

THE MILITARY MONITOR,

AND

AMERICAN REGISTER.

"THE PUBLIC GOOD OUR END."

Vol. I.]

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1812.

[No. 16

THE MILITARY MONITOR,
AND
AMERICAN REGISTER,
By T. O'CONNOR,

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New-York, 1812.

Official.

DOCUMENTS

Accompanying the President's Message to Congress.

(Continued from our last.)

MR. RUSSELL TO LORD CASTLEREAGH
18 Benthick-Street, 1st Sept. 1812.

My Lord, I have learnt with much regret, by your lordship's note dated the 25th ult. which I did not receive until this morning, that the Prince Regent has thought proper to decline to accede to the proposition for a suspension of hostilities, contained in my note of the 24th of August.

It has been a matter of surprise to me that my view with regard to the revocation of the orders in council on the 23d of June last, should have been considered to have been incorrect, when it appears by your lordship's note that the British government itself had deemed it necessary to give powers to the British admiral to stipulate for its full effect, and thereby admitted that a new act was required for that purpose.

It now only remains for me to announce to your lordship, that it is my in-

intention to embark immediately at Plymouth, on board the ship Lark, for the United States, and request that permission may be granted as soon as may be, for the embarkation of my servants, baggage, and the effects of this legation, and that the necessary passports may be furnished for my own and their safe conduct to that destination.

I avail myself of this occasion to apprise your lordship that I am authorised by the United States to leave Reuben Gant Cassey Esq. as its agent for prisoners of war in this country, and to desire that every necessary facility may be offered him in the exercise of that trust, by the British government.

I have the honor to be, my lord, your lordship's most obedient humble servant.

Signed JONA. RUSSELL
The right hon. lord vice. Castlereagh,

MR. RUSSELL TO MR. MONROE.
London, Sept. 3, 1812.

Sir—I enclose hercin a copy of a note received yesterday from Lord Castlereagh, which will acquaint you that I have obtained my passports to return to the United States, and that Mr. Beasley is permitted to remain here as agent for prisoners of war.

Immediately on demanding my passport I addressed to the consuls a circular, of which you will also find a copy enclosed.

The Swiftsure packet sailed on the 31st of last month from Falmouth for America, and it is very probable that she has taken out instructions, suggested by the overtures made here, but there is no reason to believe that they can be of a nature to satisfy the United States.

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

JONA. RUSSELL.
The Hon. James Monroe, &c.

LORD CASTLEREAGH TO MR. RUSSELL.
Foreign Office, Sept. 2, 1812.

Sir, I have laid before his royal highness the Prince Regent, your letter of the 1st inst. in which you announce your intention to embark immediately at Plymouth on board the ship Lark for the United States.

I have already had the honor of forwarding to you an admiralty order for the protection of that ship as a cartel, on her voyage to America, and I hereby enclose to you a passport for the embarkation of yourself and family, in conformity to your request. The lords commissioners of his majesty's treasury will issue directions to the commissioners of the customs to give every facility to the embarkation of your effects.

If previous to your departure from England you can point out to me any particular manner in which I can facilitate your arrangements, I beg you will command my services.

His royal highness has commanded me to signify to you, for the information of your government, that there will be no difficulty in allowing Mr. R. G. B. as stated in your letter, to reside in this country, as the United States agent for prisoners of war.

I have the honor to subscribe myself, with great truth and consideration, sir, your most obedient and devoted humble servant.

Signed CASTLEREAGH.
J. Russell, Esq.

CORRESPONDENCE

Between Sir. J. Borlase Warren and the Secretary of State.

Halifax, (Nova Scotia) Sept. 30.

Sir—The departure of Mr. Foster from America has devolved upon me the charge of making known to you, for the information of the government of the U. States, the sentiments entertained by his royal highness the prince regent

upon the existing relations of the two countries.

You will observe, from the enclosed copy of an order in council, bearing date the 23d of June, 1812, that the orders in council of the 9th of January, 1807, and the 26th April 1809, ceased to exist nearly at the same time that the government of the U. States declared war against his majesty.

Immediately on the receipt of this declaration in London, the order in council, of which a copy is herewith enclosed to you, was issued, on the 31st day of July, for the embargo and detention of all American ships.

Under these circumstances, I am commanded to propose to your government the immediate cessation of hostilities between the countries, and I shall be most happy to be the instrument, of bringing about a reconciliation on, so interesting and beneficial to America and G. Britain.

I therefore propose to you, that the government of the U. States of America shall instantly recall their letters of marque and reprisal against British ships, together with all orders and instructions for any acts of hostility whatever against the territories of his majesty or the persons or property of his subjects; with the understanding, that, immediately on my receiving from you an official assurance to that effect, I shall instruct all the officers under my command to desist from corresponding measures of war, against the ships and property of the U. States, and, that I shall transmit without delay corresponding intelligence to the several parts of the world where hostilities may have commenced. The British commanders in which will be required to discontinue hostilities from the receipt of such notice.

Should the American government accede to the above proposal for terminating hostilities, I am authorised to arrange with you as to the revocation of the laws which interdict the commerce and ships of war of Great Britain from entering the harbors and waters of the U. States; in default of which revocation within such reasonable period that may be agreed upon, you will observe, by the order of the 23d June, the orders in council of January 1807, and April 1809 are to be revived.

The officer who conveys this letter to the American coast has received my orders to put to sea immediately upon the delivering of this despatch to the competent authority; and I earnestly recommend that no time may be lost in communicating to me the decision of your government, persuaded as I feel that it cannot but be of a nature to lead to a

speedy termination of the present differences.

The flag of truce which you may charge with your reply will find one of my cruisers at Sandy Hook, ten days after the landing of this despatch, which I have directed to call there with a flag of truce for that purpose.

I have the honor to be, &c.

JOHN BORLASE WARREN.

Adml. of the blue, and Commander in chief, &c. &c.

MR. MONROE TO SIR J. B. WARREN

Department of State, October 27, 1812.

SIR—I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 30th ult. and to submit it to the consideration of the President.

It appears that you are authorised to propose a cessation of hostilities between the U. States and G. Britain, on the ground of the repeal of the orders in council, and, in case the proposition is acceded to, to take measures, in concert with this government, to carry it into complete effect on both sides.

You state, also, that you have it in charge, in that event, to enter into an arrangement with the government of the United States for the repeal of the laws which interdict the ships of war and the commerce of G. Britain from the harbors and waters of the U. States. And you intimate, that if the proposition is not acceded to, the orders in council (repealed conditionally by that of the 23d of June last) will be revived against the commerce of the U. States.

I am instructed to inform you, that it will be very satisfactory to the President to meet the British government in such arrangements as may terminate without delay the hostilities which now exist between the U. States and G. Britain, on conditions honorable to both nations.

At the moment of the declaration of war, the President gave a signal proof of the attachment of the U. States to peace. Instructions were given at that early period to the late charge des affaires of the United States at London, to propose to the British government an armistice on conditions which it was presumed would have been satisfactory. It has been seen with regret that the propositions made by Mr. Monroe, particularly in regard to the important interest of impressment, was rejected, and that none was offered, through that channel, as a basis on which hostilities might cease.

As your government has authorised you to propose a cessation of hostilities, and is doubtless aware of the important and salutary effect which a satisfactory adjustment of this difference cannot fail to have on the future relations of the two countries, I indulge the hope that if has,

ere this, given you full power for the purpose. Experience has sufficiently evinced that no peace can be durable unless this object is provided for. It is presumed, therefore, that it is equally the interest of both countries to adjust it at this time.

Without further discussing questions of right, the President is desirous to provide a remedy for the evils complained of on both sides. The claim of the British government to take from the merchant vessels of other countries British subjects. In the practice, the commanders of British ships of war often take from the merchant vessels of the United States American citizens. If the U. States prohibit the employment of British subjects in their service, and enforce the prohibition by suitable regulations and penalties, the motive for the practice is taken away. It is in this mode that the President is willing to accommodate this important controversy with the British government, and it cannot be conceived on what ground the arrangement can be refused.

A suspension of the practice of impressment pending the armistice, seems to be a necessary consequence. If cannot be presumed, while the parties are engaged in a negotiation to adjust amicably this important difference, that the United States would admit the right or acquiesce in the practice of the opposite party; or that Great Britain would be unwilling to restrain her cruisers from a practice which would have the strongest tendency to defeat the negotiation. It is presumable that both parties would enter into the negotiation with a sincere desire to give effect. For this purpose it is necessary that a clear and distinct understanding be first obtained between them, of the accommodation which each is prepared to make. If the British government is willing to suspend the practice of impressment from American vessels on consideration that the U. States will exclude British seamen from their service, the regulation by which this compromise should be carried into effect would be solely the object of negotiation. The armistice would be of short duration. If the parties agreed, peace would be the result. If the negotiation failed, each would be restored to its former state, and to all its pretensions, by recurring to war.

Lord Castlereagh, in his note to Mr. Russell, seems to have supposed, that had the British government accepted the propositions made to it, G. Britain would have suspended immediately the exercise of a right, on the mere assurance of this government that a law would be afterwards passed to prohibit

Defence of New-York.
No. IX.

sion of the bill would be peculiarly pernicious—manufactures being extensive there, and artizans, who depend almost entirely on their apprentices for the prosecution of their business, very numerous. And who is he that does not know how prone boys in that condition, and of the very age so perniciously appointed by this bill for their reception into the army, are to be impatient of restraint and discontented with their situation. And yet these who ought rather in pity and in good policy to be tied down to their regular business, are by this bill marked out to have their indistinct instruction taken advantage of, made the instrument of their incurable ruin, and wheedled away to fill the ranks of our armies, to the misery, perhaps the heart breaking of their fond parents, or the demolition of the lawful rights and interests of their masters.

Nor were these the only arguments advanced against the bill. Mr. Gould said it would bear better to augment the army by the most liberal bounties and wages, than for the house thus to violate the most important acknowledged principles, and to outrage the great relations of society. It would seem as if gentlemen knew not how strong and how important were the relative duties of master and apprentice, and with what care and precision the various states have constructed the laws which regulate them. Under all, even the most lax of these laws, there exists a clear and resistable obligation on the apprentice to serve his master till he becomes of age—And in some states obligation is so rigidly defined and enforced that the boy's parent or guardian is made responsible in damages for nonperformance of his contract. Here then a most formidable series of objections to the section presented themselves. Can the authors of this bill (said Mr. Gould) think that obligations so solemn can be lawfully dissolved? that the fundamental principles of the constitution, which make contract sacred, can lawfully be violated? or that a bill of this house can lawfully deprive the master of his action, secured to him by the laws of the state, against the parent or guardian in case of desertion of his apprentice? No one acquainted with the constitution can think so. Here then is a most serious encroachment upon the rights and law of the states.

Necessity for this law, Mr. G. said, there was none. It is but a feeble fanciful plea—but if there were a necessity it ought not to be yielded to, since no truth is more clearly attested by history and by reason than this, that essential principles ought never to be contravened or

violated for temporary expedients, necessities, or pressures.—The mischief arising from such precedents are incalculable, endless, and not to be compensated, by any fancied benefit. How far the law, if once passed might be carried into effect time would tell; but according to the letter of it, it extended even to slaves who might enlist.

So entirely did Mr. Little concur with the opinion of Mr. Minor, that he moved that the words "*By & with the consent of their guardians*" should be inserted—but this was rejected by 50 to 39.

To these arguments against the bill, it was answered in the first place, that if the second section were altered by leaving out the words "*before or*," the intention of it would be entirely defeated; for, said Mr. Bacon, the house must be aware that the object of the clause is to prevent the collusive frauds which have been so frequently practised upon recruiting officers, from whom, after they have paid the bounty, the recruit has been wrested by a real or pretended creditor; frauds more to be dreaded than facing the enemy. As the law now stood, he observed, the soldier is secured from arrest for any sum under twenty dollars, contracted before enlistment; and he could not perceive why, if the legislature had in other times secured a soldier from arrest for twenty dollars, why now, when money was of less value, they might not as conscientiously, or why they had not as perfect a constitutional right to secure them from a debt of forty.

In answer to Mr. Stowe's arguments for rejecting the section, Mr. Williams urged the absolute necessity of the case, which never was, nor could be stronger than at this moment when we were as it were surrounded by the enemy's forces, on the northern, the southern, the eastern and the western frontier, and indeed where not. Mr. Williams charged Mr. Stowe with having a year ago contended that youths ought to be admitted into the service, and with having given as his opinion that they would make the best soldiers. He acknowledged that he did not mean to contend for the moral effect of the law; he only argued it upon the principle of necessity and national utility; for militia services he observed were transient, and could not be safely relied upon. The charge of Mr. Williams was denied by Mr. Stowe, who declared that he never had said or even imagined that minors would make the best soldiers. The necessity of the measure, however, was further enforced by Mr. Lowndes and by Mr. Truop.

Bureau.

Complicated evolutions are seldom, if at all necessary. The movements we stand in need of are but few. The following perhaps will afford a synopsis of all that are necessary to perform the whole duty to which it is probable we shall ever be called.

The Manual } *Exercise.*
The Platoon }

The Charge.
In file by Platoonsto the right.

Marching } to the left.
to the front.
to the rear

By wheeling up } to the right;
to the left.

Forming platoon } By filing } to the front
to the rear.

Advancing or } By wheeling 3 or 4 files
retiring a flank } into the new direction,
and filing the remainder
rapidly, each man to
march by the shortest
line, thus describing the
hypotenuse instead of the
base and perpendicular
of a triangle.

Forming Column. } By wheeling back-
ward, by subdivi-
sions or half platoons

Marching } At the full distance of half
platoons.
At half distance.
At quarter distance.
At close order of half platoons.

Opening } From the front.
From the rear.

Counter- } From the reverse flank, the
marching } Pivot guide remaining post
ed and faced.

Forming } By a diagonal march to the
Platoon } right.
To the left.

Reducing the } By breaking into sub-pla-
front on the } toons or sections, or by ad-
March } vancing from the flanks or
centre, reforming rapidly
by the Diagonal March—of sub platoons sections
or files.

standing, was this day read twice and referred to a committee of the whole.

THE RETALIATION BILL was reported by the committee, read twice and committed. The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole upon it. Mr. Wright made a long and spirited speech in favour of the bill, which on motion of Mr. Laock received a trifling amendment, after which it was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Thursday, November 19.

THE RETALIATION BILL, was negatively rejected.

Friday, November 20.

The first business that came before the house this session of sufficient importance to excite warm feelings between parties and promote animated discussion was the bill for regulating and increasing the pay of soldiers and noncommissioned officers. This day, in a committee of the whole, on the first section of the bill that settled the quantum of pay, to be allowed to each rank, no opposition was made—but the second section produced a pretty warm debate. The opposers maintained that this part of the bill, going as it did to protect any noncommissioned officer or soldier from arrest for debts incurred before or after enlistment was an *ex post facto* law and therefore unconstitutional. As the public good and justice formed the only legitimate foundation of laws, congress, if it took away the remedy of the creditor against the recruit, ought, at least, to provide for the payment of the debts of all recruits contracted before enlistment. And Mr. Wheaton, who started the objection, moved that the words *before* or *should* be struck out. To this motion it was objected that the omission proposed would defeat the intention of the section, which was to prevent frauds from being practised, by collusion, on the recruiting officers. To this defence, which was made by Mr. Bacon, Mr. Silas Sowe replied, that though it was very true the officer might lose his bounty money, yet that was not a valid argument in favour of the provision, since the section did not remove the difficulty, and officers would be alike exposed to frauds whether it should or should not be enacted. The amendment however was lost and the section remained unaltered in the bill.

To the third section which provides for the retention in the service for the time of enlistment of all persons of eighteen years of age, a strong opposition with a motion to strike it out were made by Mr. Stowe upon the following grounds. Its tendency to injure public

morals. Its infringement on public economy, and its violation of the constitution. The source of all that is good in this life, and perhaps in that to come, was proper instruction and discipline in youth; nor was it of less importance to nations, particularly those enjoying such governments as ours, where the laws and sovereignty emanating from the people at large, temperance, virtue and obedience in the youths were requisite to the well being of the state; and these three essential qualities were by the provisions of this clause, torn up by the roots. To the restless boy, impatient of military control, it said, "cultist in the army and get rid at once of parental authority, defraud your parent who has maintained you in your helpless childhood or your master to whom you have for years owed support and instruction!" "Thus," said Mr. Stowe, "we enable the tender unthinking youth of the country to dissolve in one moment all the ties of natural affection, duty and gratitude. Nay more, we deliberately undertake to pay this young villain of our promotion three hundred dollars (the bounty and wages for three years) for iniquity; worse, we plunge him into all the dissipation, vices, and seductions of a camp. This is not only immoral but inhuman. For humanity imposes it as an imperative duty on you to guard and educate the offspring of the poor. We not only by this act abandon that duty ourselves, but discourage others from performing it—for who will provide for infancy, if at the moment youths are first able to make any remuneration for their nurture and instruction they are bribed away from their duty and seduced to ingratitude by the temptation of our three hundred dollars?"

Not less adverse was this provision (Mr. Stowe observed) to public economy, which demanded that every individual should serve society in that particular way in which he could be most beneficial. Patriotism as well as reason gave its sanction to this. Men of mature age in general can judge of what is good for themselves, and may or may not accept this offer of ours without injury; but is it politic or wise, is it reasonable or just, that you should intrude yourself, with your temptation in your hand, into the private house of industry and peace, into the manufactory of the workshop, and allure away the thoughtless youth from some more useful employment, to plunge, at that dangerous time of life, in all the immoralities of a camp, and after he has in the course of a war been there incurably infected with every contagious vice, to let him loose upon the world, a helpless profligate

vagabond.

As to the necessity of that measure, Mr. Stowe observed, that when the immense disciplined legions of Great Britain were in our very country, and we were struggling for existence, the necessity was not even then deemed sufficiently great to warrant such a strong measure; could it then be pretended that it is necessary now, when in an offensive war with three times the population of that period to oppose to the enemy?

Lastly, Mr. Stowe maintained the section to be unconstitutional—for constitutionally, no existing power has any right to take the private property of any individual without compensation—And this part of the bill went to that full extent. For not one atom, even in imagination, was the property of the farmer in his land, or of the planter in his slave more complete than that of the parent in his son, or the master in his servant. Nor was this the whole of the mischief and illegality of the section, for it went to annihilate contracts, a power forbidden to the state legislatures within themselves, and of course to the general government.

The objections thus made to the section by Mr. Stowe were further urged by Mr. MITCHELL—who said, that were the necessity of making a war as absolute as some persons insisted, a point with which he should not now meddle, one thing at least must be conceded, viz. that its operations should be so conducted as to do as little injury as possible to our citizens, and to make the war as little felt as possible by families, and as little interruptive of any of the occupations of life. "As yet, at least," said he) we have not, thank God, a Napoleon over us to despoil us of our free institutions—to drag us into a despotism or debate us into a military government. Should that ever be the case, it will then, but not till then, be time enough to let loose the recruiting officer, or perhaps the common soldier, profligate and mured to vice, armed with the powers granted by this bill, to intrude himself into the mechanic's workshops, or break into the sanctuary of the parent's dwelling, and with money which can answer no other purpose but that of corrupting, and with illusory tale of military glory never never to be realized, to inveigle away, to ruin bounden servant, the apprentice, or the child—to the eternal prevention of his acquiring any trade or fitting himself for any calling by which he might secure a future provision and be saved from becoming a burthen to society.

To Philadelphia Mr. M. thought this

Wheeling on the March into a new direction, each man describing the chord of an arc.—the pivot being stationery till the completion of the wheel, or, moveable—both flanks, describing arcs of concentric circles—the pivot being the smaller.

For the reasons already assigned, my observations on exercise and movements will be but few.

"The Manual exercise" consists only of half a dozen motions of so little importance that the most graceful method of performing them should be preferred: I would therefore recommend that practised by the English.

The manner of loading and firing is certainly susceptible of great improvement.—After priming, the body should not be turned round; but, in loading, the left shoulder should be kept to the front, by which not only a troublesome backward motion is avoided, but a smaller surface of the body is presented to the enemy's shot; and, consequently, the chance of escaping the effects of his fire is rendered greater.—When the loading is finished, the firelock, in platoon firing, should not be shouldered, but brought smartly to the receiver, and then cocked.

The platoon officer should be in the rear, and as soon as he shall see all his men ready, he gives the words, aim! fire! thus the word "make ready" need be given but once during the firing in platoon.

THE CHARGE WITH BAYONETS.

The advance should be at the port, thus the line can be preserved straight by the touch of the elbows, which is utterly impossible by advancing in the present preposterous manner.—When nearly in contact with the opposing line, the firelocks should be brought down to the charge, by signal or word of command.

For performing all the movements I have recommended, I believe sufficient instructions can be found in the book of regulations, except for "advancing or retiring a flank." For this perhaps an example will suffice.—Required to throw forward the left flank of a platoon so as that the new position will form a perpendicular line standing on the right of the present line: Let this movement be performed by firing.

The commander of the platoon places 3 files on the right of his platoon on the new line. The guide from the left, runs and places himself in line with the front rank men of the former file, where the left of the platoon is to rest. The remainder trail arms—half face to the right, and in double quick time, file into

the new position, each man by the shortest line. When formed, they shoulder by command.

AMICUS.

The Military Monitor.

NEW-YORK.

MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 14, 1812.

Some new arrangements, intimately connected with the future prosperity of this paper, occasioned a temporary suspension of its publication. The patrons of the *MILITARY MONITOR*, will, it is hoped, pardon this delay. Its future emission will be regular, and every possible exertion will be made to render it useful and interesting.

The next Number will complete the term for which payment was made in advance. A second payment will, of course, be expected and a compliance with the terms of publication will be absolutely necessary to the prosperity of the paper.

Gentlemen, who wrote for the paper, and have not sent the required payment, will not expect to be served after the 17th Number. The many sums now due from subscribers, who never paid a cent, and who remain deaf to every call for payment, have determined the editor to attend to no future orders unless accompanied with cash, agreeable to the terms of publication, which may be seen on the first column of this paper. The Nos. 1, 2, 3, & 4, will be put to press in the ensuing month.

The length of the *Documents*, contained in this paper, prevented the insertion of several Communications lately received.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.—The hard contest for Election for a chief Magistrate of the United States has terminated, and a short time must determine on which of the candidates the duties of that office will devolve for four years, commencing 4th of March next. The neutrality of this paper, as regards party politics, has precluded any interference or remark penning the election, nor shall either exultation or regret be expressed on its issue. It becomes the duty of every individual to submit to the public will, expressed by a majority, and, in this principle, the editor of this paper will most cordially acquiesce.

The term for which a President of the United States should be elected, and the propriety of authorising his continuance in office by frequent Elections, are considerations of importance, and may be discussed without the necessity of

rambling political controversy; it is a question intimately connected with the welfare of all, and so equally so, that no reason appears why it need to be a party question, or why individuals of different parties may not agree on this topic, without departing from the political points on which they, in other respects, disagree.

The controversies of political parties are said to produce good, particularly under a popular form of government; admitting this much, it must also be conceded that political controversy may beget a malignant rancour, the tendency of which may produce evil of a dangerous or destructive nature. In this, as in most circumstances connected with human affairs, there is a medium; the observance of which would be essential to political salvation, it is however to be regretted that a discovery of its just position can scarcely be hoped for, and its general adoption not at all to be expected. To reach as near as possible the right point, is all that can be expected.

In order to decide on the longest term during which one person ought to be permitted to serve as President of the U. S. it may be best to be guided by the opinions of distinguished statesmen and past effects. The example set by Washington, and adopted by Jefferson, in full support of the opinion, that it is not prudent to continue one person a long time in office. Both of these Presidents declined serving longer than eight years, although no person doubts but that Washington would be elected to serve a third time; and few, if any, doubt but that Mr. Jefferson would also have been elected a third time. There is no proof that Mr. Adams would not adopt the rule of his predecessors; and if Mr. Madison, has as it is generally supposed been re-elected, there can be no doubt as to what will be his conduct on the expiration of his second term of service.—Should Mr. Clinton be President, it is very probable that he will adopt an example, so often sanctioned by such great statesmen, and which seems to be so generally admired. As long however as the constitution does not limit the frequency of the elections of one person to office, so long will there be the greatest possible inducement to seek the office from personal motives. No injury has yet occurred from re-elections of Presidents, the opinions of Washington & Jefferson stand respectable authorities for not vesting any individual with Presidential power for a longer term than eight years; and, in all experience, so far as it might be considered, warrants the opinion, that no danger can ar-

rise, and that even good may result, from one person serving twice as president. There is much, it is true, that may be advanced against a re-election; but innovations on adopted principles are not to be tried on light or doubtful grounds; it is therefore probable that prudence would, in this case, dictate a gradual advance towards perfection, if perfection could be hoped for, and that an amendment to the constitution, whereby one individual would be ineligible to serve as President of the United States, for a longer term than eight years, would be not only salutary, but going as far as the people of the U. States ought, in the spirit of reform, advance at present.—

Thus far seems necessary, lest some ambitious or cunning chief may transgress against past practice, and leave an example, on record, that may be improved into a consulate for life, and this last into a MONARCHY. These remarks are general, not connected with the late Presidential election, nor with the apprehension that any particular citizen would aspire to executive power in order to destroy the people's rights.

Summary.

The infant navy of the United States, continues to excite general admiration, it is daily adding to the number of its great exploits, it must henceforward be allowed that Yankee can fight and conquer, when opposed by equal force; and it is reported that the British government, aware of this, has determined to send a powerful naval force to the American coast, to consist of 74's, as British frigates cannot succeed against frigates commanded and manned by Americans.

On the 25th of October, off the Western-Islands, the Frigate United States, Com. Decatur, fell in with the British frigate Macedonian [built in 1810] Capt. Casden, (rated in Steel's list at 38 guns, but mounting 49) & carrying 306 men; and, after a close engagement of seventeen minutes, succeeded in capturing her. The Macedonian has arrived at Newport.

The energies of America are certainly capable of defeating every project of England, not only for the purposes of defence, but of offence also; nor is it improbable that America, if forced by England, will, in a few years, be in possession of a fleet sufficiently powerful to cope with the utmost maritime force which Britain can send into the American seas.

Col. Pike on the night of the 19th ult. with a small detachment, made an incursion of about 7 miles into the British

territory, attacked a post of the enemy, put the garrison to flight and burned a block-house. About 300 soldiers and sailors crossed the Niagara, took two batteries, spiked the cannon and returned. The successes attending these partial invasions are so many proofs that, if well supported, a serious impression might be made on the enemy's country. It is generally supposed that the reluctance of the militia to cross the line, is to be attributed, that the intended invasion has not hitherto taken place, and that operations must, from the lateness of the season, be suspended, at all the intended points of attack, until spring, when it must be attempted by a very superior force, or not at all. On the part of the general government, great exertions are making to supply the troops with military stores, clothing, food, &c. but it is probable, in order to render arms effectual against the enemy, that they must be put into the hands of regulars.

The Secretary of the Treasury has made his annual report to Congress.—He states the expence of the Army and Navy, for the ensuing year, without any increase, to be 23 millions. The Treasury notes have all been issued except about a million, which will probably be issued by March next. He proposes the issue of two millions more.—The receipts into the Treasury to meet the expences of the ensuing year, will be upwards of 12 millions, of this about 5 millions is calculated to come from imposts, &c.

Dr. Eustis has resigned his office as Secretary of War.—It is rumoured that he will be succeeded by gen. Armstrong.

FOREIGN.

By a late arrival at Boston, from England, we have received the 19th, 20th, and 21st Bulletins of the Grand Army, dated at Moscow, and which detail the proceedings of the French, from the battle of Moskwa, fought on the 7th Sept, until the 20th of the same month, at which time the Emperor Napoleon's head quarters was at Moscow, which city the French entered on "the 14th at noon."

After the defeat of the Russians on the 7th, they found it impossible to defend the ancient capital of Moscow; and, as if despairing ever to re-occupy it, the governor caused the city to be set on fire, before his flight; and, horrible to relate, thirty thousands of his sick and wounded countrymen are said to have perished in the flames, whilst 200,000 persons have been left houseless, and are

now wandering perhaps in the wilderness or begging for bread in the streets of St. Petersburg, the residence of their unamiable sovereign, who is soon likely to become a wretched dependant on his seducers, the English ministry, for subsistence, or linger the remaining part of his miserable existence a wretched exile in Siberia, among the numerous nobility sent to colonize those icy regions, by his semi-barbarous predecessors.

Such is the wretched condition of this unfortunate Emperor, that he appears to be totally insensible of his danger, nor even do his courtiers permit him to hear of that "deed without a name," the burning of Moscow, perpetrated by a barbarian, whose fellow we hope could not be found from the shores of the Baltic to the great wall of China. When this cowardly wretch fled from the city, that had been entrusted to his government, he issued the following order, which gives us a lamentable view of the state of society and manners in a city, the inhabitants of which could bear patiently to read such a production.

PRINTED BULLETIN OF THE GOV. GEN. OF MOSCOW.

"Sept. 12.—I shall proceed to-morrow to confer with His Highness the Prince Kutsovo, in order to adopt, in conjunction with him, such means as will lead to the extermination of your enemies.

"We will deprive these guests of their life and send them to the Devil.

"I will return to dinner, and will commence our operations to grind these perfidious wretches to powder."

Notwithstanding the removal of a considerable part of the stores and the destruction of more, the French will derive great supplies from the occupation of the remains of Moscow; already have they found 160,000 muskets, 129 pieces of mounted cannon, and ammunition sufficient for two campaigns. While these events are passing, Alexander and his Court sing *Te Deum* for victories which are vaunted for by the English ambassador Catchair, the celebrated lord who destroyed Copenhagen with the Congreve rockets.

In Spain, the progress of the English is arrested by the junction of various French Corps and the arrival of Massena with reinforcements.

The siege of Burgos has been raised by "the great Lord" Wellington, and it is probable another battle of Almonza will decide the fate of the English on the continent, and give peace to the distracted Kingdoms of Spain and Portugal.

Extracts.

New-London Gazette extra.

New-London, Dec. 5, 1812.

CAPTURE OF THE MACEDONIAN

Yesterday afternoon arrived off the light-house, the U. S. frigate United States, commodore Decatur. A gale of wind blowing, no communication was had with the shore until evening, when a boat came up to town with several officers, from whom the editor of the Gazette gathered the following information.

On the 25th of October, early in the morning, lat. 30, long. 26, the United States discovered the Macedonian to windward, and gave chase. The enemy bore down upon her, and about 10 o'clock a distant and partial exchange of shot commenced, when the Macedonian having her mizen-topmast shot away, bore down for closer action. In seventeen minutes after, she struck her colours to the United States.

The Macedonian was commanded by captain John S. Garden, esq. mounting 49 guns—had a full complement of men (about 300) 104 of whom were killed and wounded, among them no officer of rank. The United States had 12 men only killed and wounded, of the latter lieutenant Funk, who died of his wounds, a valuable officer, much esteemed in this city, and whose death will be universally regretted. The nation will render his name hallowed.

When the Macedonian struck, she had nothing standing but her fore and main-masts, and fore yard. The fore and main-masts were badly wounded, and every spar, even to the smallest, out. She received nearly 100 shots in her hull, several of which were between wind and water. All her boats were rendered useless, excepting a small one, which was veered out astern before the action commenced. During the action, the fire of the United States was so vivid, that the crew of the Macedonian cheered three times, conceiving her to be on fire—but so little was the United States impaired, that 5 minutes after she had possession of the Macedonian, she was completely ready for another action.

When captain Garden came on board the United States to present his sword to commodore Decatur, the commodore said—"Sir, I cannot receive the sword of a man who has so bravely defended his ship, but I will receive your hand." The reader can easily imagine what must have been the impression produced by this noble receipt of a vanquished enemy.

The Macedonian was built in 1810. She is how off Montauk Point.

Governor Ogden, of New-Jersey, has appointed Thursday, the 1st of January next, for a day of thanksgiving & praise in that state. His proclamation is eloquent and patriotic, and meets the applause of all parties. If he continues to administer the government as he has commenced, he will be in reality the governor of the state instead of a political section of the inhabitants, and merit the united support of the whole body of the people in future elections. *Column.*

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Elizabeth-Town, Nov. 16.

The commander in chief of the militia of New-Jersey, in consequence of a particular communication made to him by the General commanding at New-York and its dependencies, thinks it prudent to direct, that all the UNIFORM COMPANIES, whether of Cavalry, Artillery, Light-Infantry, or Riflemen, within the state, do hold themselves in readiness, upon a previous notice of twenty-four hours, to take the field fully equipped, each man having one good blanket and four days provision READY COOKED. The captains commanding companies of artillery will make contracts, on behalf of the United States, for a suitable number of horses and drivers, (by the day) to transport their respective field-pieces and their apparatus, to be paid only from the time of the order to march, until their return; and, also, will take immediate measures, such as are allowed by law, to put into good order every thing necessary for such transportation.

Each captain of an uniform company will make an immediate return to the present state of his company, both as to the men and their armament adding such general remarks, in regard to their present ability to take the field, as he may think proper, and transmit the same to the commander in chief without delay.

As these volunteer corps, in all sudden emergencies, form the first and best defence of the state, it is hoped that such as may be able, will display their zeal in joining themselves to some one or other of these uniform companies, as circumstances or inclination may lead, thus proving themselves a race of Jerseymen, not unworthy of their fathers.

AARON GEDDEN,
Commander in chief of the militia of New-Jersey.

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TERMS.

This Map will be delivered at the moderate price of Three Dollars, executed in a superior style, and elegantly coloured.

New-York, October 21, 1812.

The Gentlemen's Musical Repository.

THE subscriber begs leave to inform the public that the above work is now in considerable forwardness, and will be ready for delivery on the 1st of December next. The very extensive patronage which he has met, made it requisite to enlarge the number intended for the first edition, 500 copies, and consequently produced an unexpected delay in the publication. The size of the work has also (as a proof of the author's gratitude) been enlarged from 30 pages half quarto, to 48 pages octavo, being an increase of eight quarto pages—this form will also be more convenient to the musician.

Gentlemen wishing to subscribe for this work, will please to direct by letters, post paid, to the Shamrock Office 24 William-street, New-York. CHARLES P. F. O'HARA.

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