master Ramage.

Lieut. Newcomb, third of the *Guerriere*, with 80 seamen, occupied fort Covington, on the Ferry Branch, a little below Spring Gardens.

Sailing master Webster, of the flotilla, with 50 seamen of that corps, occupied a 6 gun battery, on the Ferry Branch, known by the name of Babcock.

Lieut. Frazier of the flotilla, with 45 seamen of the same corps, occupied a three gun battery near the Lazaretto.

And lieutenant Rutter, the senior officer of the flotilla in command of all the barges, which were moored at the entrance of the passage between the Lazaretto and fort M'Henry in the left wing of the water battery, at which was stationed sailing master Rodman and 54 seamen of the flotilla.

To the officers, seamen and marines of the *Guerriere*, considering the privations they experienced and the cheerfulness and zeal with which they encountered every obstacle, every acknowledgment is due, and it would be as impossible for me to say too much in their praise as it would be unworthy of the station I hold, not to mention that their discipline and good conduct is owing, in a pre-eminent degree, to the indefatigable attention and exertions of that highly estimable officer lieutenant Gamble.

The enemy's repulsion from the Ferry branch on the night of the 13th inst. after he had passed fort M'Henry with his barges and some light vessels was owing to the warm reception he met from forts Covington and Babcock, commanded by lieutenant Newcomb and sailing master Webster, who with all under their command performed the duty assigned to them to admiration.

To lieutenant Frazier commanding the three gun battery at the Lazaretto, great praise is due for the constant and animated fire with which he at times assailed the enemy during the whole bombardment, although placed in a very exposed situation to rockets and shells.

Great praise is justly due lieutenant Rutter for his prompt execution of my orders, as well as the zeal and coolness with which he performed all the duties of his station, although con-



tinually exposed for near 24 hours to the enemy's rockets and shells.

Similar praise is due to the officers and men, in the several barges of the flotilla which were immediately under his command, who without regard to the enemy's rockets and shells maintained their position with firmness in the passage between fort M'Henry and the Lazaretto.

Sailing master Rodman, stationed in the water battery of fort M'Henry with 60 seamen of the flotilla, did his duty in a manner worthy of the service, to which he belongs.

To master's mate Stockton, my aid, I am greatly indebted for the zeal and promptitude, with which he conveyed my orders from post to post, and wherever I had occasion to communicate, although in some instances he had to pass through showers of shells and rockets.

To Mr. Allen (brother of the late gallant capt. Allen of the navy) who acted as my aid, and remained near my person, I am much indebted for the essential assistance he rendered in the capacity of secretary, and conveying my orders wherever I found the same necessary.

It now becomes a duty to notice the services of that gallant and meritorious officer, captain Spence of the navy, by whose exertions, assisted by lieut. Rutter with the barges, the entrance into the Bason was so obstructed in the enemy's presence and that too in a very short time, as to bid defiance to his ships, had he attempted to force that passage. In fine, owing to the emergency of the service, altho' no definite command could be assigned capt. Spence, his services were nevertheless of the first order, and where danger was expected there he was to be found animating with his presence and encouraging by his conduct, all to do their duty.—On my leaving Baltimore commodore Perry being absent, the command of the naval forces devolved on this excellent officer.

That justly distinguished officer commodore Perry, I am sorry to say, was so indisposed and worn out with the fatigue he had experienced on the Potomac, and having arrived at Baltimore but a short time before the bombardment commenced, excluded his taking an active command; at the moment however, when the enemy threatened to attack our lines, I found he was with us, and ready to render every assistance in his power. In a word, every officer, seaman, and marine, belonging as well to the navy as to the flotilla, performed his duty in a manner worthy of the corps to which he belonged.

I feel a delicacy in attempting to express an opinion of the conduct of any other corps than those particularly placed under my command by the navy department, and the more so, as my object is to avoid every cause of be-

ing thought presuming. I must in justice, however, be permitted to say that the conduct of col. Stephen Stoner, commanding the first regiment of Maryland militia, which was formed in column in my rear, for the defence of the lines, and whom I considered attached to my command by order of the commanding general, conducted in a manner not only to give me satisfaction, but the most incontestible proof, that that corps would have done its duty, had the enemy attempted to force the entrenchments in its vicinity.

Much praise is also due to major Randall, commanding a battalion of Pennsylvania riflemen, who was also placed under my command, and whom I dispatched with my aid, Mr. Stockton, to dislodge a party of men in the enemy's boats, which it was supposed intended landing near the Lazaretto, to take possession of our little three gun battery. Mr. Stockton on his return reported to me in very high terms the zeal and gallantry displayed by the major and his corps on the occasion. Indeed it is but justice to say that I have the best reason to believe, that all the corps stationed in the entrenchments, so far as came under my immediate observation, would have performed their respective duties in a manner honorable to themselves and to their country.

With great respect, I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JNO. RODGERS.

*The hon. Wm. Jones, sec'y. of the navy.*

### ROSS AND PARKER.

The following notices of the late major general Ross, and captain sir Peter Parker are extracted from late *London papers*—we record them to perpetuate the remembrance of these men.

A strange disposition, (arising, perhaps, from that refinement that would bury a man's bad deeds in his grave) has prevailed to excuse the general for the conflagration of the capitol; and rather fix it upon the guilty head of the infamous *Cockburn*. The latter, heaven knows, has enough of such sins of his own to answer for, and he should be excused of this—for general *Ross*, in his official account of the capture of *Washington*, says—“Judging it of consequence to complete the destruction of the public buildings, with the least possible delay, so that the army might return without loss of time, the following buildings were set fire to and consumed, the *Capitol*,” &c. And a little further on he says “*the object of the expedition having been accomplished*”—i. e. the public buildings being burnt or destroyed—he determined to withdraw, &c. see vol VII, page 277. Why then should the conflagration be charged to *Cockburn*? In a homely proverb, *exactly* suited to this occasion, “give the devil his due.” *Ross* made the burning a subject of boasting.

The man has paid the debt he owed to insulted humanity—and I say, in sincerity and truth, *peace to his ashes*. I would forgive the actor, but not the action—and on this principle, proposed about three months since, that a subscription should be opened, to build up a monument near the spot

were he fell, to be composed of huge rough rocks, bolted together with great clamps of iron, on which, in letters of solid brass, should appear an inscription somewhat after the following manner:

*By the just dispensation of the Almighty,*

NEAR THIS SPOT WAS SLAIN,

September 12, 1814,

THE LEADER OF A HOST OF BARBARIANS,  
who

destroyed the capitol of the United States, at  
Washington, Aug. 24, 1814;  
and devoted

THE POPULOUS CITY OF BALTIMORE,

to

rape, robbery and conflagration.

*Peace to his spirit—but execration to his deeds.*

Thus I would suffer the memory of the man to die, but give his crime to the latest posterity.

As a plan of a monument to the memory of Ross, somewhat like the preceding, has appeared in an eastern paper long since this was first written out, it is due to myself to state the fact, lest I might be charged with a plagiarism that I am guiltless of. It is very possible for two persons to fall upon the same ideas, as in this case has happened.

#### MAJOR GENERAL ROSS.

This gallant officer, whose conduct was so conspicuous in the late attack upon Washington, was born at Rosstrevor, the estate of his ancestors, where his father, after having distinguished himself at the battle of Minden, while commanding the grenadiers of the 5th regiment, had retired. This gentleman intermarried with the sister of the late earl of Charlemont, of which marriage general Ross is a younger son.

General Ross served at the Helder, where he was wounded; he served also in Egypt, and at the unfortunate expedition to Walcheren. At the battle of Maida, by a prompt manœuvre, which displayed the brightest evidence of military genius and heroism—he interposed the 20th regiment, which he commanded between the British and the enemy, effectually defeated the French cavalry in their attempt of turning the flank of our army, and thus secured a brilliant victory to sir J. Stuart. On this occasion, in addition to the honorable testimony contained in sir J. Stuart's despatches, the officers of the 20th regiment marked their sentiments of esteem and affection for him, by presenting him with a most beautiful sword. The high state of discipline of the 20th regiment, under the command of colonel Ross, induced sir J. Moore to select it as one of the regiments to which he confided the arduous duty of covering the retreat of his army to Corunna. His majesty was pleased to reward colonel Ross by the distinguished honor of nominating him one of his aids-de-camp; and upon his late promotion to the rank of major-general, he was so fortunate as to have in his brigade, his old companions, the 20th regiment. This regiment, during the series of battles of the Pyrennees, had 20 officers killed and wounded, and of

non-commissioned officers and men upwards of 300. The general had 2 horses shot under him in the action when Soult made his last desperate attempt for the relief of Pamplona. In the last battle of the Pyrennees, general Ross was struck in the stomach; fortunately the ball only bruised him without penetrating.

#### SIR PETER PARKER.

Captain sir Peter Parker, Bart. who unfortunately fell in an heroic conflict up the Chesapeake, in the diversion made to distract the attention of the enemy previously to the attack on the city of Washington, [!!!] was the last of his race of maritime heroes. He was the son of rear admiral Christopher Parker, who, by his gallant exploits in the West Indies, was made post at the age of 19, and grandson to the brave veteran admiral sir Peter Parker, who, when a captain, distinguished himself in the famous American war, by lying with his 50 gun ship before a strong fort in the Carolinas, until he and his master were the only men remaining alive upon deck.

#### CAPTURE OF WASHINGTON.

*From the National Intelligencer.*

We have occupied a large portion of this day's paper with the enemy's official accounts of his enterprize against this city in August last. It has been remarked, and we believe truly that if the official reports of British officers for the last thirty years could be collected, they would exceed, in falsehood, the fables of *Munclausen* and *Gulliver*. We must confess we never had any confidence in the correctness of their statements, particularly those respecting their conflicts in Europe during the late war—and their reports of the various actions which have occurred since hostilities commenced with us, must have removed from the mind of every man any doubt of their systematic duplicity. But the papers now published stand pre-eminent for their disregard of truth. That particularly which relates to the capture of this city, as it refers to facts of which we have a better knowledge, strikes us more forcibly with its false assertions. Those who had the misfortune to witness the scene at *Bladensburg* on the 24th of August, will scarcely be able to recognize a single fact truly stated by the enemy. The story about capturing 200 pieces of cannon at the navy yard, is perfectly ridiculous—such a number of pieces, it is true, lay on the ground in the yard—and any casual visitor who has looked at them might, with the same propriety, talk of having captured them.

*From the Alexandria Herald.*

The official account of gen. Ross is new before the public, and in introducing it to our readers we shall notice but a few particulars, as we find it to be as correct in detail as was expected, except in the exaggeration of the

numbers opposed to him. It appears that a demonstration upon Washington was not intended till the 22d, and that the march to Upper Marlborough was to co-operate with Cockburn in the destruction of the flotilla under Barney, at Pig Point, only about two miles distant. While there, however, the general "ascertained our force was such as might authorize an attempt upon our capital," and he accordingly was determined to make it, for which purpose the troops were put in motion on the evening of the 22d. And it will no doubt occur to the reader what connexion this might not have had with the "fortunate residence of the agent for British prisoners at Bladensburg." But what most astonishes us, is the unblushing manner in which he announces the destruction of the public buildings including the "president's palace," and proves that what we were willing heretofore to ascribe to the ferocious character of Cockburn was his own deliberate act, and that he justly merited the subsequent fate that awaited him at Baltimore, which is a striking example of the singular chastisement inflicted by *Divine Vengeance* upon the principal perpetrator of an act that must be viewed by all nations with abhorrence, who cultivate civilization or the improvement of the arts and sciences, and destroys that character of a soldier which the energy of his enterprize would otherwise have entitled him to, as an honor to his profession.

The account of their loss is thus headed, "a list of the killed, wounded and missing." In the estimate however over which this is placed, there appear but two descriptions of loss, to wit, killed and wounded—now what has become of the missing?—Were there none, or was the number so great that they feared to let it be known? It is well known their greatest loss was in deserters.

BRITISH OFFICIAL ACCOUNT SET RIGHT.

To the editors of the *National Intelligencer*.

General Ross in his official despatch says, that after having landed the army at Benedict, they moved up to Nottingham, and on the 22d August, to Upper Marlborough, a few miles distant from Pig Point, where admiral Cockburn fell in with and defeated the flotilla, taking and destroying the whole. Now the fact is they neither took nor destroyed the flotilla, for on the 21st the flotilla was abandoned by the crews to join the army, leaving only six or eight men in every barge, to destroy them on the appearance of the enemy's army, and forces from the fleet; which was done by the officers and men left by me, and not by admiral Cockburn. So much for this part of the general's despatch. The general declares he landed the army to co-operate with ad. Cochrane, in the operations which were to be made in an attack under admiral Cockburn upon the flotilla. Let us for a moment make a comparison of

the forces; 47 sail of ships of the line, frigates, bombs, sloops of war, tenders and transports, having on board, an army as they said 9000 veteran troops, the crews of the ships, &c 8000 more, a total of 17,000 men, to co-operate against 14 open row boats, (not gun boats) and one tender; having crews amounting in the whole to 503 men, 400 of which had left the barges the day previous, leaving 103 men to defend it against all the forces combined, with admirals, generals, &c at their head. The general then goes on to state that on the 23d, he was opposed by a corps of 1200 men—now the fact is these 1200 men were no other than two companies of riflemen and infantry, with light artillery, 200 strong, under maj. Peter, from the District; a skirmish ensued, one man was slightly wounded. Then the general comes on to Bladensburg, where he found the enemy "strongly posted on commanding heights and a fortified house, &c. which house was shortly carried." Now the fact is, the house was not occupied by the Americans, of course easily carried. The general then goes on to state how his troops advanced, and by the irresistible attack of the bayonet, the enemy got into confusion and fled. It would have been more to the honor of the general, if he had told that his men never had it in their power to use the bayonet but once, and then declined it; for after every attempt was made by his men to advance on the main road and were driven by the artillery under my command into the field, they were rallied and again led on by col. Thornton, who advanced to within 50 yards of our position, where he was met by the marines under capt. Miller and Sevier, with the flotilla men. Col. Thornton fell dangerously wounded, capt. Hamilton and Lt. Codd were killed, Lt. Stevely of the "King's Own" also severely wounded. —The veterans of the 86th and 4th or "King's Own" gave way—So far from using the bayonet they fled before our men, who pursued them, the sailors crying out to 'board' them, nor did the enemy rally until they got into a ravine covered with woods, leaving their officers in our power. Then our men returned to their station; gen. Ross in person was obliged to take command, but dared not lead them on in front, but pushed out on our flank; our ammunition being expended we were necessitated to retire. The general says the artillery which was under com. Barney, 'ten pieces', were taken. The fact is, I never had but five pieces. But such are the accounts given by British commanders. The general then goes on to state their loss, which appears small, yet to my knowledge the 85th regiment lost ten officers killed and wounded, among them colonel Thornton, lieutenant col. Wood and major Brown; these facts could not be unknown by the general as the above officers fell into our power, as did between two and three hundred other officers and privates and have been exchanged through my

agency, against the officers and men taken at Bladensburg, and all those taken and paroled after being wounded, at Baltimore. Notwithstanding all these facts, colonel Brook says he carried off two hundred of the most respectable inhabitants of that city as prisoners—yet after this general exchange the enemy fell in debt to us in point of numbers upwards of one hundred men, besides having two hundred men buried on the field. Such was the real state of these boasted transactions, for the truth of which I refer to colonel Thornton, lieutenant colonel Wood, major Brown and lieutenant Stevely.

JOSHUA BARNEY.

#### CAPTURE OF ALEXANDRIA.

*Alexandria, December 15.* Captain Gordon appears to have magnified the importance of his enterprize up this river, throughout his letter, but as it forms perhaps the basis on which he expects to gain promotion for his officers and himself, we can the more readily excuse this exaggeration. He refers to the orders brought him by captain Baker of the Fairy, and the confirmation by that officer, of the news that measures were in preparation to prevent his return, as the inducement for his leaving Alexandria, "*without destroying the remaining stores he could not take away.*" The fact was, Gordon had resolved upon leaving town *before* the arrival of the Fairy—had ceased taking any more of the "stores," and dropped down below the town with a part of his vessels, and which movement is to be entirely ascribed to the appearance of commodore Porter at this place on the morning preceding the arrival of captain Baker, and is perhaps the true reason why such "*singular exertions,*" were so "*cheerfully*" performed in facilitating measures for their speedy departure, as the intrepid lieutenant Herbert on this "trying" occasion took a *cold bath* by plunging into the river without looking for his boat to carry him off, so great was his trepidation at the annunciation, and so prompt in bringing his "abilities" into "*action.*" With regard to the *dexterity* in securing their plunder which is so much boasted of, we have but one observation to make, that this is no uncommon qualification in *robbers*, which is all their professional "character" can boast of while before this place, and which in justice to some of the officers we state, was considered by them in an abhorrent light, and utterly at variance with their private feelings. But what deserves to be particularly noticed, is the declaration of Gordon, *that he had to retire without destroying the stores, &c. as he had intended,* as it goes to shew the profligacy of his character and the little reliance that was to be placed upon his declaration, as it was *particularly* enquired of the lieutenant (dubbed the *honorable*) who bore the terms he was

determined to *enforce*, by a gentleman who was with the mayor, "whether the commodore intended to require the delivery of any more of the merchandize than he could take away." They were answered that it would not be required, which explanation was afterwards recognized by captain G. Our readers have here a responsible statement of council of the pledge given to the town by the said Gordon, and his declared declaration that it was his intention to have violated it, but was prevented by the information from below, which would not permit him to *use or abuse* his time compatible with the safety of his squadron. It would further seem from this letter, that captain KENAH, of the bomb-ship, had not been killed, as stated in our West India extracts published some time since. We account for it in this way, that Kenah must have been amongst the wounded, who are not particularized, and that his death must have taken place subsequent to the writing of this letter which is dated on the 9th, four days since the action. The information of his death we deem satisfactory, as it was carried into Bermuda by the arrival of the rear admiral's squadron.—*Herald.*

*From the Alexandria Gazette.* Captain Gordon's official account of the capture of Alexandria, will be found in this morning's paper. It discloses a fact highly derogatory to his character as a man of honor and veracity, viz:—That it was his intention, *notwithstanding his positive assurances to the contrary,* to have *destroyed* all the flour and other stores, which he had not the means of *carrying away.*

Amongst other articles, we find in the London Gazette of the 1st of October, a series of communications from admiral Cockburn giving a chronological account of his depredations in the Chesapeake. He boasts of having penetrated with a small band of choice spirits as far as Marlborough, within 18 miles of Washington, where he carried off a schooner laden with tobacco, and burnt the warehouses, containing *two thousand five hundred hogsheads.* At Nominy, he says, he took off two schooners and a large quantity of tobacco, dry goods and cattle, *and destroyed or brought off every thing in the neighborhood.* It was in this predatory incursion, that the dwelling houses of Mrs Thompson and several other widow ladies were burnt to the ground!

#### ATTACK UPON BALTIMORE.

His majesty's ship Severn, in the Patapsco, 15th Sept. 1814.

SIR—In furtherance of the instructions I had the honor to receive from you on the 11th inst. I landed at day light of the 12th with major general Ross and the force under his command, at a place the general and myself had previously fixed upon, near to North

Point, at the entrance of the Patapsco, and in conformity with his wishes, I determined on remaining on shore, and accompanying the army to render him every assistance within my power during the contemplated movements and operations; therefore so soon as our landing was completed, I directed captain Nourse, of this ship, to advance up the Patapsco with the frigates, sloops, and bomb-ships, to bombard the fort, and threaten the water approach to Baltimore, and I moved on with the army and seamen (under captain Edward Crofton) attached to it, on the direct road leading to the above mentioned town,

We had advanced about five miles (without other occurrence than taking prisoners a few light horsemen) when the general and myself, being with the advanced guards, observed a division of the enemy posted at a turning of the road, extending into a wood on our left; a sharp fire was almost immediately opened upon us from it, and as quickly returned with considerable effect by our advanced guard, which pressing steadily forward, soon obliged the enemy to run off with the utmost precipitation, leaving behind him several men killed and wounded; but it is with the most heartfelt sorrow I have to add, that in this short and desultory skirmish, my gallant and highly valued friend, the major-general, received a musket ball through his arm into his breast, which proved fatal to him on his way to the water-side for re-embarkation.

Our country, sir, has lost in him one of its best and bravest soldiers, and those who knew him, as I did, a friend most honored and beloved; and I trust, sir, that I may be forgiven for considering it a sacred duty I owe to him to mention here, that whilst his wounds were binding up, and we were placing him on the bearer, which was to carry him off the field, he assured me the wounds he had received in the performance of his duty to his country caused him not a pang; but he felt alone, anxiety for a wife and family dearer to him than his life, whom, in the event of the fatal termination he foresaw, he recommended to the protection and notice of his majesty's government, and the country.

Colonel Brook, on whom the command of the army now devolved, having come up, and the body of our troops having closed with the advance, the whole proceeded forward about two miles further, where we observed the enemy in force drawn up before us (apparently about six or seven thousand strong); on perceiving our army, he filed off into a large and extensive wood on his right, from which he commenced a cannonade on us from his field pieces, and drew up his men behind a thick paling, where he appeared determined to make his stand. Our field guns answered his with evident advantage, and so soon as colonel Brook had made the necessary dispositions,

the attack was ordered, and executed in the highest style possible. The enemy opened his musketry on us from his whole line; immediately we approached within reach of it, and kept up his fire till we reached and entered the wood, when he gave way in every direction, and was chased by us a considerable distance with great slaughter, abandoning his post of the meeting house, situated in this wood, and leaving all his wounded and two of his field guns in our possession.

An advance of this description against superior numbers of an enemy so strongly posted, could not be effected without loss. I have the honor to enclose a return of what has been suffered by those of the naval department, acting with the army on this occasion; and it is, sir, with the greatest pride and pleasure, I report to you that the brigade of seamen with small arms, commanded by captain Edward Crofton, assisted by captains Sullivan, Money and Ramsey (the three senior commanders with the fleet), who commanded divisions under him, behaved with a gallantry and steadiness which would have done honor to the oldest troops, and which attracted the admiration of the army. The seamen under Mr. Jackson, master's mate of the Tonnant, attached to the rocket brigade, commanded by the first lieut. Lawrence, of the marines, behaved also with equal skill and bravery. The marines landed from the ships under the command of captain Robyns, the senior officer of that corps, belonging to the fleet, behaved with their usual gallantry.

Although, sir, in making to you my report of this action, I know it is right I should confine myself to mentioning only the conduct of those belonging to the naval department, yet I may be excused for venturing further to state to you generally the high admiration with which I viewed the conduct of the whole army, and the ability and gallantry with which it was managed and headed by its brave colonel, which insured to it the success it met with.

The night being fast approaching and the troops much fatigued, colonel Brook determined on remaining for the night on the field of battle, and on the morning of the 13th. leaving a small guard at the meeting house to collect and protect the wounded, we again moved forward towards Baltimore, on approaching which it was found to be defended by extremely strong works on every side, and immediately in front of us by an extensive hill, on which was an entrenched camp, and great quantities of artillery, and the information we collected, added to what we observed, gave us to believe there were at least within their works from 15 to 20,000 men. Col. Brook lost no time in reconnoitring these defences, after which he made his arrangement for storming, during the ensuing night, with his gallant little army, the entrenched camp

in our front, notwithstanding all the difficulties which it presented. The subsequent communications which we opened with you, however, induced him to relinquish again the idea, and therefore yesterday morning the army retired leisurely to the meeting house, where it halted for some hours to make the necessary arrangements respecting the wounded and the prisoners taken on the 12th, which being completed, it made a further short movement in the evening towards the place where it had disembarked, and where it arrived this morning for re-embarkation, without suffering the slightest molestation from the enemy, who, in spite of his superiority of numbers, did not even venture to look at us during this slow and deliberate retreat.

As you, sir, were in person with the advanced frigates, sloops, and bomb vessels, and as, from the road the army took, I did not see them after quitting the beach, it would be superfluous for me to make any report to you respecting them. I have now, therefore, only to assure you of my entire satisfaction and approbation of the conduct of every officer and man employed under me, during the operations above detailed, and to express to you how particularly I consider myself indebted to captain Edward Crofton (acting captain of the Royal Oak,) for the gallantry, ability, and zeal with which he led on the brigade of seamen in the action of the 12th, and executed all the other services with which he has been intrusted since our landing; to capt. White (acting captain of the Albion) who attended me as my aid-de-camp the whole time, and rendered me every possible assistance; to captains Sullivan, Money, and Ramsay, who commanded divisions of the brigade of seamen; to lieutenant James Scott of the Albion, whom I have had such frequent cause to mention to you on former occasions, and who in the battle of the 12th commanded a division of seamen, and behaved most gallantly, occasionally also acting as an extra aid-de camp to myself; capt. Robyns, who commanded the marines of the fleet, and who was severely wounded during the engagement, I also beg to recommend to your favorable notice and consideration, as well as lieutenant G. C. Urmston, of the Albion, whom I placed in command of the smaller boats, to endeavor to keep up a communication between the army and navy, which he effected with great perseverance, and thereby rendered us most essential service. In short, sir, every individual seemed animated with equal anxiety to distinguish himself by good conduct on this occasion, and I trust therefore the whole will be deemed worthy of your approbation.

Capt. Nourse, of the Severn, was good enough to receive my flag for this service, he rendered me great assistance in getting the ships to the different stations within the river,

and when the storming of the fortified hill was contemplated, he hastened to my assistance, with a reinforcement of seamen and marines, and I should consider myself wanting in candor and justice did I not particularly point out, sir, to you, the high opinion I entertain of the enterprise and ability of this valuable officer, not only for his conduct on this occasion, but on the very many others, on which I have employed him, since with me in the Chesapeake.

I have the honor to be, &c.

G COCKBURN Rear Adm.

*Vice adm the hon sir A Cochrane,*

*K B commander in chief &c.*

On board H. M. S. Tonnant, Sept. 15, 1814.

DEAR SIR—I beg leave to be allowed, to state to you, how much I feel indebted to capt. Crofton, commanding the brigade of sailors from H. M. ships under your command, as also to capt. Sullivan, Money and Ramsay, for their very great exertions in performing every formation made by his majesty's troops; having seen myself those officers, expose themselves in the hottest of the enemy's fire, to keep their men in line of march with the disciplined troops. The obedient and steady conduct of the sailors, believe me, sir, excited the admiration of every individual of the army, as well as my greatest gratitude.

Believe me to be, dear sir,

(Signed) ARTHUR BHOOK, col. com.

*Vice adm the hon sir A. Cochrane,*

*K B commander in chief &c.*

*Killed and wounded belonging to the navy disembarked with the army under maj. gen. Ross. Sept 12, 1814*

Total killed—1 petty officer, 3 seamen, 3 marines.

Total wounded—1 officer, 6 petty officers, 22 seamen 15 marines.

(Signed) G COCKBURN, Rear Adm.

Tonnant, in the Chesapeake, Sept. 12,

SIR—I transmit to you herewith, returns of the killed, wounded and missing, in the demonstration on Baltimore, between the 12th and 14th inst. I have the honor to be, &c.

A. COCHRANE,

Vice adm. and com. in chief.

*J. W. Croker. Esq*

*Killed wounded and missing of the naval brigade commanded by capt. Ed Crofton of H. M. S. Royal Oak, and serving with the army on shore. under maj gen. Ross on the 12th Sept. 1814.*

Total killed, wounded and missing, 6 killed; 32 wounded; 1 missing.

*Killed and wounded of the marine brigade commanded by capt. Robyns, royal marines, of H. M. S. Tonnant, and serving in the army under major general Ross, 12th Sept. 1814.*

Total—1 killed; 16 wounded.

## RESIGNATION OF MR. STONE.

*Legislature of North Carolina, Dec. 2*

A message was received from the governor enclosing the following resignation of the hon. David Stone, one of our senators in congress.

*Hope, near Windsor, 21st Nov. 1814.*

DEAR SIR—I ask as a favor of your excellency to be the medium of communicating to the general assembly of North Carolina, now in session, this, as my resignation of the trust conferred upon me by the legislature of 1812, to represent the state in the senate of the United States.

Circumstances have occurred since my appointment, that, in my judgment, render it a duty I owe to the state, (whose agent, to the best of my ability, I have faithfully been) as well as a duty to myself, to say on this occasion, that to all those members of the legislature who thought proper, at the time of my appointment, to consult me in relation to my disposition to serve the state, if selected for the purpose, I uniformly answered, that, should I be honored by their choice, which I by no means wished, I would serve for a session or two; but that the obligation of providing for my family and my domestic concerns, would not permit me to promise for a longer term.

It is true, I hoped to be able to attend 'till I could have seen the return of peace to my country. But a short attendance at the summer session of 1813, convinced me this was a vain hope. It was not possible for me to think, that, to wage the war in which we were engaged by embargo, by militia tours of duty for distant expeditions, by short enlistments of regular troops, by a profuse and, as I verily believed unnecessary expenditure of the public money—and by sending our most distinguished citizens to traverse Europe as solicitors for peace, could lead to a speedy or honorable termination of the war.

Indeed so very strange did these things appear to me, as war measures, that to my judgment it seemed, if the enemy had directed our course, he could not well have selected one that would with more certainty, and scarcely with more expedition, conduct us to *division among ourselves—to bankruptcy* and, as I feared, to *ruin!* Not being able, therefore, to approve nor to withstand the torrent by which we were urged forward, I determined neither to incur responsibility for measures adopted against my judgment, nor longer to engage myself in the disagreeable task of opposing those legislative provisions by a majority thought necessary for carrying on an arduous war, but to retire to private life, and wait with resignation for a more auspicious season, when the delirium of the moment should have passed away. On my arrival at Raleigh, during the last session of the legislature, with intentions to resign, I found a degree of excitement prevailing in that body *which for-*

*bade me voluntarily to place in their hands so important a trust as that of appointing a senator.* How this excitement had been produced I neither knew nor enquired; nor did I care further than this, that it was much mortification to me that the legislative council of the state should be so greatly agitated by so senseless a clamor.

Much against my wish I attended the last session of congress. When the embargo was again recommended by the president and passed again by a large majority of the house of representatives, I, as a member of the senate, voted for it, not because my opinion of the subject was in the least altered, but because the suffering it must occasion would in a short time, I hoped, recal the sober sense of the nation, and we should finally get rid of that *self destroying engine.*

The senate of the United States being the court established by the constitution for trying all cases of impeachment for bribery and corruption, and other high crimes and misdemeanors, that may be exhibited against the president, the vice-president, or any of the civil officers of government, cannot as it seems to me, with propriety institute enquiries into the conduct of those officers. The court which is to try must certainly be excused from the management of the prosecution and the collection of evidence to support it. If, therefore, the senate are at any time convinced that the public money is wasted by the public agents, it would, I apprehend, be difficult to point out a method more conformable to the principles of our constitution, by which that body can effect a correction of such improper disposal of the public money, than by refusing to vote supplies until the constitutional organ for the purpose shall make enquiry where the fault rests, and take measures for its correction. This refusal to sanction the supplies of the senate, imposes upon the house of representatives to whom the constitution commits the important trust of enquiring into and correcting abuses, the necessity of performing their duty in that respect.

It was upon this ground alone that I voted against the tax bills in the summer session of 1813. I was fully satisfied by information received from the highest authority, that a most unnecessary and prodigal waste of public money existed in the expenditures of the war department; and was either sanctioned or not corrected by those whose duty it was to correct it. I voted, therefore, for the loan bill to supply the present exigencies of the government, but against the tax bills which it was contemplated should not come into operation for six months, with the hope, if successful in my opposition, that the abuse would in the mean time be enquired into and corrected.—The determination of the senate was against me, the tax bills passed. But in little more

than twelve months after, we became bankrupt; that is, the war department has been for a considerable time without a dollar subject to its disposal; and at a time too when the public functionaries declare the resources of the country to be ample [See the report of the late secretary of the treasury to the present session of congress—the letter of the present secretary to the chairman of the committee of ways and means, dated 17th October, 1814, and the speeches of the latter gentleman.]—This result does not certainly prove that my conviction of the waste of public money was ill founded nor that the necessity did not exist to enquire into and correct the abuse. An individual who borrows money upon a mortgage of his estate if he lays out the money judiciously in improvements, will thereby increase his ability to obtain supplies on the same security. But if on the other hand he consumes the money thus obtained in treats, entertainments and presents to those who will support himself and friends at an election, he will obtain every fresh supply with increased difficulty, until his course is entirely stopped.

The political atmosphere of our country is so loaded with clouds, and threatening in its aspect, that I should certainly remain at the post assigned me, if I conceived that, by remaining, I could be of any service, whatever sacrifice it might cost me. But my opinions and views differ so radically from those of the persons who conduct the affairs of the nation, and who appear to be strongly supported by the public sentiment of the nation, and as I am conscious I possess a very fallible judgment, but which, such as it is, *must be my guide* in the performance of my public duty, entirely independent of and uncontrolled by party, I therefore conclude it is best for me to withdraw from the scene.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration and esteem, your humble servant,

DAVID STONE.

*His excellency gov. Hawkins.*

## TREATY WITH THE N. W. INDIANS.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

*A Proclamation.*—Whereas, a treaty between the United States of America and the Wyandot, Delaware, Shawanoese, Seneca, and Miami nations of indians, was concluded and signed on the twenty-second day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, by the commissioners of both nations, fully and respectively authorised for that purpose, and was duly ratified and confirmed by the president of the United States on the thirteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord, 1814, with the advice and consent of the senate, which treaty is in the following words to wit:

*A treaty of peace and friendship between the United States of America and the tribes of indians called the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawanoese, Senecas and Miamies.*

The said United States of America by William Henry Harrison, late a maj. general in the army of the United States, and Lewis Cass, governor of the Michigan Territory, duly authorised and appointed commissioners for the purpose, and the said tribes, by their head men, chiefs and warriors, assembled at Greenville in the state of Ohio, have agreed to the following articles, which, when ratified by the president of the United States, and with the advice and consent of the senate thereof, shall be binding upon them and the said tribes.

ARTICLE I. The United States and the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawanoese and Senecas, give peace to the Miami nation of indians, formerly designated as the Miami Pel river and Weea tribes; they extend this indulgence also to the bands of the Putawatimies, which adhere to the grand sachem Tobinipee, and to the chief Onoxa, to the Ottowas of Blanchard's creek, who have attached themselves to the Shawanoese tribe, and to such of the said tribes as adhere to the chief called the Wing, in the neighborhood of Detroit, and to the Kickapoos, under the direction of the chiefs who sign this treaty.

ARTICLE II. The tribes and bands above-mentioned, engage to give their aid to the United States in prosecuting the war against Great Britain, and such of the indian tribes as still continue hostile; and to make no peace with either without the consent of the United States. The assistance herein stipulated for, is to consist of such a number of their warriors from each tribe, as the president of the United States, or any officer having his authority therefor, may require.

ARTICLE III. The Wyandot tribe, and the Senecas of Sandusky and Stoney creek, the Delaware and Shawanoese tribes, who have preserved their fidelity to the United States throughout the war, again acknowledge themselves under the protection of the said states, and of no other power whatever; and agree to aid the United States, in the manner stipulated for in the former article, and to make no peace but with the consent of the said states.

ARTICLE IV. In the event of a faithful performance of the conditions of this treaty, the U. States will confirm and establish all the boundaries between their lands and those of the Wyandots, Delaware, Shawanoese and Miamies, as they existed previously to the commencement of the war.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the said commissioners and the said head-men, chiefs and warriors of the before mentioned tribes of indians have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals.

Done at Greenville, in the state of Ohio, this twenty second day of July, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, and of the independence of the United States, the thirty-ninth.

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.  
LEWIS CASS.

*In presence of*

James Dill, secretary to the commissioners,  
John Johnston, indian agent,  
B. F. Stickney, indian agent,  
James J. Nisbit, associate judge of the court of common pleas, Preble county,  
Thomas G. Gibson

SWORN INTERPRETERS.

Antoine Boindi, sworn interpreter,  
Wm. Walker, sworn interpreter,  
William Conner, sworn interpreter,  
J. B. Chandonnai, sworn interpreter,  
Stephen Keeddeed, sworn interpreter,  
James Pettier, sworn interpreter,  
Joseph Bertrane, sworn interpreter,  
Thos. Ramsey, capt. 1st rifle regt.  
John Conner,  
John Biddle, col. 1st regt. Ohio militia.

[Signed by a great number of chiefs and warriors, viz. 14 Shawanoese, 5 Ottomas, 13 Senecas, 16 Delewares, 13 Wyandotts, 28 Miamies, 18 Potawattamies.]

Now, therefore, to the end that the said treaty be observed and performed with good faith on the part of the United States, I have caused the premises to be made public, and I do hereby enjoin and require all persons bearing office, civil or military, within the United States, and all others, citizens or inhabitants thereof, or being within the same, faithfully to observe and fulfil the said treaty, and every clause and article thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents, and signed the same with my hand.

Done at the city of Washington the twenty first day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, and of the independence of the United States the thirty-ninth.

JAMES MADISON.

By the president,

JAMES MONROE.

PENSACOLA.

*From the National Intelligencer of January 2, 1815.*

We have received from an attentive friend who resides on the Mobile, the subjoined extract of the journal of Wm. Ellis, a man of ve-

racity and good character. It is a document, at this moment of some importance. It vindicates most satisfactorily, if vindication in this case can be considered necessary, the conduct of the American government, or their general, in entering Pensacola.

This interesting paper also exhibits in a strong light the anti-neutral conduct of the Spanish governor of West Florida. We should hope, indeed, that Don Gonzales Manrique, does not faithfully represent the king whose commission he holds; but, whatever be the real temper of the Spanish monarchy towards the United States, it became necessary to the safety of our territory and people, that some check should be given to the enemy whilst finding an asylum, and countenance and protection, from pretended friends in Pensacola.

In the simple narrative of Mr. Ellis, we find that a force came from Pensacola to scour our territory, to make prisoners of unarmed citizens, and attack our forts; that they returned with their booty and prisoners to Pensacola: that the prisoners were kept, as if in a hostile country, contrary to the established principles of the law of nations: that when an American force pursued the enemy as far as the Perdido, the Spanish governor appears to have considered a resistance to them as the common concern of the British, the indians and himself, and that he made arrangements for sending a Spanish force to cooperate with the indians in resisting the Americans, whilst in fresh pursuit of their avowed enemies engaged in the very act of carrying off their property and their people. Is this neutrality? Was there any chance of security to the adjacent settlements of American citizens, if such infamous partiality, not to say hostility, had been viewed with awful reverence by the American general?

How could he plead a regard to neutral rights? Neutral duties must be observed, if neutral rights would be respected. Every man must be satisfied that there was no real neutrality on the part of the Spanish governor: and the return of gen Jackson to our own territory, after having driven off the indians and the British, can only be regarded as a solemn sacrifice made by the American government to that love of peace and friendship with other nations, which has always marked their character and conduct.

*Extracts from the journal of William Ellis, inspector of the revenue at Mobile, who was taken prisoner by the British and Indians, and carried to Pensacola, a Spanish town in West Florida.*

[The journal begins with August 28th 1814, and states his employment as a custom house officer, stationed then at Bonsecour, a river on the east side of the bay of Mobile.]

September 12th—Visited the landing in the forenoon—after dinner, commence fixing some fish-hooks, and about half past two, P. M. casting my eye up, saw two Creek indians painted, pointing their guns at me—and in the space of a moment, the yard and house were crowded with them.—Mrs. La Coast and her son (ten years old,) Miss Betsey, her two children, and sister, were screaming in the rooms. I continued my seat. Several indians came up to me, among whom was a chief, who gave me his hand. At this moment a British officer came up, and ordered me to follow him. I arose and observed, 'You are a British officer, I presume.' 'Yes,' said he 'I may consider myself a prisoner to you.' 'You may say that,' he replied, 'or I cut your head off.' 'I shall expect that humanity from you, which belongs to your nation.' 'Its more,' said he, 'than we receive from your nation a damned sight.' 'That's not the fault of individuals.'

By this time we had advanced ten poles towards the river, and the indians had taken all the canoes, and about 40 started over to the landing on the other side of the river. By this time, I suppose, they had been three minutes in the yard, 70 in number, plundering every thing they could put their hands on. I requested the officer to go into the house, and protect the women and children; which he did immediately, and made the indians give back almost every thing they had taken. But as soon as his eye was off them, they took the things again, even to the dirty cloths. By this time the indians had returned from their landing, with all James Innerarity's negroes. Mr. Miller, supercargo of a Spanish ship in Pensacola, Jacobs, a cooper, Henry, a laborer, Frank, an overseer, and Aaron, a carter. A violent gust came on, and one indian was struck in the yard with lightning, and died in a few days. Night came on—they put out spies and went to sleep.

Captain Cassals of the royal marines (for that was his name and appellation) asked me if I knew of any troops being near them—and observed my life depended on my telling the truth. None, I told him nearer than the point. "Did you hear firing there to-day?" None.—An express was sent to the point by an American called Burdue, who had been in the 2d regiment; a half breed called Sebastian, of Pensacola, and the son of Pancha, who lives at Perdido.

Sept. 13th. Removed to the landing. The indians indulged themselves in plunder all day.

Sept. 14th—By this time the indians were out of beef; although they had killed two of La Coast's the first day. A party consisting of an American called M'Gill, who had deserted from the 2d regiment, about three years ago, when at fort Stoddert, and who now lives at Pensacola, a mulatto, called London, (whom

capt. Cassals told me he had met and compelled to come back) a negro called Boston, and some indians, were sent to Fish river; who returned in the evening with a drove of cattle, a decanter, a pitcher, and some other things. They then killed a beef. Madam La Coast comes and sleeps at the landing with all her family.

Sept. 15.—The express returns (this evening with) the news that the marines, 75, and indians, 130, under the command of captain Henry, had landed at the point, and had fired four bombs into the fort—that the colonel's servant had his head carried off by a cannon ball, and an indian had his belt cut in two by a grape shot; that the colonel was on board the ship Armise; that the vessels were within a league of the fort.—Very heavy firing this day. About an hour after night, we heard a great explosion—suppose it to be the fort blown up.

Sept. 16. Sent an express by M'Gill and Burdue to the point.

Sept. 17. A party of indians arrived (24) from the point at 11. A. M. Told us that the ships were beat off, and one blown up—that the balance of the indians and marines were coming on, which proved to be the case. In about two hours they arrived, halted, killed several beeves, opened two hogsheads of tobacco, and several barrels of flour, refreled themselves, and went on about six miles, put out spies, and encamped. The indians refused to obey their chief (Woodbine) and would not stand sentry.

September 18—Arrived at Pancha's on the Perdido, at 3 P. M. all the marines and some few indians crossed the Perdido bay.

September 19.—Arrived in Pensacola at half past 12, and quartered with captain Woodbine; towards evening Woodbine takes me and old Alexander of Fish river (who had been plundered of all that was dear to him, and brought a prisoner to this place,) before the colonel, who told me he should make a prisoner of war of me. He thought, however, he would look over the cartel arrangements, and, in the mean time, I and Alexander must confine ourselves to captain Woodbine's quarters, and we should be well treated. Consequently we did so.

September 20.—The balance of the indians crossed the Perdido, and got into town.

September 21—A party of the expedition who were left behind to drive cattle, arrived at 9 A. M. and bring news that they had got over 25 head of bullocks, and that the Americans came on them and compelled them to retire. This occasioned much bustle in the town. The indians are called into captain Woodbine's, and a great talk takes place between him and the head chief. A detachment is sent to the Perdido, where it is said the Americans are crossing.

September 22.—An express arrives this morning from the ferry, and brings news that a party of Americans had crossed over the Perdido, and taken all the boats from the east side, and retired to their encampments on the west. Their number was supposed to be about 500. The governor calls and observed that he wished captain Woodbine to send a party of indians, consisting of two hundred to the ferry, and that he would send 50 men with them to impede the crossing of the Americans; that this measure ought to be particularly attended to. Woodbine not being in, captain Henry informed his excellency, that it should be attended to with the earliest attention. The governor then went over to col. Nicholl. In the afternoon a quantity of blankets, linens, &c. are hoisted up into the loft of captain Woodbine's quarters. About 4 P. M. 65 indians received 3 days rations, and march, it is said, to the ferry on Perdido.

Friday, 23d —Here the journal ends. For some reason or other, the British officers became jealous of Mr Ellis, and sent him on board one of their vessels, (after searching all his papers, of which the above journal was probably the most material) they put him on board of one of their vessels in the bay; and have probably carried him to the West Indies. The journal was handed, I think, by captain Woodbine to another American citizen, who had been made a prisoner of by the British in Pensacola, but was afterwards liberated.

#### GEN. ARMSTRONG PRIVATEER.

Although in the REGISTER, vol. VII, pages 207, 253, 255 and 319, considerable notice has been taken of the defence of the General Armstrong privateer, the case is so remarkable that the following documents must not be lost, and are therefore inserted.

The following is captain Reid's account of his rencontre with the British at Fayal, and is communicated to the editors of the Mercantile Advertiser for publication:

*Fayal, 4th October, 1814.*

With infinite regret I am constrained to say it has eventually fallen to my lot to state to you the loss and total destruction of the private armed brig General Armstrong, late under my command.

We sailed from Sandy-Hook, on the evening of the 9th ult. and about midnight fell in chase —aboard of a razee and ship of the line. They pursued till next day noon, when they thought proper to give over chase. On the 11th, after a nine hours' chase, boarded the private armed sch. Perry, John Cohnan, 6 days from Philadelphia, had thrown over all his guns. On the following day fell in with an enemy's gun brig; exchanged a few shots with, and left him. On the 21th, boarded a Spanish brig and schooner, and a Portuguese

ship, all from the Havanna. On the 26th following came too in Fayal Roads, for the purpose of filling water; called on the American consul, who very politely ordered our water immediately sent off, it being our intention to proceed to sea early the next day. At 5 P. M. I went on board, the consul and some other gentlemen in company. I asked some questions concerning enemy's cruizers, and was told there had been none at these islands for several weeks; when about dusk, while we were conversing, the British brig Carnation suddenly hove in sight close under the N. E. head of the harbor within gun shot when first discovered. The idea of getting under way was instantly suggested; but finding the enemy's brig had the advantage of a breeze, and but little wind with us, it was thought doubtful if we should be able to get to sea without hazarding an action. I questioned the consul to know if in his opinion the enemy would regard the neutrality of the port? He gave me to understand I might make myself perfectly easy, assuring me at the same time they would never molest us while at anchor. But no sooner did the enemy's brig understand from the pilot-boat who we were, when she immediately hauled close in and let go her anchor within pistol shot of us. At the same moment the Plantagenet, and frigate Rota, hove in sight, to whom the Carnation instantly made signal, and a constant interchange took place for some time.

The result was, the Carnation proceeded to throw out all her boats; dispatched on board the commodore, and appeared otherwise to be making unusual exertions. From these circumstances I began to suspect their real intentions. The moon was near its full, which enabled us to observe them very minutely; and I now determined to haul in nearer the shore. Accordingly, after clearing for action, we got under way, and began to sweep in.—The moment this was observed by the enemy's brig, she instantly cut her cable, made sail, and dispatched four boats in pursuit of us.—Being now about 8 P. M. as soon as we saw the boats approaching, we let go our anchor, got springs on our cable, and prepared to receive them. I hailed them repeatedly as they drew near, but they felt no inclination to reply. Sure of their game, they only pulled up with the greater speed. I observed the boats were well manned, and apparently as well armed; and as soon as they had cleverly got alongside we opened our fire, which was as soon returned; but meeting with rather a warmer reception than they had probably been aware of, they very soon cried out for quarters, and hauled off. In this skirmish I had one man killed and my first lieutenant wounded. The enemy's loss must have been upwards of twenty killed and wounded.

They had now repaired to their ships to

prepare for a more formidable attack. We, in the interim, having taken the hint, prepared to haul close into the beach, where we moored head and stern within half pistol shot of the castle. This done, we again prepared in the best possible manner for their second reception. About 9 p. m. we observed the enemy's brig towing in a large fleet of boats.—They soon after left the brig and took their station in three divisions, under cover of a small reef of rocks, within about musket shot of us. Here they continued manœuvring for some time, the brig still keeping under way to act with the boats, should we at any time attempt our escape.

The shores were lined with the inhabitants, waiting the expected attack; and from the brightness of the moon, they had a most favorable view of the scene. The governor, with most of the first people of the place, stood by and saw the whole affair.

At length, about midnight, we observed the boats in motion, (our crew having laid at their quarters during the whole of this interval.) They came on in one direct line, keeping in close order, and we plainly counted twelve boats. As soon as they came within proper distance we opened our fire, which was warmly returned from the enemy's cannonades and small arms. The discharge from our Long Tom rather staggered them; but soon reconnoitering, they gave three cheers and came on most spiritedly. In a moment they succeeded in gaining our bow and starboard quarter, and the word was *board*. Our great guns now becoming useless we attacked them sword in hand, together with our pikes, pistols and musketry, from which our lads poured on them a most destructive fire. The enemy made frequent and repeated attempts to gain our decks, but were repulsed at all times, and at all points, with the greatest slaughter. About the middle of the action I received intelligence of the death of my second-lieutenant; and soon after of the third-lieutenant being badly wounded. From this, and other causes, I found our fire had much slackened on the fore castle; and, fearful of the event, I instantly rallied the whole of our after-division, who had been bravely defending and now had succeeded, in beating the boats off the quarters. They gave a shout, rushed forward, opened a fresh fire, and soon after decided the conflict, which terminated in the total defeat of the enemy, and the loss of many of their boats; two of which belonged to the *Rota*, we took possession of, literally loaded with their own dead. Seventeen only escaped from them both, who swam to the shore. In another boat under our quarter, commanded by one of the lieutenants of the *Plantagenet*, all were killed saving four. This I have from the lieutenant himself, who fur-

ther told me that he jumped overboard to save his own life.

The duration of this action was about 40 minutes. Our decks were now found in much confusion, our Long Tom dismounted, and several of our carriages broken; many of our crew having left the vessel, and others disabled. Under these circumstances, however, we succeeded in getting Long Tom in his birth, and the decks cleared in sort for a fresh action, should the enemy attack us again before day-light. About 3, A. M. I received a message from the American consul, requesting to see me on shore, where he informed me the governor had sent a note to captain Lloyd, begging him to desist from further hostilities. To which captain Lloyd sent for answer, that he was now determined to have the privateer at the risk of knocking down the whole town; and that if the governor suffered the Americans to injure the privateer in any manner, he should consider the place an enemy's port, and treat it accordingly. Finding this to be the case, I considered all hope of saving our vessel to be at an end. I therefore went on board, and ordered all our wounded and dead to be taken on shore, and the crew to save their effects as fast as possible. Soon after this it became day-light, when the enemy's brig stood close in, and commenced a heavy fire on us with all her force. After several broadsides she hauled off, having received a shot in her hull, her rigging much cut, and her fore-top-mast wounded; (of this I was informed by the British consul.) She soon after came in again, and anchored close to the privateer. I then ordered the *Armstrong* to be scuttled, to prevent the enemy from getting her off. She was soon afterwards boarded by the enemy's boats and set on fire, which soon completed her destruction.

They have destroyed a number of houses in the town and wounded some of the inhabitants.

By what I have been able to learn from the British consul and officers of the fleet, it appears there were about 400 officers and men in the last attack by the boats, of which 120 were killed and about 130 wounded. Captain Lloyd, I am told by the British consul, is badly wounded in the leg; a jury of surgeons had been held, who gave it as their opinion that amputation would be necessary to insure his life. 'Tis said, however, that the wound was occasioned by an *ox trading on him*. The fleet has remained here about a week, during which they have been principally employed in burying the dead and taking care of the wounded.

Three days after the action they were joined by the ship *Thais* and brig *Calypso* (two sloops of war) they were immediately taken into requisition by captain Lloyd, to take

home the wounded men. The *Calypso* sailed for England with part of the wounded on the 2d instant, among whom was the first-lieutenant of the *Plantagenet*. The *Thais* sails this evening with the remainder. Captain Lloyd's fleet sailed to-day, supposed for the West-Indies.

The loss on our part, I am happy to say, is comparatively trifling; two killed and seven wounded. With regard to my officers in general, I feel the greatest satisfaction in saying, they one and all fought with the most determined bravery, and to whom I feel highly indebted for their officer-like conduct during the short period we were together; their exertions and bravery deserved a better fate.

I here insert, for your inspection, a list of the killed and wounded.

*Killed*.—Mr. Alexander O. Williams, second-lieutenant, by a musket ball in the forehead, died instantly; Burton Lloyd, seaman, do. through the heart, do.

*Wounded*.—Frederick A. Worth, first-lieutenant, in the right side; Robert Johnson, third-lieutenant, left knee; Razilla Hammond, quarter-master, left arm; John Ciner, seaman, knee; William Castle, do. arm; Nicholas Scalsan, do. arm and leg; John Harrison, do. hand and face, by the explosion of a gun.

It gives me much pleasure to announce to you, that our wounded are all in a fair way of recovery, through the unremitted care and attention of our worthy surgeon.

Mr. Dabney, our consul, is a gentleman possessing every feeling of humanity, and to whom the utmost gratitude is due from us for his great care of the sick and wounded, and his polite attention to my officers and myself.

Mr. Williams was a most deserving and promising officer. His country, in him, has lost one of its brightest ornaments; and his death must be sadly lamented by all who knew his worth.

Accompanied with this you will find a copy of my protest, together with copies of letters written by Mr. Dabney to the governor of Fayal; our minister at Rio Janeiro, and our secretary of state. These letters will develop more fully the circumstances of this unfortunate affair.

We expect to sail to-morrow in a Portuguese brig for Amelia island, who takes the whole of our crew; till when, I remain gentlemen, your very obedient humble servant;

SAMUEL C. REID.

*Protest of captain Reid, of the private armed brig General Armstrong.*

CONSULATE OF FAYAL.—AZORES.

By this public instrument of declaration and protest be it known unto all persons whom it doth or may concern, That on this present day, being the 27th day of December, 1814, before me, *John B. Dabney*, consul of the United States for the Azores, personally appeared Samuel C. Reid, commander of the

American armed brig General Armstrong, of New-York, of two hundred and forty-six tons, American measurement, &c. and on oath declared as follows, to wit: that he sailed in with said brig from the port of New-York, on the ninth day of September last, well found, staunch and strong, and manned with ninety officers and men, for a cruize; that nothing material happened on the passage to this island, until the 26th instant, when she cast anchor in this port soon after twelve at noon, with a view to get a supply of fresh water; that during the said afternoon his crew were employed in taking on board water—when about sun set of the same day, the British brig of war *Carnation*, captain Bentham, appeared suddenly doubling round the north-east point of this port; she was immediately followed by the British ship *Rota*, of 38 guns, captain P. Somerville, and the 74 gun ship *Plantagenet*, captain R. Lloyd, which latter, it is understood, commanded the squadron.—They all anchored about 7 o'clock, P. M. and soon after some suspicious movements on their part, indicating an intention to violate the neutrality of the port, induced captain Reid to order his brig to be warped in shore, close under the guns of the castle; that in the act of doing so, four boats approached his vessel, filled with armed men. Captain Reid repeatedly hailed them, and warned them to keep off; which they disregarding, he ordered his men to fire on them, which was done, and killed and wounded several men: the boats returned the fire and killed one man and wounded the first-lieutenant. They then fled to their ships and prepared for a second and more formidable attack; the American brig, in the mean time, was placed within half cables length of the shore, and within half pistol shot of the castle. Soon after midnight, twelve, or as some state, fourteen boats, supposed to contain near four hundred men, with small cannon, swivels, blunderbusses, and other arms, made a violent attack on said brig, when a severe conflict ensued, which lasted near forty minutes; and terminated in the total defeat and partial destruction of the boats, with an immense slaughter on the part of the British. The loss of the Americans in both actions was one lieutenant and one seaman killed, and two lieutenants and five seamen wounded. At day break, the brig *Carnation* was brought close in, and began a heavy cannonade on the American brig; when captain Reid, finding further resistance unavailing, abandoned the vessel, after partially destroying her, and soon after the British set her on fire. The said captain Reid, therefore, desires me to take his protest, as he by these presents does most solemnly protest against the said Lloyd, commander of said squadron, and against the other commanders of the British ships engaged in this infamous attack.

on his said vessel, when lying in a neutral friendly port. And the said captain Reid also protests against the government of Portugal, for their inability to protect and defend the neutrality of their port and harbor, as also against all, and every other state or states, person or persons, whom it now doth or may concern, for all losses, costs or damages, that have arisen, or may arise, to the owners, officers, and crew, of the said brig General Armstrong, in consequence of her destruction, and the defeat of her cruise, in the manner aforesaid.

All which is sworn to be truth by the said Samuel C. Reid; Frederick A. Worth, first lieutenant; Robert Johnson, third-lieutenant; Benjamin Starks, sailing-master; John Brosnahan, surgeon; Robert E. Allen, captain of marines; Thomas Parsons, James Davis, Eliphalet Sheffield and Peter Tyson, prize-masters of the said brig General Armstrong.

I the undersigned, hereby certify, that the foregoing instrument of protest is a true copy taken from the original (L. S.) deposited in my consular office. In testimony of which I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed my official seal, this 27th day of September, 1814.

JOHN B. DABNEY.

*Honor to the brave.*—Captain Reid arrived at Savannah from Fayal. On his way home he was invited and partook of a splendid public entertainment at Richmond. The company was very numerous, and among them, the governor and others of the first character in Virginia. The speaker of the house of delegates, (Mr. Stevenson) president, and the members of the legislature constituted a large body of the entertainers. The toasts were highly characteristic of generous Virginia—we select the following:

The Navy—whose lightning has struck down the “meteor flag of England”—They have conquered those who had conquered the world.

The private cruisers of the United States—whose intrepidity has pierced the enemy's channels, and *bearded the lion in his den.*

The army of the Niagara—the rivals of our tars—Their gallant deeds will live to endless ages, in the records of time.

Brown, Scott, Gaines and Porter—Chippewa, Bridgewater, Plattsburg and Erie, are the deathless monuments of their fame.

Barney, Boyle and their compatriots, who have ploughed the seas in search of the enemy, and hurled retaliation upon his head.

Our ministers at Ghent—who breathe the spirit of their country—*war*, in preference to the slightest sacrifice of honor.

Foreign nations—let us hold them as did our fathers of old—“*Enemies* in war; in peace, Friends.

*Legislators!*—May the people abandon

those who sacrifice the safety of their country to the shadow of popularity.

**VOLUNTEERS**—*By the vice-president* (Mr. Wirt)—The memory of the General Armstrong—she has “graced her fall and made her ruin glorious.”

*By Judge Cabell*—The spirit of our forefathers; displayed in concert and energy of action; not wasted in endless and fruitless discussion.

*By Judge Brockenbrough*—Neutral Ports; whenever the tyrants of the ocean dare to invade these sanctuaries, may they meet with an “*Essex*” and an “*Armstrong*”

*By general Cocke*—American tars—their achievements form an æra in the naval annals of the world; may their brother-soldiers emulate their deeds of everlasting renown.

On captain Reid's retiring:

*By the president*—Captain Reid—His valor has shed a blaze of renown upon the character of our seamen, and won for himself a laurel of eternal bloom.

#### NAVAL ENGAGEMENT.

Though so much has been said of the desperate and terribly destructive defence of the *General Armstrong* privateer, in the port of Fayal, the following is the highest colored picture of the bloody scene that has yet been published. If the offence against the neutral rights of *Portugal* was rank, the punishment was severe; and we trust that captain *Lloyd* will be made personally to smart for his disregard of the law of nations, and the wanton sacrifice of his people.

We are glad to see such things fairly laid before *Europe*. There is no way in which the same money could be so usefully spent as to have the accounts of our victories (translated into different languages) spread through the civilized world. The pitiful affair at *Washington City* was thus circulated on the continent by the British. Let the people “hear the other side.” It would produce an irresistible current in our favor, and its effect be felt for ages; and contribute to the future peace and safety of the United States. *National honor is national strength.*

*From Cobbett's Weekly Register.*

I observe it stated in the Halifax papers on the 2nd inst. that the *Prince of Neufchatel*, an American armed brig, had arrived at Boston, after sustaining a gallant action of twenty minutes with five boats full of men, belonging to our ship of war the *Endymion*. The account says, that one of our boats sunk during the engagement, which had on board at first 43 men, of whom two only were saved; and another which had 36 men, which was taken possession of after having eight killed, and twenty wounded.”—The *Endymion* is said to have lost in all 100 men killed, wounded and prisoners, among which the first lieutenant and a master's mate were killed, and three lieutenants and two master's mates wounded. The *Prince of Neufchatel* had only “31 men at quarters, including officers, and 37 prisoners on board. Six of her men were killed, 15 severely wounded, 9 slightly, and 8 remained unhurt.” It is true, that nothing has been published here in an official shape, respecting this naval disaster; but this circumstance can no more invalidate the truth of the statement, than the *silence* which has been kept up as to the fate of the *Iron* will lead us to doubt that

that vessel was sunk by her American opponent. The repulse and disaster attending the *Endymion*, is not, however, the only naval triumph of the enemy, which has been carefully concealed from the public eye. The following article appears in the Paris papers, received to the 22d inst.—“*Extract of a letter from Mr. John B. Dabney, consul for the United States of America, Fayal, October 6.* Our countrymen have had a brilliant affair. Despising the rights of nations and violating neutral territory, three English vessels, the *Plantagenet*, *Rota* and the *Carnation*, attacked the brig *General Armstrong*, American privateer, of 14 guns, commanded by captain Reed, at anchor in these Roads. They succeeded finally in destroying her, but paid dearly for it, for they had 120 killed, and 90 of their best mariners wounded, including the flower of their officers.—Captain Reed, with his brave crew, consisting only of 90 men, had only seven slightly wounded.” About ten days ago I received the following letter from an English gentleman at Fayal, which he transmitted by a vessel bound for Lisbon, giving the full particulars of the above affair. It speaks volumes, and must reach conviction to the minds of those who are so far deluded, to think that it is in the power of this country to subdue a people who fight with so much undaunted resolution as the Americans :

*Fayal, October, 15, 1814.*

WM. COBBETT, Esq.—Sir, the American schooner, privateer *General Armstrong*, of New York, capt. Samuel C. Reid, of seven guns, and ninety men, entered here on the 26th ult. about noon, 17 days from that place, for the purpose of obtaining water. The captain, seeing nothing on the horizon, was induced to anchor. Before the elapse of many hours, his majesty's brig *Carnation* came in, and anchored near her. About six his majesty's ship *Plantagenet*, of 74 guns, and the *Rota* frigate came in and anchored also. The captain of the privateer and his friends consulted the first authorities here about her security.—They all considered her perfectly secure, and that his majesty's officers were too well acquainted with the respect due to a neutral port to molest her. But, to the great surprise of every one, about nine in the evening, four boats were dispatched, armed and manned from his majesty's ships, for the purpose of cutting her out. It being about full of moon, the night perfectly clear and calm, we could see every movement made. The boats approached with rapidity towards her, when, it appears, the captain of the privateer hailed them, and told them to keep off several times. They, notwithstanding, pushed on, and were in the act of boarding before any defence was made from the privateer. A warm contest ensued on both sides. The boats were finally dispersed with great loss. The American, now calculating on a very superior force being sent, cut his cables, and rowed the privateer close in alongside of the fort, within half a cable's length, where he moored her, head and stern, with four lines. The governor now sent a remonstrance to the Van Lloyd of the *Plantagenet* against such proceedings, and trusted that the privateer would not be further molested; she being in the dominions of Portugal, and under the guns of the castle, was entitled to Portuguese protection. Van Lloyd's answer was, that he was determined to destroy the vessel at the expence of all Fayal, and should any protection be given her by the fort, he would not leave a house standing in the village. All the inhabitants were gathered about the walls, expecting a renewal of the attack. At midnight, 14 launches, were discovered to be coming in rotation for the purpose. When they got within clear, or gun shot, a tremendous and effectual discharge was made from

the privateer which threw the boats into confusion. They now returned a spirited fire but the privateer kept up so continual a discharge, it was almost impossible for the boats to make any progress. They finally succeeded, after immense loss, to get alongside of her, and attempted to board at every quarter, cheered by the officers with a shout of no quarter, which we could distinctly hear, as well as their shrieks and cries. The termination was near about a total massacre. Three of the boats were sunk, and but one poor solitary officer escaped death in a boat that contained fifty souls; he was wounded. The Americans fought with great firmness, but more like blood thirsty savages than any thing else. They rushed into the boats, sword in hand, and put every soul to death as far as came within their power. Some of the boats were left without a single man to row them; others with three and four. The most that any one returned with was about ten.—Several boats floated on shore full of dead bodies. With great reluctance I state that they were manned with picked men, and commanded by the first, second, third and fourth lieutenants of the *Plantagenet*; first, second, third, and fourth ditto of the frigate, and the first officers of the brig: together with a great number of midshipmen. Our whole force exceeded 400 men.—But three officers escaped, two of which are wounded. This bloody and unfortunate contest lasted about forty minutes. After the boats gave out, nothing more was attempted till daylight the next morning, when the *Carnation* hauled in along side, and engaged her. The privateer still continued to make a most gallant defence.

These veterans reminded me of Lawrence's dying words of the Chesapeake, “don't give up the ship.” The *Carnation* lost one of her top-masts, and her yards were shot away; she was much cut up in rigging, and received several shot in her hull. This obliged her to haul off to repair, and to cease firing. The Americans now finding their principal gun (*long Tom*) and several others dismantled, deemed it folly to think of saving her against so superior a force; they therefore cut away her masts to the deck, blew a hole through her bottom, took out their small arms, clothing, &c. and went on shore. I discovered only two shot holes in the hull of the privateer, although much cut up in rigging. Two boats' crews were soon after dispatched from our vessels, which went on board, took out some provisions, and set her on fire. For three days after, we were employed in burying the dead that washed on shore in the surf. The number of British killed exceeds 120, and 90 wounded. The enemy, to the surprize of mankind, lost only two killed and seven wounded. We may well say, “God deliver us from our enemies, if this is the way the Americans fight.” After burning the privateer, Van Lloyd made a demand of the governor to deliver up the Americans as his prisoners, which the governor refused. He threatened to send 500 men on shore and take them by force. The Americans immediately retired, with their arms, to an old Gothic convent; knocked away the adjoining drawbridge, and determined to defend themselves to the last. The Van, however, thought better than to send his men. He then demanded two men, which, he said, deserted from his vessel when in America. The governor sent for the men, but found none of the description given. Many houses received much injury on shore from the guns of the *Carnation*. A woman, sitting in the fourth story of her house, had her thigh shot off, and a boy had his arm broken. The American consul has made a demand on the Portuguese government for a hundred thousand dollars for the privateer, which our consul, Mr. Parkin,

thinks, in justice, will be paid, and that they will claim on England. Mr. Parkin, Mr. Edward Bayley, and other English gentlemen, disapprove of the outrage and deprecation committed by our vessels on this occasion. The vessel that was dispatched to England with the wounded, was not permitted to take a single letter from any person. Being an eye witness to this transaction, I have given you a correct statement as it occurred.

With respect, I am, &c.

H. K. F.

### BRITISH OFFICIALS.

#### ACCOUNT OF THE CAPTURE OF CASTINE.

Letter from lieutenant-colonel John to general sir John Sherbrooke.

Bangor, on the Penobscot River, September 3, 1814.

SIR.—In compliance with your excellency's orders of the 1st instant, I sailed from Castine with the detachment of royal artillery, the flank companies of the 29th, 62d, and 98th regiments, and one rifle company of the 7th battalion, 60th regiment, which composed the force when your excellency did me the honor to place under my command, for the purpose of co operating with captain Barrie, of the royal navy, in an expedition up that river.

On the morning of the 2d, having proceeded above the town of Frankfort, we discovered some of the enemy on their march towards Hamden, by the eastern shore, which induced me to order brevet-major Croasdale, with a detachment of the 98th, and some riflemen of the 60th regiment, under lieutenant Wallace, to land and intercept them, which was accomplished, and that detachment of the enemy (as I have since learned) were prevented from joining the main body, assembled at Hamden.

On this occasion the enemy had one man killed, and some wounded. Major Croasdale re embarked without any loss. We arrived off Bald Head Cove, three miles distant from Hamden, about five o'clock that evening, when captain Barrie agreed with me in determining to land the troops immediately. Having discovered that the enemy's picquets were advantageously posted on the north side of the cove, I directed brevet major Riddle, with the grenadiers of the 62d, and captain Ward, with the rifle company of the 60th, to dislodge them, and take up that ground, which duty was performed under major Riddle's directions, in a most complete and satisfactory manner, by about 7 o'clock; and before ten at night, the whole of the troops, including eighty marines, under captain Carter (whom captain Barrie had done me the honor to attach to my command) were landed and bivouacked for the night, during which it rained incessantly. We got under arms at five o'clock this morning; the rifle company forming the advance under captain Ward; brevet-major Keith, with the light company of the 62d, bringing up the rear; and the detachment of marines under captain Carter moving upon my flanks, while captain Barrie, with the ships

and gun-boats under his command, advanced at the same time up the river, on my right, towards Hamden. In addition to the detachment of royal artillery, under lieutenant Garston, captain Barrie had landed one six-pounder, a six and a half inch howitzer, and a rocket apparatus, with a detachment of sailors under lieutenants Symonds, Botley and Slade, and Mr. Sparling, master of his majesty's ship Bulwark.

The fog was so thick, it was impossible to form a correct idea of the features of the country, or to reconnoitre the enemy, whose number were reported to be 1400, under the command of brigadier general Blake. Between seven and eight o'clock, our skirmishers in advance were so sharply engaged with the enemy, as to induce me to send forward one half of the light company of the 29th regiment, under captain Coaker, to their support. The column had not advanced much further, before I discovered the enemy drawn out in line, occupying a very strong and advantageous position in front of the town of Hamden, his left flanked by a high hill commanding the road and river, on which were mounted several heavy pieces of cannon; his right extending considerably beyond our left, resting upon a strong *point d'appui*, with an eighteen pounder and some light field pieces in advance of his centre, so pointed as completely to rake the road, and a narrow bridge at the foot of a hill, by which we were obliged to advance upon his position. As soon as he perceived our column approaching, he opened a very heavy and continued fire of grape and musketry upon us; we, however, soon crossed the bridge, deployed and charged up the hill to get possession of his guns, one of which we found had already fallen into the hands of captain Ward's riflemen in advance. The enemy's fire now began to slacken, and we pushed on rapidly, and succeeded in driving him at all points from his position; while captain Coaker, with the light company of the 29th, had gained possession of the hill on his left, from whence it was discovered that the Adams frigate was on fire, and that the enemy had deserted the battery which defended her.

We were now in complete possession of the enemy's position above, and captain Barrie with the gun boats had secured that below the hill. Upon this occasion twenty pieces of cannon fell into our hands of the naval and military force, the return of which I enclose; after which, captain Barrie and myself determined on pursuing the enemy towards Bangor, which place we reached without opposition; and here two brass 3-pounders, and three stand of colors, fell into our possession. Brigadier-general Blake, also, in this town, surrendered himself prisoner, and with other prisoners, to the amount of twenty-one, were admitted to their paroles. Eighty prisoners taken at Hamden



are in our custody. The loss sustained by the enemy I have not had it in my power correctly to ascertain: report states it to be from thirty to forty in killed, wounded and missing.

Our loss, I am happy to add, is but small, viz. one rank and file killed; one captain, seven rank and file wounded; one rank and file missing. Captain Gell, of the 29th, was wounded when leading the column, which deprived me of his active and useful assistance; but I am happy to add, he is recovering. I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY JOHNS, Lt. Col.

ACCOUNT OF THE CAPTURE OF MACHIAS.

*From col. Pilkington to gen. Sherbroke, dated Machias, September 14, 1814.*

SIR—I have the honor to acquaint your excellency, that I sailed from Penobscot Bay, with the brigade you was pleased to place under my command, consisting of a detachment of royal artillery, with a howitzer, the battalion companies of the 9th regiment, and a party of the 7th battalion 69th foot, on the morning of the 9th inst. and arrived at Bucks Harbor, about ten miles from this place, on the following evening.

As the enemy fired several alarm guns on our approaching the shore, it was evident he was apprehensive of an attack; I therefore deemed it expedient to disembark the troops with as little delay as possible, and captain Hyde Parker, commanding the naval force, appointed captain Stauffell to superintend this duty, and it was executed by that officer with the utmost promptitude and decision.

Upon reaching the shore, I ascertained that there was only a path-way through the woods by which we could advance and take fort O'Brien, and the battery in reserve; and as the guns of these works commanded the passage of the river upon which the town is situated, I decided upon possessing ourselves of them, if practicable during the night.

We moved forward at 10 o'clock, P. M. and, after a most tedious and harrassing march, only arrived near to the fort at break of day, although the distance does not exceed five miles.

The advanced guard, which consisted of two companies of the 29th regiment, and a detachment of riflemen of the 60th regiment, under major Rod, of the former corps, immediately drove in the enemy's picquets, and upon pursuing him closely, found the fort had been evacuated, leaving their colors; about five minutes before we entered it. Within it, and the battery, there are two 24 pounders, three 18 pounders, several dismantled guns and a block-house. The party which escaped amounted to about seventy men of the 40th regiment of American infantry, and thirty of the embodied militia; the retreat was so rapid, that I was not enabled to take any

prisoners. I understood there were a few wounded, but they secreted themselves in the wood.

Having secured the fort, we lost no time in advancing upon Machias, which was taken without any resistance; and also two field-pieces.

The boats of the squadron, under the command of lieutenant Bouchier, of the royal navy, and the royal marines, under lieutenant Welchman, were detached to the eastern side of the river, and were of essential service in taking two field pieces in that quarter.

Notwithstanding that the militia were not assembled to any extent in the vicinity of the town, I was making the necessary arrangements to advance into the interior of the country, when I received a letter from brigadier-general Brewer, commanding the district, wherein he engages that the militia forces within the county of Washington, shall not bear arms, or in any way serve against his Britannic majesty during the present war.\* A similar offer having been made by the civil officers and principal citizens of the county, a cessation of arms was agreed upon, and the county of Washington has passed under the dominion of his Britannic majesty.—[*Detested profanation.*]

I beg leave to congratulate you upon the importance of this accession of territory which has been wrested from the enemy; it embraces one hundred miles of sea coast, and includes that intermediate tract of country which separates the province of New-Brunswick from Lower Canada.

We have taken twenty six pieces of ordnance, (serviceable and unserviceable,) with a proportion of arms and ammunition, returns of which are enclosed; and I have the pleasing satisfaction to add, that this service has been effected without the loss of a man on our part.

[Here follows the usual compliments to officers, &c.]

I have the honor to be, &c.

A. PILKINGTON, lieut. col.

*Deputy adjutant general.*

To lieut. gen. Sir J. C. Sherbroke, K. B. &c.

*Return of ordnance, arms, ammunition, &c. taken at Machias by the troops under the command of lieutenant colonel Pilkington, 11th September, 1814,*

*Ordnance, total 26. Arms, 161 muskets, 99 bayonets, 100 pouches, 41 belts, 2 drums. Ammunition, 20 barrels serviceable gunpowder, 75 paper cartridges filled for 18 and 24 pounders, 2,938 musket ball cartridges, 3 barrels of grape and case shot, 553 round shot for 18 and 24 pounders; 6 kegs of gun powder, 25 lbs. each; 28 paper cartridges filled for 4 pounders.*

J. DANIEL, lieut. royal art.

\*Is this possible?—ED. REG.

ACCOUNT OF THE CAPTURE OF CASTINE, &c.  
Downing-street, Oct. 9, 1814.

Major Addison has arrived with the following despatch from lieutenant general Sherbrooke, dated

Castine, at the entrance of the Penobscot, Sept. 18.

My Lord—I have now the honor to inform your lordship, that after closing my despatch on the 26th ult in which I mentioned my intention of proceeding to the Penobscot, rear admiral Griffith and myself lost no time in sailing from Halifax, with such a naval force as he deemed necessary, and the troops as per margin,\* to accomplish the object we had in view.

Very early in the morning of the 30th, we fell in with the Rifleman sloop of war, when captain Pearce informed us, that the United States frigate Adams had got into the Penobscot; but from the apprehension of being attacked by our cruisers, if she remained at the entrance of the river, she ran up as high as Hamden, where she had landed her guns, and mounted them on shore for her protection.

On leaving Halifax it was my original intention to have taken possession of Machias, on our way hither; but on receiving this intelligence, the admiral and myself were of opinion, that no time should be lost in proceeding to our destination, and we arrived here very early on the morning of the 1st inst.

The fort at Castine, which is situated upon a peninsula of the eastern side of the Penobscot, near the entrance of that river, was summounded a little after sun-rise; but the American officer refused to surrender it, and immediately opened a fire from four 24 pounders, upon a small schooner that had been sent with lieutenant col. Nicholls (commanding royal engineers) to reconnoitre the work.

Arrangements were immediately made for disembarking the troops; but before a landing could be effected the enemy blew up his magazine, and escaped up the Majestaquadous river, carrying off in the boats with them two field pieces.

As we had no means of ascertaining what force the Americans had on this peninsula, I landed a detachment of royal artillery, with two rifle companies of the 60th and 98th regiments, under colonel Douglass, in the rear of it, with orders to secure the isthmus, and to take possession of the heights which commanded the town; but I soon learned that there were no regulars at Castine, except the party which had blown up the magazine, and escaped, and that the militia which were assembled there had dispersed immediately on our landing.

Rear-admiral Griffith and myself next turn-

\*First company royal artillery, two rifle companies of the 7th battalion, 60th regiment, 29th, 62d and 98th regiments.

ed our attention to obtaining possession of the Adams, or, if that could not be done, to destroying her. The arrangements for this service having been made, the rear admiral entrusted the execution of it to captain Barrie, royal navy, and as the co-operation of a land force was necessary, I directed lieutenant col. John, with a detachment of artillery, the flank companies of the 29th, 62d, and 98th regiments, and one rifle company of the 60th, to accompany and co-operate with captain Barrie on this occasion; but as Hamden is 27 miles above Castine, it appeared to me a necessary measure of precaution first to occupy a post on the western bank, which might afford support, if necessary, to the forces going up the river, and at the same time prevent the armed population, which is very numerous to the southward and westward, from annoying the British in their operations on the Adams.

Upon enquiry I found that Belfast, which is upon the high road leading from Hamden to Boston, and which perfectly commands the bridge, was likely to answer both these purposes, and I consequently directed major-general Gosselin to occupy that place with the 29th regiment, and to maintain it till further orders.

As soon as this was accomplished, and the tide served, rear-admiral Griffith directed captain Barrie to proceed to his destination, and the remainder of the troops were landed that evening at Castine.

Understanding that a strong party of militia from the neighboring township had assembled at about four miles from Castine on the road leading to Blue Hill, I sent out a strong patrol on the morning of the 2d, before day-break. On arriving at the place, I was informed that the militia of the county had assembled there on the alarm guns being fired at fort Castine upon our first appearance, but that the main body had since dispersed, and returned to their respective homes. Some stragglers, were, however, left, who fired upon our advanced guard, and then took to the woods; a few of whom were made prisoners. No intelligence having reached us from captain Barrie on Saturday night, I marched with about seven hundred men and two light field pieces upon Buckstown, at three o'clock on Sunday morning, the 4th inst. for the purpose of learning what progress he had made, and of affording him assistance if required. This place is about eighteen miles higher up the Penobscot than Castine, and on the eastern bank of the river. Rear admiral Griffith accompanied me on this occasion, and as we had reason to believe that the light guns which had been taken from Castine were secreted in the neighborhood of Buckstown, we threatened to destroy the town unless they were delivered up, and the two brass 3 pounders, on travelling carriages, were, in conse-

quence, brought to us in the course of the day, and are now in our possession.

At Buckstown we received very satisfactory accounts of the success which had attended the force employed up the river. We learned that captain Barrie had proceeded from Hamden up to Bangor; and the admiral sent an officer in a boat from Buckstown to communicate with him, when finding there was no necessity for the troops remaining longer at Buckstown, they marched back to Castine the next day.

Having ascertained that the object of the expedition up the Penobscot had been attained, it was no longer necessary for me to occupy Belfast; I, therefore, on the evening of the 5th, directed major-general Gosselin to embark the troops and to join me here.

Machias being the only place now remaining where the enemy had a post between the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Bay, I ordered lieutenant colonel Pilkington to proceed with a detachment of royal artillery and the 29th regiment to occupy it; and as naval assistance was required, rear admiral Griffith directed captain Parker of the Tenedos, to co-operate with lieutenant colonel Pilkington on this occasion.

On the morning of the 9th, captain Barrie, with lieutenant colonel John, and the troops which had been employed with him up the Penobscot, returned to Castine. It seems the enemy blew up the Adams, on his strong position at Hamden being attacked; but all his artillery, two stand of colors, and a standard, with several merchant vessels, fell into our hands. This, I am happy to say, was accomplished with very little loss on our part; and your lordship will perceive, by the return sent herewith, that the only officer wounded in this affair is captain Gell, of the 29th grenadiers.

Signed J. C. SHERBROKE.

*Head-quarters, Kingston, Oct. 16, 1814.*

GENERAL ORDER.—His excellency the commander of the forces, has received a dispatch from lieutenant general sir John Sherbrooke, commanding the forces in Nova Scotia and its dependencies, dated the 23d Sept. reporting the successful operations of his majesty's arms, aided by the division of the fleet under the command of rear-admiral Griffith, in the capture of the forts of Castine and Machias, and the occupation of the enemy's posts in the vicinity of the Penobscot river.

The service has been attended with the capture or demolition of all the enemy's works of defence, ordnance and stores, and the complete dispersion of his troops,

A detached service intrusted to the command of lieutenant-colonel John, of the 60th regiment, and captain Barrie, of the royal navy, proceeded twenty-seven miles up the Penobscot river, attacked and dislodged the

enemy from a strong position at Hamden, which had been occupied for the protection of the United States frigate Adams, which was totally destroyed by fire, previous to his retreat.

The reduction of fort Machias was intrusted to lieutenant-colonel Pilkington, and capt. Parker of the royal navy, but that fortress was evacuated by the enemy on the approach of the British force.

The lieutenant general commanding, expresses in the strongest terms of praise, his sense of the zealous and cordial co-operation of rear admiral Griffith and the officers and seamen of the royal navy, and marines, and also the able and active support he experienced from major general Gosselin, col. Douglas 98th, lieutenant colonel Nicols, royal engineers—the officers employed on detached service, and the zeal, alacrity, and steady discipline displayed by the officers and soldiers, which entitle them to the highest approbation.

Thirty-nine pieces of ordnance have been taken. The British loss amounts only to one rank and file killed, 1 captain and 7 rank and file wounded.

Capt. Gell, 29th regt. wounded severely, not dangerously.

(Signed) EDWARD BAYNES,  
Adj. general N. A.

### Miscellaneous Scraps.

Under this head it is proposed to preserve a considerable body of incident and fact pertaining to the late war, that have from time to time been denied a regular insertion. for want of room.

#### THE BANKS.

The forced sales of British government bills in the early part of the war, with the extensive smuggling of British goods which was afterwards organized between the enemy and a considerable number of persons in the eastern states, appeared likely soon to drain the country of its precious metals; for which great war manœuvre the "Boston folks" were the instrument. All the banks of the District of Columbia, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky, and generally, in the order named, were compelled to refuse payments in specie. Those of Ohio and Kentucky were much the latest, and it is believed they commonly paid the ordinary sums that had theretofore been demanded for change. Those of the "nation of New-England" generally paid specie as demanded, 16 or 18 excepted, that had always been in disrepute, paying, or not paying, as circumstances induced or caprice directed, but these were not among the principal banks. Those of North Carolina, South

Carolina, Georgia and Louisiana paid specie on all occasions where it did not appear a "run" was made upon them, and some of them met every demand as theretofore. The Louisiana banks had stopped sometime previous to any of the others on account of a vast smuggling that had been carried on by the allied pirates [Baratarians] and the British, &c. but soon resumed their accustomed business. The banks of the southern states were much assisted in their monied operations by the number of prizes that reached their ports, and by a fair trade with Amelina island.

We have before us a Boston price current of specie and bills, dated January 19, 1815. The bank notes of that town and specie were at par:

New York at 19 a 20 per cent discount.	
Philadelphia	22 do.
Baltimore	25 do.

Which last was the premium paid for gold in this city—silver 20;—by the brokers. The discounts at Boston rose considerably afterwards.\*

It is worthy of remark and remembrance, that before the war, the notes of those banks which stopped specie payments, had ever been in the best repute, as a general circulating medium. Those which proudly held out, had had, before the war, the least portion of specie; that is, those of the eastern states: The city of Baltimore having more in the vaults of its banks, than there were in all the banks of all the "nation of New England." See Weekly Register, vol. VII, page 195; and will probably have as much again, when trade settles into a regular and honest channel.

The following may suffice to shew the general feeling of the banks and the people on this occasion.

PHILADELPHIA, AUG. 31, 1814. *To the public.*  
The directors of the banking institutions of this city, having, after mature deliberation, thought it necessary to suspend the payment of specie; they deem it their duty to submit to their fellow citizens the circumstances which induced them to adopt this measure.

\*PRICES CURRENT OF MONEY.—Boston, February 1.—Prices at which bank bills are received in Boston for specie.

Massachusetts.—All the banks in Boston, same as specie.

Southern banks.—All the banks } 19 and 20  
in New-York state, (Hudson } percentum  
and Orange bank excepted, } discount.

Hudson Bank,	- - - - -	20
Orange Bank,	- - - - -	24
Philadelphia City Banks,	- - - - -	24
Baltimore Banks,	- - - - -	30
Treasury notes,	- - - - -	24 a 25
U. S. 6 per cents.	- - - - -	40

From the moment when the rigorous blockade of the ports of the United States prevented the exportation of our produce, foreign supplies could be paid for in specie only, and as the importation of foreign goods into the eastern states has been very large, as it has for many months past occasioned a continual drain from the banks. This drain has been much increased by a trade in British government bills of exchange, which has been extensively carried on and has caused very great sums to be exported from the U States.

To meet this great demand for specie, the course of trade did, for a considerable time enable us to draw large supplies from the southern states, but the unhappy situation of affairs there, having deprived us of that resource, and circumstances having occurred which have in a considerable degree occasioned alarm and distrust, it became a serious consideration whether the banks should continue their exertions to draw within their vaults the specie capital of the country and thus facilitate the means of exporting it from the United States; or whether they should suspend the payment of specie before their means were exhausted. The directors were fully sensible of the inconveniences which a measure of this nature must occasion, and were they not fully convinced that the situation of affairs must soon leave them no alternative, it would not have been adopted; but believing the public interest will be best promoted by stopping the payment of specie before the monied capital of the country is further diminished, and that by adopting the measure at this time the banks may hereafter resume their accustomed operations with less difficulty, they have unanimously agreed to it, and confidently hope this determination will, under existing circumstances, meet the approbation and support of their fellow citizens.

The directors are making the necessary exertions to render the measure they have thus reluctantly adopted as little inconvenient as possible—and to facilitate the management of such concerns as have heretofore been usually conducted with the aid of specie—the payment of which will be resumed as soon as it can be done with propriety and safety.

- JOSEPH P. NORRIS, Pres't.  
*Bank of Pennsylvania.*
- JOHN MORTON, Pres't.  
*Bank of North America.*
- DAVID LENOX, Pres't.  
*Philadelphia Bank.*
- JOSEPH TAGGERT, Pres't.  
*Farmer's and Mechanic's Bank.*
- HENRY PRATT, Prs't pro tem.  
*Commercial Bank of Pennsylvania.*
- THOMAS PARKER, Pres't.  
*Mechanic's Bank.*

At a meeting of the committees from all the banks in the city of New York, on the 5th August—*William Few*, chairman, *Charles Wilkes*, secretary—

Letters from the cashiers of several banks in Philadelphia and from other unquestionable authority were read, stating that all the banks in Philadelphia had come to a resolution to suspend payments in specie—whereupon the following resolution and preamble were agreed to:

Considering that the banks in Philadelphia have determined to suspend their payments of specie—

Considering that it cannot be doubted that such a suspension of payments in Philadelphia, will be followed by an increased demand on the banks here, and probably a diminished confidence; and further, that there is a considerable balance now due and accumulating, from the banks in Philadelphia to the banks in this city—therefore,

*Resolved*, That the banks in this city of N. York, with the utmost regret find it necessary to suspend their payments in specie.

(Signed) Wm. FEW, chairman.  
CHARLES WILKES, secretary.

*Meeting of the merchants and traders.*

Philadelphia, Aug. 31, 1814.

At a very numerous meeting of the merchants and traders of the city of Philadelphia, held in pursuance of public notice at the Merchants' Coffee House this day.

*Thomas M. Willing*, was called to the chair, and

*Robert Ritchie*, appointed secretary.

The chairman stated that the object of the meeting was to take into consideration the recent step adopted by the different banking institutions of the city, suspending for the present, the payment of specie.

The address of the different presidents of these institutions to the public was called for and read.

The following resolution was then offered to the meeting, and *unanimously* adopted.

That this meeting do approve the determination of the directors of the banks of Philadelphia to suspend the payments of specie at the present crisis, and do agree to receive in payment of all debts due to them the notes of the said banks, in the fullest confidence that the directors of the said banks respectively will pursue such measures as will enable them to resume the payment of specie, as soon as the circumstances which caused the suspension cease.

*Resolved*, That the different editors of newspapers be requested to publish the proceedings of the meeting daily for one week.

THOMAS M. WILLING, chairman.

ROBERT RITCHIE, sec'y.

At a meeting of merchants and traders, at  
vol. VII.

the Tontine Coffee House, on the 1st of September 1814—

Gen. *Ebenezer Stevens* was called to the chair, and

*William Henderson* was appointed sec'y.

The chairman read a communication which he had received from the chairman of the joint committee of the banks, as follows:

New York, Sept. 1st, 1814.

"SIR—I am desired by the committees of the several banks in this city to communicate to you for the information of the meeting at which you preside, that they have come to the following resolutions:

That the banks in this city will continue to take the notes of each other in all payments:

That, having always considered the payment of specie as forming a salutary and a principal check to an undue emission of notes; and that check being, by the unfortunate situation of affairs, for the present removed, they have agreed, unanimously,

To adopt such measures as will effectually in their opinion, prevent an improper increase of the circulation of bank paper.

"I have the honor to be, sir,

"Your obedient servant,

W. FEW, chairman."

"To the chairman of the meeting  
of merchants and traders."

*Resolved*, That while this meeting regret the circumstances that have obliged the banks to suspend their payments in specie, they fully concur in the necessity of that measure.

That the confidence of this meeting in the stability of the banks remains undiminished, and that relying on the prudence of the directors to restrain their loans within safe limits, they will by every proper means, uphold the credit and assist the circulation of their notes

That they will continue to receive the notes of the banks of this city in all payments as heretofore.

That at a period when the specie in the country is gradually lessening, and by the embarrassments of our commerce the usual means of supply are cut off, it appears to this meeting expedient to diminish by every proper method the export of specie, and to husband our resources in the hope, that at no distant period, the banks will be able to resume their payment of specie—therefore,

*Resolved*, That we will avoid all negotiations which may render specie payments necessary, and by every means in our power discourage the exportation thereof.

*Resolved*, That the proceedings of the meeting be signed by the chairman and secretary and published

(Signed) EBENEZER STEVENS,  
Chairman.

WILLIAM HENDERSON, sec'y.

Charleston, February 2.—Yesterday morning, in pursuance of orders from major-general Fishburne, the Charleston brigade paraded in Meeting-street for inspection, when they were reviewed by his excellency the governor and major-generals Fishburne, Butler and Moore, with their suites—after which they were inspected and dismissed. The number of men on the ground on this occasion was nearly double what has heretofore been seen on similar occasions, and their appearance such as gave general satisfaction.

*Treasury notes.*—The passage of the bank bill will most certainly raise the value of those facilities; those therefore who hold them, will do well not to part with them under their value. People who expect a paper medium will now, as in the revolutionary war, rapidly depreciate, will be deceived. It must be recollected in the last war, there was a constant emission, and no taxes or imposts to redeem, or absorb any part of them—the case is now very different. If the emission does not exceed the amount of income, the treasury notes will be a convenient mode of anticipating the revenue, and attended with no bad consequence.

[*Norfolk Ledger*—January.

Williamsville, January 10.

Head-quarters of the Northern army, adjutant-general's office, Buffalo, 2d January, 1815.

*GENERAL ORDERS.*—The troops will parade to-morrow morning, at half past ten o'clock, on the ground between the rifle and artillery cantonments, to witness the execution of *James Campbell*, of the 26th regiment, convicted of, and sentenced to be "*hanged until he is dead*," for twice deserting, and once to the enemy, and who, it was almost proven, had, while a prisoner, betrayed his fellow-soldiers in captivity, and been instrumental to the death of one of them named *Donavan*, executed by the enemy on the suspicion of owing allegiance to the British king: Also, of *Nathan Smith*, of the 10th regiment, convicted of, and sentenced to be shot to death for sleeping while a sentinel on post.

By command of major-general Izard,

J. M. O'CONNOR, *Assist. adj. gen.*

Head-quarters, Northern army, adjutant-general's office, Buffalo, 7th January, 1815.

*Extract from general orders.*—His excellency the president, has been pleased to confer brevet rank on the following officers, for distinguished services and gallantry displayed by them on the 17th September last, in the sortie of the garrison of fort Erie, the storming and capture or destruction of the enemy's batteries, artillery and ordnance, and of the troops in the trenches, eventuating in the repulse of his whole force, the raising of the siege of that fortress, and his precipitate retreat into *Chippewa*, where he was subsequently beleaguered by our forces.

On lieutenant-colonel *McDonald*, 1st rifle

regiment, the rank of colonel, in the army. First-lieutenant *Donald Fraser*, 15th regiment, rank of captain. Second-lieutenant *Richard H. Lee*, 15th regiment, rank of first-lieutenant. Third-lieutenant *Samuel Riddle*, 15th regiment, rank of second lieutenant.

By command of major-general Izard,

J. M. O'CONNOR, *Assist. adj. gen.*

*From the Virginia Argus.*—[We have been favored with the following letter from the governor to colonel John Cropper of Accomack, acquainting him with his appointment to the rank of brigadier-general.]

Richmond, January 18, 1815.

Dear Sir,—I have the honor to enclose you a commission of brigadier general in the militia of Virginia. I feel great pleasure in performing this duty; your revolutionary services entitle you to this evidence of the confidence of your country.

The unshaken loyalty of the people you are appointed to command, ensures to them the ardent attachment of their fellow-citizens throughout the state. In confiding to a citizen distinguished for valor and patriotism, the defence of a people so justly dear to the rest of the state, the solicitude of the legislature for the protection of your brigade district, has been most strongly manifested.

As long as I have the honor to be the chief magistrate of the commonwealth, I shall avail myself of every opportunity to prove to the people of Accomack and Northampton, my opinion of their value to the state, and my high sense of their fidelity to their country.

I am with great respect, dear sir, your humble servant,

W. C. NICHOLS.

General John Cropper.

Danville, Ft. Jan 27, 1815.—It will be recollected that we published on the 3d of December last, an account of the forcible seizure of Mr. Samuel Hugh in his bed by a party of Canadians, and of his being conveyed to Montreal, for trial at the court of King's Bench, in consequence of having been concerned in the unhappy affair last fall in Ferriford, which terminated in the death of a Mr. Morrill, contractor for the British army. We understand that the circumstances attending that affair were in the first place falsely represented to governor Prevost—setting forth that the cattle seized by our citizens in arms was the private property of the Messrs. Morrills, and that it was a wanton act of barbarity, on the part of the Americans, in defiance of humanity and justice—but that when sir George obtained a true history of the facts, he appointed colonels Coffin and McDonough commissioners to meet others chosen by citizens of the states for the purpose of amicably settling the difficulties on the northern frontier, declaring that the perpetrators of the outrage on the person and property of Mr. Hugh,

should make reparation to the amount of their whole estates, if justice required the sacrifice. The people of Essex and Coos have accordingly appointed Mr. Isaac Cushman, Charles Thompson, Moody Rich, Seth Cushman, esquires, and lieutenant H. Parsons as commissioners, who were to meet those from Sir George at Herriford on Friday last.

[From the Western Spy.]

*Cincinnati, Jan. 14, 1815*—On Saturday last major-general Gaines arrived at Newport, Ken. on his way to New-Orleans; on Monday a deputation from the citizens of Cincinnati waited on him with an invitation to accept a public dinner, which on account of the critical state of affairs below, and a sense of public duty, he declined. Previous to his departure he forwarded to the gentlemen who waited on him the following note.

*To major Torrence, major Anderson, captain Oliver and captain McFarland.*

GENTLEMEN,—Permit me to ask the favor of you to offer to the citizens of Cincinnati my best thanks for their polite invitation, communicated through you to a public dinner. I regret that it will not be in my power, consistently with my public duties, to attend, but shall nevertheless bear in mind a grateful sense of this pleasing testimonial of the munificence and regard with which the people of Cincinnati have honored me.

Though personally a stranger to Cincinnati, I have long viewed its local advantages—its rapid growth and its high prospective distinction among the thousand great cities of our national interior, and west; with a degree of pleasure, bordering, perhaps, not a little on national prejudice or national pride—but it is still a pleasure, for in this country we behold the healthful heart and robust stamina of united America—a heart and stamina that will for ever remain shielded from the paralytic touch with which British ships, foreign intercourse, and foreign influence corrupt and deaden some of the exposed extremities along the sea-coast. And should the traiterous aristocracy of one extremity or the insurgent mobocracy of another threaten to tear asunder our national union, then will the importance of this great interior body—this sheet anchor of our federal bark, be universally seen and felt. It will speak in a language of brotherly love, but in a tone strong as the mountain-storm, *the American republic shall be preserved!* Your obedient servant,

EDMUND P. GAINES.

*From the Boston Patriot, January.*—The sailing of an American frigate (particularly of old "Ironsides") makes as much noise and confusion in the British navy, as formerly did the escape of a whole squadron from France. It appears by accounts from Halifax, that the Saturn, 58, and Leander, 50, had gone off in pursuit of the Constitution, beside the New-

Castle, 50, and Acasta, 40. They, no doubt, will endeavor to keep in pairs, in order to give aid and assistance to each other in case they should fall in with her. A few more of our frigates at sea, would clear the American coast of the enemy's cruisers, by their going in pursuit of them.

FATALITY.—An unfortunate man transporting a 42lb. carronade on a sleigh, in the northern part of New-York, upset his vehicle, and tumbled the gun upon his leg, by which he died. His death is charged to the war, for "free trade and sailors' rights" by a sapient editor of the neighborhood. It is true, that if there had been no war, the cannon might not have fallen upon him; but it is no less reasonable to suppose, that if he himself had not upset the sleigh, he would not have been hurt.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS. *To the patriotic citizens of Ohio.* The president of the United States has requested, through general McArthur, 500 mounted volunteers from this state, to act in conjunction with the volunteers from Kentucky, for a tour of 60 days, on a campaign against the hostile Indian towns. General McArthur will command the detachment. Every officer will be commissioned according to the number of men he may bring on the field, agreeably to the regulations of the United States' army. The field officers will be selected at the principal rendezvous, which will be at Urbanna, on the 20th day of September, (1814.) It is expected that the pay will be the same as that of the United States' rangers; that the men will have credit for a tour of duty; that all horses unavoidably lost in the service, will be paid for by government. The order from the secretary of war as to the arrangements for pay, subsistence, credit for a tour of duty and pay for all horses unavoidably lost, is daily expected by the adjutant general at Chillicothe, and will be published as soon as received.

Hopes are confidently entertained that this reasonable and timely requisition of the president will not be made in vain, when it is in defence of our frontiers, against the depredations of the inveterate and implacable savages, who have so long and so wantonly imbrued their hands in the blood of our citizens. If this call had been promptly obeyed, there is every reason to believe that the strength of the detachment will be such as to put a final period to hostilities in this quarter.

Yes, my countrymen! if you manifest that noble spirit which your cause inspires, you may henceforth repose in safety. The infant in the cradle will no more be awakened by the savage yell, nor the forest be lighted by the midnight blaze of your dwellings! The heroic examples of the brave and patriotic volunteers of Kentucky and Tennessee, under Shelby and Jackson, are before you; that

you may imitate their valor and be crowned with their success, is the ardent desire and confident expectation of your friend and humble servant,

**OTHINIEL LOOCER,**

*Acting governor of the state of Ohio.*

*Head-Quarters, Chillicothe, Sept. 17, 1814.*

Circumstances beyond my control, some of which it would be improper at this time to communicate, impose on me the painful duty of announcing that the mounted expedition, proposed to be carried on, by order of the president, against the hostile indians, is abandoned. The information which was solicited from the war department, in relation to the pay, credit for a tour of duty, &c. allowed to those who might serve on the expedition has not been received.

To those patriotic citizens who have volunteered their services on the present occasion, I tender, on the part of the government, my sincere thanks--their zeal is worthy of the just cause in which we are engaged: they will consider themselves, together with such militia cavalry as may have been detached for the expedition, honorably dismissed--the preparations and arrangements ordered with a view to the prosecution of the expedition will therefore cease.

All quarter-masters and contractors are hereby directed to furnish forage and rations to the troops on the return to their respective homes.

**DUNCAN MARTHUR,**

*Brig. gen. U. S. Army com. 8th military district.*

*War department, Adjutant and Inspector General's office  
Washington, August 12, 1814.*

**INSTRUCTIONS**

*For the government of those who have claims for pay and bounty, half-pay, pensions and bounty land, under the acts of congress, relative to the existing military establishment of the United States.*

**1ST.—PAY AND BOUNTY.**

Those persons who have claims for pay and bounty, as the legal representatives of such non-commissioned officers, artificers, musicians and privates, as die in the service of the United States, must make application to the paymaster-general of the army, or to his sub paymasters, who act as his agents. All balances of pay and bounty, at the time of the decease of such non-commissioned officer, &c. will be paid by the paymaster-general, or his sub paymasters, to the widow, child, or legal representative of the deceased, who must produce written and legal evidence of his or her authority to demand and receipt for the same. When administration is granted to a creditor, solely as a creditor, no more will be paid than is barely sufficient to cover his claim, and the balance, if any, will be reserved for the benefit of the kindred or relations of the deceased. Affidavits of respectable persons, knowing the legality of the representatives of a deceased soldier, will be sufficient evidence to be produced, provided the

deceased died a minor, unmarried, and no administration has been granted on the estate. If any person administers for the purpose of receiving the balance due, a copy of the letters of administration must be produced. Should the deceased leave a widow, and no administration has been granted on the estate, the balance will be paid to her, on her producing satisfactory evidence that she was his wife at the time he died.

**2D.—HALF-PAY PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS.**

Widows and orphans who have claims to five years half-pay according to an act of congress, must establish the following facts, before they can receive the above pension:—1st. The date of the decease of the officer or soldier, under whom they claim: this fact may be established by the records of the war department, by the proper rolls of the army, by the testimony of military officers, or by that of other respectable persons. 2d. The legality of the marriage, the name of the widow, the names and number of the children, under sixteen years of age, at the father's decease, and the county, state or territory, in which she and they reside. 3d. That the widow, at the time of allowing this half-pay, was not married; she must also repeat that she is not married, at the time of receiving EACH PAYMENT, and establish the fact by the testimony of respectable persons knowing the case; as, in the event of marriage, the half-pay reverts to such of her children as are under sixteen years of age. In cases of orphans only, the guardians will act for them, establish their claims as above, and receive their pensions. All these evidences must be produced to, and filed in the office of the paymaster-general of the army; and orders will be issued to the several district paymasters to pay the pensions on the spot where it falls due.

**3D.—BOUNTY LANDS.**

Claims for bounty land must be substantiated; and this must be done by the REGULAR DISCHARGE of the ORIGINAL CLAIMANT, from the public service, the best voucher that can be produced. Certificates, from the pay office, should be carefully preserved, as indexes to the records of the ORIGINAL RIGHT. If the original claimant does not personally apply for his land warrant, he must prove his identity before a magistrate, by his own affidavit, and the affidavits of two witnesses, whose CREDIBILITY the said magistrate will CERTIFY; and must execute a power of attorney to whoever applies for the warrant in his behalf: the quality and signature of the magistrate; before whom the said affidavits are made, or the power of attorney is acknowledged, must be attested by the signature and seal of the county clerk, or other equivalent authority of the district in which he resides.

The power of attorney, to authorize the



delivery of a land warrant, may be dispensed with, in case a member of congress, while the body is actually in session, will call at the war department, and sign a receipt for it upon the record. In this case, a letter or order, in his favor, from the person who has the right to receive the warrant, addressed to the secretary of war, will be deemed sufficient authority for its delivery.

If the ORIGINAL CLAIMANT be dead, and an heir applies in his right, he must produce legal certificates from competent authority, to prove that he is a LEGITIMATE HEIR BY LAW; in which case, although there may be other heirs existing, a warrant will be issued in that name, adding thereto, "and OTHER HEIRS AT LAW OF \_\_\_\_\_," &c. &c.

A land warrant WILL NOT be issued to an EXECUTOR or ADMINISTRATOR.

All claimants for bounty lands must make application to the war department

JNO. R. BELL.

*Assistant inspector general.*

*Further call on the Western Militia, from a New-York paper of Aug. 29, 1814.*

The governor, by his general orders of the 22d inst. has made a requisition on major-general Hall for 3000 men of his division, together with the companies of grenadiers, riflemen and light infantry of the counties of Cayuga and Seneca, and the artillery companies in Auburn and Genessee, in addition to the 1000 previously required by gen. Brown, to rendezvous at Williamsville, in the county of Niagara, on the 1st day of September, to be commanded by general Peter B. Porter. The following field officers are assigned to this detachment: Lieut. cols. Hugh G. Dobbin, George W. Fleming, Peter Allen, Caleb Hopkins, and James M'Burney; and majors Thomas Lee, jun. Daniel Cruger, Eranthus Everts, — Wilson. The residue of the field and staff officers to be assigned by gen. Porter.

"The Niagara frontier, (says his excellency, in this order,) presents a scene which must necessarily rouse the feelings of Americans and urge them to the relief of their countrymen. On one side of the river an important American post in possession of the enemy—on the other, fort Erie occupied by the American army. The latter pressed by superior force without the power of retreating."

*General Porter's address to the militia of the western counties of New-York.*

The commander in chief has ordered out a portion of the militia to the western frontier, and thought proper to place them under my command. You will indulge me, because I am probably better acquainted with the state of things to the west than most of you, to make a few remarks on the subject of this call.

The Niagara frontier, at this moment, presents a scene infinitely more interesting to

you, than any you have witnessed since the settlement of the country. Two hostile armies, of nearly equal force, not a mile distant from each other, obstinately contending for mastery, which a few days must necessarily decide. It is perhaps impossible for either, certainly so for ours, to retreat without total ruin and defeat. In these two armies are concentrated all the disposable military force and all the arms and munitions of war of the province of Upper Canada, and of the western parts of New-York; and on the result of the contest, which must shortly ensue, will depend the fate of these counties respectively. Should the enemy succeed, there is nothing on this side of Utica, that can resist his force or escape his ravages. In the late attack on Erie, so gloriously repulsed, he had 400 savages in sight of our entrenchments, ready to leap in the moment the scales of victory should incline to his side, and complete the work of destruction; and this same scourge will follow him through the country, the instant that army, its only barrier, shall be broken down.

The enemy are not asleep, nor do they look with indifference to those who are fighting their battles. They will push on reinforcements as fast as their scanty means and devastated country will permit. Now is the time for us to act. We abound with men and means, and by a prompt and cheerful compliance with the order of the commander in chief, and by that means only, we can effect a certain and easy conquest, and give permanent security to our settlements.

If the face of the gallant little army, which, for six weeks past, has been wading through fields of blood for your security, composed, too, in part, of your own immediate neighbors and friends, cannot move you to action, I admonish you to recollect, that on the support, the immediate and vigorous support of this army, depends your own security. That army destroyed, and your fruitful fields, your stately edifices, and your fair possessions are laid waste. Your women and children will feel the weight of the tomahawk. Nay even liberty itself, without which these blessings are of no estimation in a patriot's heart, will fly from a country so unworthy of her protection.

At the request of the commanding officer, I came to this place (where I unexpectedly met the order of his excellency) for the purpose of obtaining volunteer aid, hoping that I might have some little influence in awakening our young men to a sense of the country's danger and their own honor. But what can I expect to effect with those whose ardor cannot be aroused by the eloquence of the cannon with which the Niagara is continually resounding? Those, however, who may choose to volunteer will be received as part of the detachment ordered by the commander in chief, and shall return immediately to Erie,

proud to share the destinies of its brave defenders, whatever they may be. But I do not return without hopes of soon meeting at the appointed place of rendezvous, such of you, at least, as the constituted authorities of the country have called on for support.

P. B. PORTER, *brig. gen.*  
*Canandaigua, Aug. 21, 1814.*

TO GEN. PETER B. PORTER.—*From the Buffalo Gazette.* SIR—Six months have now transpired, since we left our farms, our mercantile and manufacturing shops, in the patriotic state of Pennsylvania, with, as we fondly hope, a proper spirit to learn the art of war, and mutually avenge the wrongs of an injured country; and, as the character of the state we represent, as soldiers, as well as a corps of our meritorious fellow citizens, that preceded us in the year 1812, for the support of our country's honor, has suffered beyond the measure of patient endurance, by the mere trilling of a *vain blusterer*—our preponderating wish was, that when arrayed for battle, we might be led by a general, in whom we could unequivocally repose our confidence.

Sir, disclaiming, as we do, the spirit of sycophancy, we cannot, on this occasion, consistently with our feelings, leave this frontier, without proffering to you an expression of our mutual gratification in being introduced to you as our leader.

We have seen you at Chippawa and at Bridgewater, and have participated with you in the toils and cares of barricading and defending this fort for weeks. We have seen you active in devising means for drenching our bastions and abbattees with the blood of European mercenaries, filling the surrounding entrenchments, and adorning the waters of the Niagara with hundreds of their breathless corpses, without any loss to our country of a greater magnitude than to excite the sympathetic tear of a dozen affectionate mothers, wives or sisters.

In all these scenes we are proud to say, that we were animated by the presence of our general, and fully impressed with the idea that he performed his duty as a soldier and patriot.

Accept, sir, our mutual thanks for your kind and generous treatment, and our best wishes for your lasting prosperity in your country's cause.

Signed, in behalf of ourselves and our brethren in arms, from Pennsylvania.

JAMES WOOD, *major.*

EB. WILSON, *jun. maj. from*

*N. Y. volunteers, and 20 other officers.*

*Fort Erie, Aug. 24, 1814.*

AMMUNITION FOR THE BELLY.—One of the most celebrated captains of the 17th century being asked, what he believed to be the first duty of a general—replied, “*to provide ammunition for the belly.*”

The maxim is universal, and ought to engage the first care of statesmen as well as generals.

The maxims of this great man, the celebrated *Montecuculi*, are studied by military men.

One of those maxims was—“that every thing which is not impracticable for an enemy to execute, ought to be considered practicable.”

If we apply it to the situation in which we stand at this moment, it would be practicable for the enemy to enter the Delaware, and to make a landing *somewhere*—we should therefore believe that he probably will do so—and we ought to be *prepared*—for what? “To let him approach within 100, 50, 40 or 20 miles of us?” No. What then?

We should be prepared to meet him on the *water's edge*, wherever he may attempt to land, and then—what then? “Let him move up to your suburbs—unreconnoitred—unharrassed—unannoyed—and then suffered to perform such exploits here as at Washington—and after remaining two days unopposed, retire unmolested to plunder and disgrace some less populous town”

Such in their operation would be the counsels of shallow and feeble minds.

What must we then do?

Do! *Why, provide ammunition for the belly.*

“What then—we cannot eat the enemy,” says some croaker.

Why, when you have subsistence, you may invite men to camps, and then you may arm and (if you have time) *discipline them*—

*What discipline?*

To the habits of obedience and command—to bear the fatigues and unavoidable privations of camps—abandon political disputes and all the hateful passions of faction—and unite to save all that is worth disputing about, from the force and vengeance of a barbarous enemy.

If the enemy comes—do not give him battle with raw troops in a thin single line, which if once penetrated, want of discipline would disable you from uniting, or redispersing your disunited parts to assail him.

Meet him in small detachments—powerfully sustained—upon which your small bodies can retreat, when fatigued, and have successive small detachments to keep up the warfare.

Attack his flanks—

Attack the whole length of his columns with an oblique fire—

Throw a strong body in his rear, and cut off his communication with his ships—

Drive all your horses and cattle beyond your own camp—

Do not leave him any part of your country to subsist upon—burn and destroy, rather than he should gain an hour's undisturbed subsistence on your soil.

The invasion of your soil supercedes all other law than that of self preservation.

Seize upon and execute every man who gives the enemy aid or comfort.

He who feeds or abets the enemy—murders your kindred and your children—Drummond has told the British not to be sparing of the bayonet—

Retaliate—let not a man of them return to tell the story of their temerity.

Provide magazines in time to feed those who fight for the general safety—who expose themselves to the merciless enemy—that your generations may live in happiness and liberty.

Unite—co-operate—-or you perish. [Aurora.

Head-Quarters, 4th Military District,  
Philadelphia, December 24, 1814.

GENERAL ORDERS.—The Pennsylvania and New-Jersey militia, in the service of the United States within the 4th military district (excepting the brigades under the command of brigadier-generals *Cadwalader* and *Snyder*, and four companies of brigadier-general *Elmer's* brigade) are to be mustered and inspected according to law, and discharged forthwith.

Major-general *Gaines* being ordered to Louisiana, the command of the 4th military district, will, for the present, devolve on brigadier-general *Cadwalader*, of the Pennsylvania militia, who will report direct to the war department.

Colonel *Irvine*, being the senior officer of the United States' army within the district, will take post at this city, and have the command of the regular troops, reporting to the commanding officer of the district.

The major-general in taking leave of the gallant and aspiring troops he has had the honor to command, begs they will accept his best thanks for the persevering zeal, and disciplined steadiness with which they have performed their various duties, and maintained amidst many privations, the proud pre-eminence of American patriots and warriors. To possess the confidence and friendship of such men—to meet, with them, the invading foe—to defend, with them, the soil once stained and consecrated by the blood of our forefathers, the general would always consider to be an honor to the highest grade. He bids them an affectionate farewell.

(Signed) EDMUND P. GAINES,

Major-gen. commanding.

Chs. J. Nourse, asst. adj. gen. U. S. army.

Major-general *Strong*, of the Vermont militia, who acquitted himself so handsomely when sir George Prevost invaded New-York and attacked Plattsburg in September last, has been re-appointed to the command by the unanimous vote of the legislature. On which occasion he issued the following general orders:

Head-Quarters, Vergennes, Nov. 28, 1814.

Major-general *Strong* announces to the militia of the 3d division of the state of Vermont, that he is again appointed to their command. He is sensible that it is no ordinary compliment, to be thought worthy to command such men as compose his division. Their zeal, courage and patriotism, so conspicuously manifested on a late memorable occasion, has given them a proud name; which it will be his high ambition, on similar emergencies and at all times to assist to perpetuate.

By the proclamation of his excellency the commander in chief of the 9th of September last, announcing the threatened invasion of our territory, this division is ordered to be in constant readiness for the field. To comply with this order with effect for our country or honor to ourselves, it is necessary to be prepared. The commanders of brigades, regiments and companies, will therefore take the precaution that the requisition of the several laws, regulating the militia, be complied with; for which they will be held individually responsible. Quarter-masters of regiments are, in particular, directed to examine and make report as to the requisite supply of ammunition in the several towns.

If an additional excitement is necessary to induce every man to do his duty—let him reflect upon the late invasion of our northern frontier—when, without distinction of party, the old and infirm, vied with the young, in the glorious cause of defending the soil of freedom. That soil is sacred, consecrated by the blood of our fathers, let it become the tomb of their sons sooner than be polluted by the footsteps of the invaders of our country.

I have thought fit and do hereby appoint Robert B. Bates, esquire, of Middlebury, and Warren Loomis, esquire, of Burlington, my aids-de-camp. All officers and soldiers to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

SAMUEL STRONG,

Major-general 3d division of the militia of the state of Vermont.

THE STRANGER.—Boston, Sept. 29. The following is the principal part of the cargo of the valuable ship *Stranger*, a prize to the Fox privateer, whose arrival was announced in our last, and now ordered for sale by the marshal on the 11th October—viz.

66 iron guns, 24 pounders on Congreve's principles, with the carriages, axletrees, trucks, beds, quoin, blocks for tackles, hooks, thimbles, scraps, cordage for breeching, tackle falls, and indeed every essential and minute requisite for placing them on board a vessel of war in readiness for actual service.

Also—The following munitions of war:

Articles of copper. Powder measures, tunnels, shovels, ladles, hoops, can hooks, adzes, drivers, vices, slippers for magazines, snuffers,

powder horns, priming wires, vent bits, fire-locks, locks, cartouch boxes with and without belts and frogs, wad hooks, sponges with and without staffs, and ropes, combs for sponges, tompons, gunner's crows, mallets, steel purchase chissels, painted caps for sponges, budge brails, magazine brooms, match rope, muscovy, dark and tin lanthorns, hand screws, brass locks for cannon from 32 to 9 pounders, lead aprons and lead corans for the locks of cannon, long match, ladle hooks, lynch pins, 20d, 10d, 6d nails, quill tubes, padlocks, tallow, whiting, emery, burnishers, sweet oil, pole axes, machine and machine spikes, twine, wad gauges, junk, pails with iron hoops, thread, worsted, cutting knives, scissors, needles, forge tongs, pincers, nipping rods for muskets and pistols, muskets with bayonets and scabbards, musquetons, pistols with ribs, signal rockets, port-fires, *blue lights!* slings for muskets, musket and pistol cartridge boxes, flints, cartridge and fine paper, flannel cartridges, swords with scabbards, belts for do. pikes, drums, round and grape 24 pound shot, leaden musket and pistol balls, moulding ladles for leaden balls, forms for lead and cartridges.

*Armourer's tools.* Vices, wrenches slakes, hammers, punches, cold chissels, iron braces, square bits, screw plates, sett of drills, files of various kinds, lock tools, turn screws, &c.

*Also*—The following clothing, shipped for the use of the minors and sappers, such as sergeants, corporals, musicians, drummers and private's coats, jackets, trowsers, shirts, drawers, stockings, shoes, guatres, hats, caps plumes, feathers, &c. &c. together with a variety of other articles.

The above articles were designated by the enemy for his vessels of war building at Kingston.

**SENSIBLE COMPLIMENT.** The people of the towns of Bature, Bethany and Alexander, near the Niagara frontier, on the 26th September, 1714, sent general *Gaines* a polite note, accompanied with a handsome subscription (\$400 and upwards) for furnishing the soldiers of fort Erie with vegetables, and also 300 bushels of potatoes, and other articles of which they were greatly in want—for which they received the hearty thanks of the general; who in his reply, observes—"The soldiers of Erie and Niagara will gladly seize upon every occasion so prove that so long as they have health and strength, the citizens of the interior may repose in safety, and be assured that the savage monster, who, in December last, commenced among the defenceless women and babes, his work of massacre and conflagration, shall be foiled and humbled."

**THE BLOCKADE.** *Extract from earl Bathurst's letter to Sir John C. Sherbrooke.* "I have brought under the consideration of his majesty's government, the memorial of the

merchants of Halifax, in which they represent the consequences which the blockade of the American ports will produce, if rigidly enforced to the exclusion of vessels bearing your license, and have only to express my regret that a measure which operates so severely against the enemy, should, in any degree, affect the interests of his majesty's subjects. But at the same time, his majesty's government do not feel themselves justified in authorising any relaxation of the measures adopted by Sir A. Cochrane, which will have the effect of debarring neutral nations from a trade which was at the same time carried on by one of the belligerents."

[The above, (observes a Boston paper,) we understand, is a copy of a letter received at Halifax, on the receipt of which all licensed boats were ordered off.]

**CAPTAIN MANNERS.** *From a late London paper.* The conduct of this noble hero, during the late desperate engagement between the Reindeer and Wasp, in which he gloriously fell, is the theme of universal praise. After having part of the calves of his legs carried away by a ball, he received another through both thighs, which made him sink for two or three minutes on his knees, but no entreaties could prevail on him to go below—and recovering himself, he headed the boarders with a full determination to master his antagonist or perish in the attempt. While climbing into the rigging, two balls from the Wasp's top penetrated the top of his skull, and came out beneath his chin. Placing one hand on his forehead, the other convulsively brandishing his sword, he exclaimed, "My God! my God!" and dropped lifeless on his deck. The Reindeer was surrendered by the captain's clerk, no individual of a higher degree being in a state to execute the melancholy office.—One of the Reindeer's men was wounded in the head by a ramrod. About half of the ramrod passed through his temples, and remained stationary. Before it could be extricated it became necessary to saw it off close to one of his temples. The man is in a fair way of doing well!

**LAW CASE.** *Albany, Oct. 10, 1814.* At a circuit court now sitting in this city, a cause came on to trial on Saturday last, between a Mr. James M'Connell and major-general Wade Hampton. The prominent facts which appeared on trial, we understand to be these:—That while our army at the north was under the command of general Hampton, last autumn, Mr. M'Connell, who is a very respectable citizen, learning that the enemy had received some considerable reinforcements, and that an attack on our army was to be apprehended, thought it his duty to communicate this to the general, and accordingly called at his quarters for that purpose. But to his astonishment, instead of receiving the thanks

of the general, he was told with the most violent imprecations, that his information was false, he was a traitor, and should be hung immediately. He was then dragged to the guard-house by a body of soldiers, confined there four or five days without being permitted to write or speak to any person, except in the presence of the officer of the guard; compelled to lay on the damp bare ground; to subsist upon the most filthy rations that were dealt out to the criminals under confinement, and in momentary expectation of being led out to execution. The general then called together some of his officers whom he thought most fitted to his purpose, styled them a court-martial, appeared as the accuser, and insisted on this self-constituted military tribunal condemning him to death for *treasonable practices!* The unfortunate man, although refusing the means of employing counsel, or procuring witnesses, was discharged. It appearing that the information which he had given the general proved to be true, and that the only reason for this procedure on the part of general Hampton, was a private pique against M'Connell, as he had frequently said he meant to hang him if he could.

General Hampton's counsel offered nothing in evidence to contradict these facts, or any thing to mitigate this monstrous outrage.

His honor chief justice Thompson presided at his trial, and gave the charge to the jury, most decidedly condemning all usurpations of military power, and recommending, under a dispassionate consideration of the circumstances, such a verdict as would deter any future attempt to make the liberties of the citizen dependent on the arbitrary will of a military commander. The jury retired a few minutes, and returned with a verdict for the plaintiff, of nine thousand dollars damages.

**NAVAL COURT OF ENQUIRY.**—At a court of enquiry, consisting of captain Isaac Hull and captain John Smith, of the United States' navy, at the navy-yard in the harbor of Portsmouth, N. H. to investigate the conduct of the officers and crew of the United States' ship Adams, commanded by captain Charles Morris, and the causes of the loss of that ship by fire, by order of captain Morris, in order, as was alleged, to avoid capture by the enemy at Hamden, in the district of Maine, on the 3d of September, 1814, the opinion of the court upon the fact found, was, by order, attached to the proceedings transmitted to the department, and is as follows, viz.

**OPINION.**—“The court having attentively considered the testimony of the case, are of opinion, that captain Morris, the officers and crew of the late ship Adams, have done their duty, and express their entire approbation of their conduct on this occasion: and further, that had the ship not have been destroyed she must have fallen into the hands of the enemy. And, from the circumstances

which attended her destruction, they are, moreover, further of opinion, that the conduct of captain Morris during the approach of the enemy, and in the destruction of the United States' ship Adams, reflects on him the highest credit. The court adjourned sine die.

“ISAAC HULL, *President of the court.*  
“G. W. PRESCOTT, *Judge Advocate.*”

**LOSS OF THE CUTTER EAGLE, &c.**—*From a New Haven paper of October 17, 18 4.*—On Monday last the sloop Susan, captain Miles; of this port, on her passage from New-York, with a very valuable cargo, was captured off Mill river by a sloop fitted out by the British frigate Pomone, commanded by a lieutenant, with from forty to sixty men, armed with muskets, &c. with an 18-pounder and two 4's. The packet, though armed, was surprised, and made no resistance. This occurrence was observed by a sloop which had just passed the Susan, and a passenger was immediately landed from her, who came express to this place with the information. The revenue cutter Eagle, captain Lee, immediately prepared to go out and retake the Susan, manned by her own crew and about thirty volunteers, who promptly tendered their services for that purpose. The wind being light and unfavorable for the captors to get off with their booty, it was hoped the Eagle would be able to cut them off before they could pass the harbor. At about four P. M. she got under way, towed out of the harbor, and stood to the southward and eastward, the wind being light all night; did not observe the sloop; at day-break found themselves nearly under the guns of a sloop of war; all hands were immediately called to man the sweeps; got out two boats ahead, with a view to get her into a creek on Long Island shore; there being no port of safety which she could reach. Being almost calm, the brig manned several barges and sent them in pursuit, which came up fast, and a firing commenced between them and the cutter at about 7 A. M. Approaching the shore, captain Lee learned from some fishermen who had assembled on the beach that he could not enter the creek, there not being sufficient depth of water. The brig drawing near, and seeing no other chance of escape, the cutter was laid on shore, under a high bluff, nearly opposite Falkland Islands, and the barges coming up she commenced a brisk fire on them with round and grape shot, which soon obliged them to sheer off. Commenced landing the guns, ammunition, sails, &c. and, with the assistance of the people on shore, were enabled to get two 4 and two 2-pounders upon the bluff, where they were planted, and the colors near them, with a determination not to “give up the ship.” These, with the musketry, kept the enemy from landing or taking possession of the cutter, though several attempts were made by the barges; whilst the brig kept up &

heavy cannonade, taking a distance out of our reach, and hoping to drive us from the hill. Finding their efforts unavailing, they commenced firing upon the cutter to destroy her, at the same time keeping up their fire upon the hill, from the sloop that captured the Susan and a barge, taking positions so as to rake on every quarter, which they kept up till about 2 P. M. when the sloop and barge hauled off, and the firing ceased. In a short time the sloop resumed her station, and the firing recommenced, and was continued till between four and five o'clock, occasionally returned from the hill, when the sloop hauled off again, and about sunset stood to the eastward. Several other attempts were made by the barges during the night to gain the cutter, but the vigorous and well-directed fire from the hill always compelled them to return. The brig kept up her station till about nine o'clock the next morning, when she got under way and stood off.

During this affair several acts of heroism were displayed worthy the intrepid character of our seamen. Having expended all the wadding of the 4-pounders on the hill during the warmest of the firing, several of the crew volunteered and went on board the cutter to obtain more. At this moment the masts were shot away, when the brave volunteers erected a flag upon her stern: this was soon shot away, but was immediately replaced by a heroic tar, amidst the cheers of his undaunted comrades, which was returned by a whole broadside from the enemy. When the crew of the cutter had expended all their large shot and fixed ammunition, they tore up the log-book to make cartridges and returned the enemy's small shot which lodged in the hill.

The cutter's force was only six guns—four 4-pounders and two 2's, with plenty of muskets and about fifty men.

The enemy being gone, and provisions, &c. being scarce, the volunteers from this city left captain Lee and his crew, and arrived here on Thursday evening, in a sloop from Long Island. Captain John Davis was slightly wounded in the knee from a stone impelled by a 32 pound shot which struck near him.

Killed—1 calf, by a 32-pound shot, which was picked up on a field nearly a mile distant. Though we do by no means despise the prowess of the enemy, we would observe that the brig which achieved this notable exploit is the same that killed a *kog* and a *horse* at Stonington—the Dispatch. She fired nearly 300 shot.

We have since learned that captain Lee succeeded in getting off the cutter, and was about to remove her to a place of safety, when the enemy returned and took possession of her. She was greatly injured, but it is expected the enemy will be able to refit her to annoy us in the Sound.

The Susan was taken down to the enemy's

squadron, where she has been ransomed, and a flag went off yesterday with the ransom money. The passengers on board her were treated with great politeness, paroled and released.

HONORABLE TRIBUTE.—The following address, which we find in the Plattsburg Republican, of December 24, signed by all the hostages who had returned from captivity, merits remembrance:

TO MAJOR VANDERVENTER.

Plattsburg, December 23, 1814.

SIR—We, the undersigned, American officers lately confined as hostages in Canada, beg leave to express to you our sincere thanks, for the zealous and unremitting exertions which you have ever made to ameliorate the condition of your fellow sufferers in captivity. Emancipated from long and rigorous imprisonment, and once more restored to the enjoyment of liberty, the American officers would be wanting in duty, did they fail to testify, both to you and to their country, the sentiments of gratitude which they entertain for your benevolent exertions in their behalf. The strenuous and successful efforts which you as senior officer have made to clothe and provide with adequate comforts, the brave soldiers of the United States, sent down to Quebec, naked and diseased, and the noble and disinterested manner in which you supplied pecuniary relief, on your individual credit, to the prisoners, at a time when the British government in Canada refused to negotiate public bills for that purpose, will ever entitle you to their warmest thanks.—Without a public agent at Quebec, the situation of the prisoners would have been wretched indeed, but for your timely interference.

About to be separated from your former companions, be assured, sir, that you carry with you the respect of all who know you, and their warmest wishes for your welfare.

We are respectfully, sir, your obedient servants

LIBERALITY.—From a Salem paper of January, 1815.—Captain John Ordonaux, of the Prince of Neufchatel, on her late cruize, has (we understand, from an unquestionable source) given to his prisoners, not only the 3 or 400 dollars mentioned a few days since, but also 700 dollars more. We also have the fact from first rate authority, that he alone fired a *bout portant* upwards of 80 muskets in the engagement off Nantucket, and must have killed or wounded upwards of sixty of the enemy himself.

Captain Ordonaux was the gallant commander of the little privateer *Marengo* three years ago, when she had only fifty-two men, and after a desperate engagement, took his Britannic majesty's brig of war the *Pelican*, who had then one hundred and thirty men, and about \$80,000 in specie on board. It was

off Jamaica that the engagement took place, in a calm, in sight of all the men of war in that place. None dared to send their barges after him because they knew his name was Orironaux. His daring enterprize successfully led him to attack and vanquish the Pelican. He took on board her specie and safely brought it to New-York.

MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY.—It is due to the valor and patriotism of the citizens of this territory, though scattered over a great extent of country, and surrounded by difficulties from the neighborhood of the indian nations, to record, that they emulated the high and glorious examples of *Kentucky* and *Tennessee*, and bore a portion of the everlasting honor that belongs to the defenders of Orleans. When called upon by general *Jackson*, they seized their arms with the alacrity that belongs to the gallant sons of the west, and marched freely for the post of danger.

NAVAL CHARACTER. One of our gallant thorough-bred seamen, an officer in the navy of the United States, being asked by an old sinner who had sheltered himself within the enemy's lines during the revolution, "*what his politics were?*" replied—"to drink my allowance of grog—to chew my tobacco, and fight for the republic—*what's yours?*" The story was silent.

SOMETIMES BY FIRE. Cobbett, while he was on the side of the ministry, expressly told us that the British "sometimes" employed "fire" to check our manufactories. Hence among the "*events of the war.*" we notice the recent destruction by that element of a cotton mill, &c. near *Poughkeepsie*, N. Y. damage 50,000 dollars, and of another at *Betville*, N. J. damage from 40 to 60,000. [January 1815.]

DELAWARE. The legislature of this little state, with one *eighteenth* of all the power of government in the senate of the United States, adjourned [January 1815.] without proposing or enacting any thing whatsoever for the defence of its territory; without ever passing a militia law, which we believe that state has not or, if it has, is so defective as to be good for nothing.

DIRECT TAX. The following is from the *New Bedford "Mercury"* of the 27th January. This town is famous for its *loyalty*.

"On Tuesday last, the deputy collector of the 14th collection district, agreeably to previous notice, proceeded to sell the real estates of about 30 persons of this town, for the payment of direct taxes. No person appearing to purchase, the whole was *knocked down to Uncle Sam*.\* Whether Uncle Sam or his agents will ever *dare* attempt to take possession of these purchases, is another part of the business. *Mercury.*

\*U. S. or Uncle Sam—a cant term in the army for the United States.

DECATUR. The ship carpenters at the navy yard in Brooklyn, (N. Y.) have already volunteered upwards of 1600 days work towards building a new frigate for commodore Decatur. [A few days after the capture of the President was known.]

CHATHAM. The following extract from a speech of the great lord *Chatham*, delivered in the British parliament on American affairs, being nearly one of his last in that body, is happily revived at the present time:

MY LORDS—You cannot conquer America. You may swell every expense; pile and accumulate every assistance you can buy or borrow; traffic and barter with every little, pitiful German prince, who sells his subjects to the shambles of a foreign power, your efforts are vain and impotent; doubly so from the mercenary aid on which you rely. For it irritates to an incurable resentment the minds of your enemies, to overrun them with the mercenary sons of rapine and plunder; devoting them and their possessions to the rapacity of hireling cruelty! *If I were an American, while I saw foreign troops remain in my country, NEVER would I lay down my arms—NEVER, NEVER, NEVER!!*

[Remember *Castine!*]

FAST DAY. On the day of the late public fast, the editor of the *Boston Gazette* observed—"If we are not mistaken this is the day appointed by the president of the U. States, to be observed in solemn acts of fasting and prayer, and humiliation."

On which the editor of the *New York Columbian* remarked. "And if the *Columbian* is not mistaken, certain gentlemen in Connecticut were *punished* by the legislature for suffering labor on their premises, on Mr. Adams's fast day. *Mistakes* were attended by more serious consequences than they are now."

ANDREW ALLEN, late the British king's consul at *Boston*, famous for the impudence of his conduct after war was declared, in distributing licenses to American citizens, "well inclined," as the *licenses said*, to his majesty's government, it is stated has been rewarded for his "services in America" by a pension of 5000*l. per annum*. It would be curious to know how much certain of his late associates receive, or expect, for the "aid and comfort" they afforded him.

HUMOR.—From the *Baltimore Federal Gazette*.—A late London paper states that a *very large medical staff* will accompany the troops destined for America. It would appear from this that they expect to be *very sick* of the expedition—and we hope that they will not be disappointed in that expectation.

A law student who has for some time past been attending his duty as a member of an *artillery* company; was asked a few days since what books he had been lately reading, answered, that he had been for the last two months been engaged studying CANNON LAW,

**BRITISH GOODS.** A very considerable quantity of British (prize) goods, was brought to Portsmouth, N. H. last autumn. The following account of the sale will be regarded as a *curiosity* a little while hence:

Woolen, cotton and silk goods, from \$6 to 11 50 the £. sterling.

Shoes and hats, 3 50 to 5 do.

Rum, 2 35 a 2 80 cts. gall.

Brandy, (Naples) 2 30 a 2 40 do. do.

Gin, 1 30 a 2 35 do. do.

Hyson tea, 2 14 a 2 15 lb.

Raisins, Muscatel, 9 a 9 25 box.

Do. Smyrna, 36 lb.

Pepper, 20½ do.

**BRITISH APPEAL.** *The following official letter from capt. Hayes, was sent to the prisoners on board the Majestic, in answer to their several petitions for release: [dated in January 1815.]*

"I have examined the letters sent to me by the Americans now on board the Majestic, and I lament that there should be a necessity for detaining as prisoners any of those taken in merchant vessels; but to your own government, Americans, must you look for the cause of this severe measure; and all I can do for you is to send your communication to the admiral. I do not, however, see how you can expect to return to your wives and families, while Mr. Madison is giving a high bounty for every Englishman brought into an American port of the very same description with yourselves. And the good sense of the Americans, I trust, will point out to them the justice of our present conduct, and how cruel it would be in us to suffer our countrymen (taken in merchant vessels) to be carried to an American prison, without endeavoring by retaliation to put a stop to it. With us it is not a measure of revenge for the injurious acts of the American government, but one to obtain the release of our suffering countrymen, of whose situation you can pretty well judge by what yourselves feel. We have no satisfaction in the increased severities of the war, and it is to your own government you must look if they are continued.

JOHN HAYES,

*Captain of the Majestic.*

**STONINGTON.** If the following be a fair abstract of sir *Thomas Hardy's* report of the attack upon *Stonington*, we are sorry for it. It is as false and as uncandid a statement as any we have seen. We would have wished that *he* might have told the truth. It is from a late *London* paper

"Vice-admiral sir Alexander Cochrane has transmitted to John Wilson Croker, Esq. a letter from rear admiral Hotham, inclosing one from capt. sir T. Hardy, of his majesty's ship *Ramilies*, dated off *Stonington*, the 12th of August, giving an account of an attack upon that place by the said ship, with the

*Pactolus*, *Despatch* brig, and *Terrour* bomb. The *Despatch* of the 9th of August, anchored within pistol shot of the battery; but the *Pactolus* not being able to approach the shore near enough to support her, the brig was recalled, having had two men killed and twelve wounded. On the 11th, after the *Terrour* had thrown in *some* shells and carcasses the *Kamilies* and *Pactolus* anchored as near as the shallowness of the water would allow, and fired several broadsides into the town, from which it suffered great damage. At the commencement of the fire the enemy withdrew the guns from the battery to the outside of the town, where they had assembled 3000 militia!! The town of *Stonington* had been conspicuous in preparing and harbouring torpedoes and giving assistance to the enemy's attempts at the destruction of his majesty's ships off *New London*.

**VERMONT.** *Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Addison county, Vermont, to a member of congress, dated Jan. 8th, 1815.*

"Volunteer companies are forming in all the neighbouring towns, getting arms and ammunition, and holding themselves in readiness. If the British take a ride to *Whitehall* this winter, they will never return."

**TRAITORS.** *New London, Jan. 25th, 1815.*

The private armed boat *Retaliation*, John Rogers commander, on the 21st inst. brought in a boat from *Lyme*, with two men on board named *Russel* and *Gilbert*, on a suspicion that they were bound on a trading trip to the enemy's squadron. Her load consisted of sheep, turkeys geese, soap, candles, pepper, cheese, eggs, &c. On Monday they were brought before a court of enquiry, where an examination was had; but whether upon the evidence, they are to be holden for trial remains undecided. The men in the interim are committed to gaol

**MILITARY FORCE.** The *Richmond Enquirer*, to shew the preference of a regular army to militia levies, publishes the following abstract from the official returns of the United States' forces at *Norfolk*, in one of the months of last year:

Regular force 1660--250 sick--21 deaths.

Militia force 2540--2012 sick--160 deaths

--200 discharged for inability.

691 discharged in November, having served a tour of duty, half sick.

**NEW-YORK ARSENAL.** *From the Columbian March, 8.* We were quite unexpectedly disappointed, of a visit to the state arsenal, yesterday, to find it far exceeding any thing of the kind heretofore known in this country, and exhibiting, on a smaller scale, the furniture and materials of the tower of *London*, but not surpassed, in perfection and neatness, we presume, by any similar establishment in the world. Twelve thousand stand of arms, (musketry) with accoutrements complete, and



rifles, swords, pistols and ammunition in proportion, arranged in festoons, stars, and other fanciful and convenient forms, in glittering polish and perfect order, furnish a spectacle worth a half hour's walk to view; while the politeness of the officers attending affords every gratification to the most curious enquirer. The cannon, mortars, shells, shot, &c. are not mentioned. Thirty or forty ladies were among the spectators attracted by the novelty of this grand display of "bruised arms hung up for monuments," yesterday afternoon.

AMELIA ISLAND. *Extract of a letter from Amelia, Sept. 9, 1814.* "Yesterday 13 sail of neutral ships sailed for Europe, principally for England, with the following number of bales of cotton, viz. Nadashda, 1330; Two Friends, 1110; Venus, 805; Neva, 804; Joachim, 517; Freden 860; Active, 703; Emelia, 700; brigs Sophie, 600, Hoppet, 500; Carolus Magnus, 480; Flor de Tejo, 200; Rio Mendiago, 100. Total 8921 bales—also, about 2000 casks rice. The whole quantity exported this year is estimated at 35,000 bales; and there are 4000 bales now on hand. Twenty neutral ships are waiting cargoes."

To IRISHMEN. While the city of New York was threatened, the following spirited address was published—

*To Irishmen.* We, the undersigned, submit, to such of our countrymen, as are not subject to militia duty, or other insurmountable difficulty, that now, or never, is the golden moment to enrol themselves, and to repay the debt of hospitality to their adopted country.

Even the monarchs of Europe have found it their interest to entertain and distinguish the persecuted Irish, and faith and loyalty have always marked their steps. The constituted authorities of this republic are not less wise and generous—shall we then be less grateful? Shall those who, in the hour of desperate trial have been unshaken by bribe, by torture or by death, degenerate in a land which is the last refuge of persecuted freemen? If any be so recreant we disown them for our countrymen. Our appeal is to the constant; our call is on the brave! Such only are invited whose hearts can answer to that call: Broken, like the rest, in fortune, we have neither bribe nor patronage to offer, nor any thing to share, but the dangers of the field. Nor shall we solicit or cajole. Zeal and affection must be the common stock; with those qualities the poor is rich enough; without them the richest is too poor. We have no interest but the safety of our country; no ambition but to march with its defenders. Thrice happy, if in doing so, we may also avenge the wrongs of our dear and native land.

The respectable signatures already obtained give fair hopes of success, but the numbers are yet inadequate to a separate organization. The three months of service will soon elapse,

and the honor may, by a short delay, be forever lost of having their names inscribed amongst these heroes whose brows so many laurels have already circled at an epoch, which future annals will consecrate to fame.

Lists are now open at No. 69 Beekman-street, No. 6 Murray-street. If at the end of the present month, the number of 500 is not complete, we shall conclude that all who have not joined us are already at their post, and with those who have offered, we shall seek some other line of honorable duty for ourselves.

WM. JAMES MAC NEVAN.  
WILLIAM SAMPSON.

PRACTICAL PATRIOTISM.—*Charleston, February 10, 1815.*—The alarm men of Fairfield district have met by sections at convenient places within the district, and have resolved to contribute, either in labor, money or provisions, as it may be required, for the use of the families of the militia now in or who may hereafter be called into the service of their country. They propose to plant, tend and harvest the crop, wherever it may be necessary, for those who are absent on duty. Though but few, very few, if any, of the brave volunteers now in service from that district may require any such aid, the merit of this act is not the less; and is an example worthy of imitation, and highly honorable to the old hoary veterans of Fairfield district.

GALLANT AFFAIR.—On the 7th of February, 1815, about sun-rise, near James' Is and, Dorchester county, a British tender was just within the mouth of Little Choptank, and a cake of ice was drifting her towards the ice near the shore, within about 400 yards. Joseph Stewart and others, to the number of nineteen, went to the spot, and finding a mound of ice about one hundred and fifty yards from the tender, formed by means of loose cakes floating into the mouth of the river, and accumulated by the force of the tide, made their way to it over parts of the ice which were thawed, jumping from cake to cake; and using it as a breast-work commenced a fire on the tender. When they arrived the British had got their anchor on the bow and loosened sails. After an engagement of two hours the British cried for quarters and surrendered. They consisted of nineteen male persons and had on board a twelve-pound carronade, a swivel, seventeen muskets and six pistols, with plenty of powder and ball.

Another.—On the 12th ultimo, a British tender and barge came up Honga river, as far as Lake's cove, and got possession of six of our vessels, some loaded and bound for Norfolk. Two of the vessels were fired by the enemy, when fifteen or twenty militia-men having collected, commenced a brisk fire from canoes, and continued it, amidst a shower of grape and round shot, until they drove the

enemy off, who left their sails bent to the masts of our vessels, and a great coat; the militia following them in their canoes until their ammunition gave out. Property to the amount of 10 or 12,000 dollars was saved; and the British were supposed to have lost several killed and wounded.

ELEGANT EXTRACT of a letter from a gentleman abroad to his friend in America, dated in Nov. last.

[Attributed to John Q. Adams]

"The success of the attack of the English upon Washington intoxicated them to such a degree, that they translated their Gazette account of it into all the principal languages, and sent it by special messengers all over Europe.—That of sir John Sherbrooke's expedition followed immediately after, and in more than one way flattered their dreams of conquest. Their conduct at Washington, however, excited throughout all Europe a sentiment very different from that which they had expected; a sentiment of disgust at the Gothic barbarism of their proceedings; and since then their failure at Baltimore, their defeat on lake Champlain, their retreat from Plattsburgh, and the sortie of the 17th Sept. from Fort Erie, have redeemed our defeats, have aggravated theirs, and now lead them to the anticipation of a disastrous issue to the campaign.

"It is a mortifying circumstance to one who feels for the honor and interest of our country, to find a British prime minister boasting in parliament, as the earl of Liverpool has done, that the infamous outrages of their troops in America had been much more vindicated and justified by Americans, in American newspapers, than they have in England itself. Still more of humiliation did I feel at his assertion, that the people of the District, of which they have taken possession, people of the state of Massachusetts, had manifested a disposition to become British subjects! I still indulge the hope that he has magnified into an expression of popular sentiment, the baseness and servility of a few individual sycophants, who may have intended merely to save their property from plunder, by paying court to the British commanders. Deeply as the sordid spirit of faction has degraded Massachusetts, I will not yet believe that the lofty sentiment of Independence has been extinguished in the souls of any considerable portion of my countrymen, or that they have sunk low enough in the scale of creation, willingly to become subject of Great Britain."

GEN. BROWN partook of a public dinner at Philadelphia on the 18th February, given in his honor by the citizens without distinction of party, to which also the officers of the army and navy were invited. Wherever the hero appeared he was received with cheers by the people, and the U. S. troops at that

place repaired to his quarters and saluted him. The toasts drank on the occasion were patriotic—the general's was—"All true Americans by whatever name distinguished.

The general having retired, the following toast was given:

*Our distinguished guest and fellow citizen; major general Jacob Brown*—may he long live, in health and happiness, to enjoy the esteem of his country, and the laurels he has won in her service.

LAW CASE.—*Charleston, Feb. 9.* The Launch belonging to the frigate Hebrus, which was deserted by her crew at Edisto Inlet on Sunday the 29th ult. and afterwards taken possession of by the militia, was brought up to town yesterday. A question has arisen as to who are the legal captors; whether the U. States' barges, who drove off and afterwards captured the crew of the launch, or the militia, who found her thus deserted upon the beach, and took possession of her before the barges could return from the capture of her crew. She mounts a 12lb carronade and five handsome brass swivels, and has a number of water casks on board.

ILLUMINATION—*From the National Intelligencer of February 20, 1815.*—On Saturday last, several national salutes were fired, and the "star-spangled banner" of America, and the red-cross flag of Britain were displayed together near the city hall, during the day.

At night a general illumination took place, and a number of rockets were fired, some of them made, by one of our citizens, in imitation of the British Congreve.

The following proclamation of the mayor gave the signal for illumination:

*A Proclamation.*—The president of the United States has this day announced, by proclamation, the return of PEACE.

In the late contest for the sacred rights and honor of our country, the American army and navy have, by the most replendent achievements, exalted their character as high as ambition could desire.

The American people have never failed to prove, that although naturally inclined to peace, they can brave with a manly spirit the horrors and calamities of war, when they consider that respect violated which is due not only to themselves but to every independent nation.

A retrospect of our affairs from the commencement to the cessation of hostilities, tho' the scene is occasionally checkered, cannot but afford a heartfelt gratification to every lover of his country.

Whereas, in consideration of these things, the glory of our country and the return of happy peace, it is becoming to make due acknowledgments to the Supreme Ruler of events, and to shew every rational demonstration of joy: Therefore, I James H. Blake,

mayor of the city of Washington, by the authority and with the advice of the corporation of said city, do enjoin on the citizens generally to *illuminate* their respective houses this evening, commencing at 7 and ending at 9 o'clock. And I do require the public officers of this corporation to be vigilant in the preservation of peace and tranquility.

Given under my hand at the city of Washington, this 18th day of February 1815.

JAMES H. BLAKE, Mayor.

N. B. A salute will be fired at 7 o'clock, which will be the signal for commencing the *illumination*.

PUNS. From the *Pittsburg Commonwealth*. A gentleman hearing the extravagant pretensions of the British commissioners at *Ghent*, trusted our ministers would give them a very *lake-onic* answer. All who have heard the names of PERRY and MACDONOUGH will take the force of the allusion.

A correspondent who has seen the *Montreal* puff about 1500 barrels of pork (which are said to have frightened the Yankees on the Niagara frontier) wishes to be informed whether they contained part of the hogs that sir George Prevost drove to the *Plattsburgh* market.

We presume that they did not, as sir George did not stay there to *have them killed*.

*Phil. Free Journal.*

*Plattsburgh, Dec. 3, 1814.* The following articles were found on board a small transport sloop, which accompanied the British fleet as far as the Isle La Mott, in September last, and there sunk, in consequence of being too heavy loaded.

The enemy carried off eight eighteen pounders which they had mounted on a small battery erected on the west side of the island; but permitted the sloop to remain, which was afterwards raised by the inhabitants of Isle La Mott, and the stores taken out, viz.

25,000 Sand bags,

500 Fascine knives,

An anchor, weighing 500 lbs.

A 6 inch cable; 504 feet in length,

A large quantity of shot and shells,

200 shovels and spades,

100 pick axes,

20 kegs powder,

A number of bbls. of hard bread,

A barrel of sugar, &c.

The sloop was formerly a packet between this place and Burlington, and taken by the enemy, in this harbor, in their excursion up the lake in 1812—it has since been restored to its former owner.

It is worthy of remark, that capt. *Lloyd*, who in a 74 gun ship, refused to fight the President frigate—with the assistance of a frigate and a sloop of war, succeeded in destroying a

privateer (the *Armstrong*) of 9 guns, with a loss of about 300 killed and wounded! By which it appears he can do *something*.

Captain Downie (says the "*Plattsburg Republican*") publicly declared while on the Isle La Mott, in the hearing of 20 or 30 American citizens, that in thirty minutes after the first fire, he would be on board the American ship *Saratoga*. The first fire from the *Saratoga* proved fatal to capt. Downie.

Sir George Prevost predicted that *Macdonough* would strike his flag in 20 minutes, and held out his watch to see when the time should expire. Admiral *Cochrane* promised to sever several Americans, to break the "egg shell" at fort *M Henry* [Baltimore] in *two* hours; but looked very foolish when those persons, after *twenty six* hours bombardment, told him that "the time was out!" The fool *Dacres*, of the *Guerriere*, told his men to prepare a hogshead of *molasses* to treat the Yankees, who were to be his prisoners in *fifteen* minutes. So they go on, though every *lesson* they have had one would think might have taught them better.

*It is said*, that our public and private armed vessels have been directed to sink, instead of burning the vessels they do not think proper to attempt to send in. A considerate and prudent measure, as we expect that the ocean, especially on the British coasts, might otherwise be covered with the floating wrecks of half-consumed vessels, to the great danger of our *flyers*, in the night! *This will keep the road clear!*

The *London Times* of July 2, speaking of the "painful events" that have happened at sea, and of the pride with which we look forward to other victories, says—"There is but one way to turn the current of their thoughts and efforts from their present direction; and that is, to *crush their growing navy to atoms*. The enterprize may be twice as difficult now, as it would have been (had our means then permitted,) in the first month of the war; but it will infallibly be ten times as difficult, nay, it may become absolutely impossible, if it is delayed till a future war. *Now* America stands alone; hereafter she may have allies. Let us strike while the iron is hot."

Now many people in the United States have thought it *ungenerous* that we declared war against *England* when she had few allies. I very much question if the said persons would be pleased, if, "in the course of human events" it might be our fortune to act in concert with the "*royal Bourbon*," or "*magnanimous Alexander*." We may yet hear of "*Russian influence*."

But—as to crushing our little navy "to atoms"—the British want better *heels* and bet-

ter hands to do it—when too strong for us, we can generally run away. In all other cases we beat them shamefully. We acknowledge this is vexatious, and not a little humiliating to the pride of *John Bull*, and therefore allow him to grumble.

Major-general *Keane*, it is now reported, is to be sent out to *beat* the Yankees into submission.

“But should our haughty foe expect  
To give our boys a *caning*,  
We guess they'll find our lads have *learned*  
A little bit of training.”

*Englishmen of all countries.* The crew of a British privateer taken at the southward by our gun-boats, though consisting only of 26 men, (colored and uncolored) is stated to have originated in no less than sixteen different countries and islands, viz: From England 6, Bermuda 3, Ireland 2, Portugal 2, Italy 2, Scotland 1, Nova Scotia 1, Germany 1, Sweden 1, Prussia 1, Norway 1, Malta 1, Corsica 1, France 1, Cuba 1, Martinique 1.

While Great Britain employs such motley groups of “black spirits and white, blue spirits and grey,” against us, to kill, take, sink, burn and destroy, one would think she need not be so tenacious of her claims of the perpetual allegiance of her own subjects, and so violent in her charges against us for harboring and naturalizing in time of peace, the natives of other countries in a civil and legal way. [Colum.]

*The bird of war.* Another anecdote is given, by the Baltimore Patriot, of the gallantry and courage of the cock, a bird consecrated for his valor by the ancients to *Minerva*, the goddess of war. The account of his crowing in the battle of *Trafalgar*, and on board the *Saratoga* and *Eagle*, in the battle of *Lake Champlain*, attest his martial spirit, and show that his claims to the characteristics of vigilance and bravery have not diminished since the earliest accounts of fabulous history. After an allusion to the *three cheers* given by the brave chanticleer on *lake Champlain*, the Patriot says:

Another fact of a similar nature, may not be uninteresting. During the bombardment of *Fort M-Henry*, at a time when the explosions were the most tremendous, a rooster mounted a parapet and crowed heartily. This excited the laughter and animated the feelings of all present. A man, who was severely indisposed and worn down with fatigue, declared that if ever he lived to see *Baltimore*, the rooster should be treated with *pound cake*. Not being able to leave the fort, the day after the bombardment he sent to the city, procured the cake, and had fine sport in treating his favorite rooster.

Copy of a letter from the secretary of the treasury to his excellency *David R. Williams*.

Treasury Department, 29th December, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22d instant, informing me, that the legislature of South Carolina has placed the sum of 260,000 dollars at the disposal of government in aid of its finances. The state of South Carolina, always conspicuous for her public spirit and liberality, has, on this occasion, given a proof of patriotism which is well calculated to exalt her own character, and to inspire every member of the union, with a spirit of the noblest exertion, in the common cause.

I hastened to communicate your letter to the president, and it was peculiarly grateful to me, to find, that he cordially united in the sentiment of respect for the state of South Carolina, which I have the honor to express.

I am, with great consideration and esteem, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

A. J. DALLAS.

Copy of a letter from the secretary of the treasury to *Thomas Lee, esq. comptroller-general of South Carolina*.

Treasury Department, 29th December, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, informing me that the legislature of South Carolina had passed to the credit of the government, in the state bank, a sum of 260,000 dollars as an assumption of the state's quota of direct tax, which it is proposed to lay for the ensuing year. This act of patriotism and liberality is in unison with the general character of South Carolina, and merits the cordial acknowledgment of the government as well as the applause of the nation. It presents a noble example to every member of the union, and in that respect, as well as in respect to the fiscal aid which it affords, must be essentially serviceable.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant.

A. J. DALLAS.

*Thos. Lee, esq. comptroller general, &c.*  
*Charleston, South Carolina.*

*A Dinner to general Ripley*, was given at *Pittsfield* by the republicans of *Berkshire county* and officers of the U. S. army, in respect for his bravery in the battle of *Niagara*, the defence of *fort Erie*, and the sortie from that work, in which he received his wounds. Among the toasts are the following:

The Constitution—May its enemies meet the fate of the *Java*.

The army and navy—their deeds of valor have evinced to the world that we are a match for Great Britain without allies.

New England vs. New States—verdict for the defenders at *New-Orleans*.

The bayonet and the shuttle—let us aim to manage the latter in peace, as well as we have the former in war, and our country will be soon rid of British goods and British influence.













