

THE MILITARY MONITOR, AND AMERICAN REGISTER.

"THE PUBLIC GOOD OUR END"

Vol. I.]

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1812.

[No. 10

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AND
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NEW-YORK, 1812.

Official.

By the President of the United States.
of America.

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS information has been received that a number of individuals, who have deserted from the army of the United States, have become sensible of their offences, and are desirous of returning to their duty.

A full pardon is hereby granted and proclaimed to each and all such individuals as shall, within four months from the date hereof, surrender themselves to the commanding officer of any military post within the United States, or the territories 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 eighth day of October, A. D. 1812, and the Independence of the United States the thirty-seventh.

JAMES MADISON.

By the President.

JAS. MONROE
Sec'y of State.

Captain PORTER's Correspondence with the Navy Department, Continued from No. 8.

[The following are the papers accompanying the preceding: viz. my two letters to Capt. Laughtarne, with his answer, verbal and written, to the first; a copy of the passport given to lieut. Wilmer and a copy of capt' Laughtarne's certificate, certifying the number of prisoners put on board the Alert.]

August 18, 1812

SIR—An arrangement has suggested itself to me which, in my opinion, is calculated to advance the interest of the United States, as well as that of his Britannic Majesty, and if acceded to by you small immediately be put into execution; should you object to the terms they will not after this be repeated, and the treatment usual to prisoners of war, will in future be observed towards your crew.

Art. I. The Alert to be deprived of all her armament, and to proceed under charge of an officer from this ship as a cartel to such British port as you may deem most advisable, and to take your officers and crew, together with the British captains and mates of merchant vessels, with their crews, now prisoners on board this ship.

Art. 2d. The officers to go on parole of honor, not to serve against the United States of America, during the existing war, unless regularly exchanged. The captains and mates of merchant vessels, and their crews, as well as the petty officers, seamen, marines, landsmen and boys composing your crew, to be exchanged immediately on their arrival in a British port, for an equal number of equal grades of American prisoners, and are not to serve against the United States until the exchange takes place.

Art. 3. The swords of the officers to be returned to them.

Art. 4. You to remain as a pledge for the faithful fulfilment of the foregoing articles.

I have the honor to be, &c.
(Signed) D. PORTER.

Capt. T. L. P. Laughtarne, late commander of his Britannic Majesty's sloop of war Alert—present.

After delivering the preceding letter to captain Laughtarne, he verbally informed me, "that his officers preferred remaining with him, sharing his fate, and as he was confident that some of the ship's company were much prejudiced against him, he did not wish them to go to Newfoundland, until he could be present to appear in his own justification, before they could have an opportunity of injuring his honor and reputation as an officer, both of which he held as inestimable, and as a court-martial could not take place in his absence." He then wrote me the following letter:

August 18, 1812.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, offering an arrangement for the officers and crew of his majesty's schooner Alert.

In answer thereto, I beg to inform you I accept and agree to the first, second and third articles, but permit me to mention my objection to the last, as it seems by your requiring me to remain as an hostage for the performance of the preceding ones, to cast (though I am willing to believe unintentionally) an indirect suspicion on the faith of the British government, so universally known for its fulfilment of every compact entered into by its public servants.

By your allowing me to accompany my ship's company and officers, I will pledge to you mine honor to see the articles of the release fully complied with on our arrival in a British port.

Should you object to this, my officers prefer remaining with me till we are regularly exchanged.

(Signed) T. L. P. LAUGHTARNE.
Late commander of H. B. sloop Alert.
Capt. D. Porter, U. S. frigate Essex.

August 18, 1812.

SIR—In reply to one paragraph in your letter in answer to the terms offered by me, I shall observe that, having in two former instances permitted carrels to proceed to British ports without reserving hostages, I have sufficiently evinced that I entertained the highest confidence in the honor and faith of the British government, as respect the fulfilment of compacts entered into by their officers; nor should I have proposed the last article in this instance, were it not that I felt a necessity for holding some pledge as a justification of my conduct to my own government for the unlimited confidence I have reposed; for the reasons (however) that you have stated, I am willing to yield that condition; and you may consider yourself at liberty to proceed with your officers and crew, and on the same terms

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed)

D. PORTER.

Capt. T. P. L. Langhorne, late commander of his B. M. sloop of war *Alert* present.

[Here follow copies of the agreement passport, &c. and a list of the prisoners.]

COPIES OF LETTERS,

Received at the Navy Department from Capt. Porter, of the United States Frigate *Essex*, of 32 guns.

SIR—On the afternoon of the 30th August in lat. 36, N. long. 62, W. discovered one of the enemy's frigates standing towards us under a press of sail, apparently with an intention of speaking us. Stood for him under easy sail, with the ship prepared for action; apprehensive that he might not find us in the night, I hoisted a light. At 9 he made a signal, consisting of two flashes and one blue light, apparently about four miles distance from us. I continued to stand on for the point where they were seen until midnight, when not getting sight of the enemy. I concluded that it would be best to heave to for him until day-light, presuming that he had done the same, or that he would at least have kept in our neighborhood; but to my great surprise, and the mortification of my officers and crew, (whose zeal on every occasion excites my admiration) we discovered in the morning that the bird had flown! From the latitude and longitude in which we saw this vessel, and from her fleetness, which enabled her to disappear so soon, I think it not unlikely that it was the *Acasta*, of 50 guns, and 350 men, sent out with so much parade, accompanied by the *Ring-Dove*, of twenty-two guns, to

capture the *Essex*! Perhaps, however, she went to seek her consort.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient serv't.

D. PORTER.

Hon. Paul Hamilton, Sec'y of the Navy

At sea, Sept. 5, 1812.

SIR—On the 4th inst. of the Tail of St George's Bank, I discovered two ships of war to the southward and a brig to the northward—the brig in chase of an American merchant ship, and I have not the slightest doubt of their being enemies—gave chase to the brig, which attempted to get pass us to join the rest of the squadron; this we prevented, and compelled her to stand to the northward; continued in chase until we got abreast of the American ship, when we gave over chase, as the wind was getting light and the brig leaving us with her sweeps out. On showing our colors to the American merchant ship, several signal guns were fired by the ships to the southward, which made all sail in chase of us. At 4 P. M. they had gained our wake, and had come up with us very fast. Calculating on making my escape by some manœuvre in the course of the night, I hoisted American colors and fired a gun to windward; the ships still continued to gain on us, the largest being considerably to windward of the other; and about five mile astern of us, bearing S. by W. I determined to heave about as soon as it grew dark, and in the event of our not being able to pass him, to fire a broad side into him and lay him on board. With this view made every arrangement and preparation, the crew in high spirits, and gave three cheers when the plan was proposed to them. At 20 minutes after 7, hove about and stood S. E. by S. (the wind heading us off the moment we hove in stays) until thirty minutes after 8, when we bore away S. W. without seeing any more of them, which seems the more extraordinary, as a pistol was fired by accident on board this ship at the moment when we must have been at our shortest distance from them. Finding myself thus cut off from New-York and Rhode Island, I made the best of my way to the Delaware.

Considering this escape a very extraordinary one, I have the honor to inclose you a sketch of the position of the two ships at three different periods, by which you will perceive at once the plan of effecting it.

I have the honor to be, with great respect your obedient serv't.

D. PORTER.

Hon. Paul Hamilton, Sec'y of the Navy.

Month of the Delaware, Sept. 7, 1812.

SIR—In pursuance of your orders of the 24th of June, I sailed from Sandy Hook on the 3d July, shaping my course to the southward. In the lat. 30, 52, N. lon. 66, 16, W. I captured the brig *Lamprey*, 12 days from Jamaica, by her I received certain intelligence that at the time of her departure, the *Thetis* frigate with specie and a large convoy for England, was to sail on or about the 26th of June, and that several running ships were also on the point of departure. I consequently made every exertion to get off St. Augustine in time to fall in with them, but without effect, as fresh gales prevailed from the southwest, and increased until the 19th of July, when we were compelled to scud.

I succeeded in getting within a few miles as far south as St. Augustine, but was baffled in every attempt to get to the westward; as the gales continued to increase; and as there was no probability of getting in-time to meet the convoy, I concluded it best to endeavor to intercept it on the Banks of Newfoundland, to which place I proceeded, taking Halifax in my way, and although I have been disappointed in my expectations, I hope that the facts above stated, and the services rendered by the *Essex*, may be considered a sufficient apology for departing from the letter of your instructions.

It is much to be regretted that I had not with me a sloop of war at the time I fell in with the convoy of the *Minerva*, (as well as on other important occasions) that the ships of the convoy might be kept in play while I engaged the frigate. Had this been the case, instead of taking only 200 prisoners, including the transport's crew, I have no doubt that we should have made prisoners of the whole of the troops, as well as the frigate's and transport's crews, which would have exceeded 2000 men.

I arrived here this morning and shall proceed as high up as Chester, &c.

I have the honor to be, &c.

D. PORTER.

Hon. Paul Hamilton, &c.

COPY

Of a letter from Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth, commanding his Britanic majesty's naval forces at Newfoundland, to D. Porter, Esq. commanding the U. S. Frigate *Essex*.

St. Johns, (Newfoundland) } August 5, 1812.

SIR—Your letter of the 2d inst. was delivered to me yesterday by Mr. M'Knight, Midshipman of the United States Frigate the *Essex*, under your command.

I am sensible of that good disposition that you have evinced to alleviate the

distresses of war, and would gladly have embraced your proposal for an exchange of the prisoners that we have respectively made; but I am sorry to say, that at the present moment and under the peculiar circumstances of the case, it is not in my power to do so.

In the first place, I have not yet received those instructions from my government which I consider necessary for the guidance of my conduct in respect to any such arrangement; and in the next, the officer whom you charged with the British Prisoners has only delivered to me a list of their names, without producing any of their persons, acquainting me that they had taken the vessel from him, and put into another port of this Island.

I can only therefore assure you that I shall report the matter fully to his majesty's government, transmitting a copy of your letter, and of the list of British prisoners by which it is accompanied.

I have had the pleasure of forwarding to Halifax the young gentleman you sent to me; and an opportunity having already occurred—And I have written to the commander in chief on that station, requesting that he will endeavor to provide the means of his conveyance to the United States.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your most obedient humble servant,
(Signed) I. T. DUCKWORTH.
To Cap. Porter,
Commandant of the U. States Frigate the Essex.

Extract of a letter from Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth to the Honorable Secretary of the Navy of the United States, dated St. Johns, (Newfoundland) August 31, 1812.

"A vessel captured, as the Alert has been, could not have been vested with the character of a cartel, until she had entered a port of the nation by which she had been captured, and been regularly fitted out from thence. For every prize might otherwise be provided with a flag of truce, and proposals for an exchange of prisoners; and rendered thus effectually secure against the possibility of recapture: while the cruising ship would be enabled to keep at sea with an undiminished crew; the cartels being always navigated by the prisoners of war.

"It is utterly inconsistent with the laws of war to recognize the principle upon which this arrangement has been made.

"Nevertheless, I am willing to give a proof at once of my respect for the liberality with which the Capt. of the Essex has acted, in more than one instance towards the British subjects who have fallen into his hands; of the sacred obligation that is always felt, to fulfil the engagements of a British officer; & of my

confidence in the disposition of his royal highness the Prince Regent, to allay the violence of war by encouraging a reciprocity of that courtesy by which its pressure upon individuals may be so essentially diminished.

"On the 4th of this month, a midshipman of the Essex arrived, and presented me a letter from his captain, proposing an exchange for 86 British prisoners. The midshipman had however been placed alone in the charge of one of the captured vessels, with 86 prisoners, to conduct them to this port. A list of 40 prisoners of the same description, disposed of in the same manner, has been sent to me by the commander of the American private armed schooner the *Rossie*.

"It is incumbent upon me to protest in the strongest manner against the practice of conducting exchanges upon terms like these; and to signify to you that it will be utterly impossible for me to incur, in future, the responsibility of assenting to them.

To the veterans who have served their country during the war of the revolution, and all those who from other causes have been exempted from military duty, the Captain General takes the liberty on this occasion, and in consequence of the act of AUG. respecting Volunteer Corps, to address himself.

The extent to which the sea-coast of this State may be exposed by the events of the war, is uncertain, and it can only be said that prudence requires every reasonable precaution for its security, and that our means are limited.

The regular troops of the Union, may be withdrawn for other objects, and we may be left for a short period to our own defence. The State Militia, may also be taken on pressing occasions to act within a neighbouring State, and whatever may be the feeling or wishes of the general government, we may still be left to this reserved force of the State, to repel invasion, but to render this force effectual it must be organized. The legislature, aware of these circumstances, by an act of the late session, have authorised the raising a body of volunteers from the exemptions for the defence of the State, and for suppressing insurrections. The manner in which this is to be done, will be examined by every enlightened freeman, and it is presumed, found satisfactory. It is only therefore necessary for the Captain General to remark, that this body of men is to be strictly considered as a body of State Troops who are not, (under any circumstances) to be marched out of the State—they are to be commanded by company officers of their own choosing, together with officers of a higher grade, appointed by the

Captain General. They may be raised for the term of three years, or for the war, a period which it is presumed will be much shorter, and are only to be called into the field by state authority, on sudden & pressing emergencies: but no expense is to be incurred by the state, unless the troops shall be called into service.

On this class of the citizens of our state, who have so much power to protect, and who are determined to render that protection effectual, the Captain General now calls for that measure of precaution, which the legislature have judged to be expedient, and solicits them to volunteer their services in the manner proposed for the defence of the State. No cause can be more pure and sacred, it only requires you to stand within your own State, and upon your own threshold, and with one accord to devote yourselves to the defence of your wives, your children, your old family fire-sides and every other object that can be justly dear to man upon earth.

Dated at Norwich, this 22d Sept. 1812.
By order of his Excellency the Cap. General.
EBEN. HUNTINGTON, Adj. Gen.
State of Connecticut.

By William Charles Cole Claiborne Governor of the State of Louisiana and commander in chief of the militia thereof.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, I have received information that a number of persons are combined in a project to invade the dominions of Spain, a state in amity with the United States, and are for that purpose assembling at or near Natchitoches, within the limits and jurisdiction of Louisiana, it becomes my duty to issue this my proclamation, hereby solemnly cautioning the citizens of this state against entering into, or in any manner countenancing the project aforesaid: and that no one may remain unadvised of the consequences which await the parties concerned, I do now make it known that by an act of congress of the United States, passed on the 6th day of June, 1794, it is declared, that "if any person shall within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States begin to set on foot, or provide or prepare the means for any military expedition or enterprise to be carried on from thence against the territory or dominions of any foreign prince or state, with whom the United States are at peace every such person offending shall upon conviction be adjudged guilty of a high misdemeanor, and shall suffer the same imprisonment, at the discretion of the court in which conviction may be had, so that such fine shall not exceed three thousand dollars, nor the term of imprisonment more than three years."

And I do enjoin and require all officers, civil and military, of this state, to be vigilant in the maintenance of order and the preservation of the laws.

Given under my hand & private seal, (there being no seal for the State yet provided) at New Orleans, on the eleventh day of August, 1812, and the thirty-seventh year of the Independence of the United States of America.

Wm. C. CLAIBORNE.

FOR THE MILITARY MONITOR.

Defence of New-York.

NO. VI.

Much as it is to be wished that some plan should be devised whereby such a disposition of our city militia and that of the neighbouring counties could be immediately made, as would provide for the security of the inhabitants of this city and its vicinage, and for what some may consider of more importance their "last property." I know that difficulties of a serious nature lie in the way of the execution of such an arrangement.

We can hardly believe ourselves at war, and seem to think our enemies not nearer than England!—a long peace, without saying worse of us, has certainly made us inactive, and we deem it unnecessary to prepare while we have time, as our exertions may never be necessary! our enemies know our situation and take good care not to alarm us unnecessarily. It is not yet the interest of the "mother country" to station a squadron at Sandy Hook, we might begin to think she was serious and perhaps we might "resolve unanimously" to learn how to defend ourselves. The British have bought experience dearly; and they have profited by it. Committees of safety, perched in each ward debating on the best means of catching Tories, have no terrors for them—the tarring and feathering even of their best friends would not interest them, nor would the sublime majesty of a mob strike them with terror; all these preparations would be viewed by them exactly in the light they deserved—as conductors serving to avert the spirit of the community from the one point towards which it ought to be directed—**OURSELVES**. They have only one committee to dread—that is an **UNITED PEOPLE**.

Aware of the jealousy with which the interference of officers of the line with the militia is viewed by many, and unacquainted with the established relation of the rank of their respective gen. officers in this city, I presume not to address either—my observations, in what follows, so far as relate to the organization of the militia, are addressed to the people—to those who can influence them by authority or by persuasion. The objects of the greatest importance in the operations of all military bodies are steady discipline and celerity of movement—a good or-

ganization of the troops the proper adjustment of each of the parts to the whole will enable a commander of common capacity to undertake enterprises with a few men, at which Moreau or Napoleon would shudder if placed at the head of a tumultuary mass whose immobility would render an advance un-ate or a combined retreat impossible surely there is not another situation in which an officer could be placed so unenviable as at the head of such an assemblage.

I know I shall acquire no popularity when I say that the whole of the militia of this city and county uniform corps "pioneers and all" constitute little better than such a mass as I have described—they are in a military sense scarcely movable. Thus I conceive to be the truth it is an opinion not hastily formed nor by one accustomed to consider mere parade movement of men in uniform as of more value than they are intitled to intrinsically.

"Time reveals all things" and it will show whether the man who palliates or conceals the imminence of danger, or he who probes the wound to the quick and arouses the patient to the true sense of it, is the real friend to his country. Whether he is the more useful soldier, the centinel who, deceived by appearances, mistakes foes for friends and proclaims "All's well," or he who, perceiving the approach of danger, loudly calls to his comrades to seize their arms and stand on their defence.

To avoid unnecessary expense is justly an object of general concern, and to unite simplicity of construction with utility ought to be a material object of research. With this view, it is proposed to begin the organization of the militia corps already mentioned in the following manner, permitting that we have every thing to do, consequently we must begin anew, with this exception however that the officers and non commissioned officers are supposed to have already a military existence.

These should immediately enrol every man in their respective beats capable of bearing arms, and wherever a doubt should exist in their minds that persons should give false reports of their age with a view of being excused to serve, such doubt ought not to hinder them of enrolling such persons.

Firemen and others such as men of certain professions excusable by law, civil-devant officers of corps which have become extinct, aliens, and the sick should also be enrolled in short it should be imperative on the officers and their assistants to make a faithful return of every man whom they should suppose capable of bearing arms. **AMICUS.**

FOR THE MILITARY MONITOR.

The prince de Ligne speaks admirably of the enthusiasm which a young soldier should possess, in ancient times, warriors felt it most forcibly; what would be thought of a modern hero, who should grasp the hilt of his sword at the sound of martial music? This did Alexander; what would be thought of one who should weep over the tomb of a celebrated hero? this too did Alexander and likewise Cæsar, over the tomb of the great Macedonian; let it not be forgotten that Epaminondas, when dying, kissed his shield as the instrument of his glory.

Machiavel in his art of war would have horsemen chosen from the cities, and foot from the country; this rule might have suited Italy; in his day; but with us, the best soldiers, of cavalry and foot are from the country; a too numerous army should not be allowed in any country, but surely some regular troops should lie maintained under every government;—the act of war does not consist in a few dry rules and battalion manœuvres one of its difficulties is to command with propriety and decision, and this is only learned by previous active obedience few generals comprehend the extent of their science, and for proper instruction, there should be men in all states to make war their study; great minds are contented with the gratitude of their country, men, why therefore do people always suspect a distinguished warrior of a design towards usurpation? in truth, the most dangerous usurper of authority are their own demagogues, Cataline and Lavagne were not remarkable for military prowess, and if some generals have been traitors, the account is balanced on the part of the Demagogues; the regular forces should indeed never bear a proportion with militia, and thus the danger of military oppression will be avoided.—I would remark, moreover that usurpations occur more frequently at the conclusion of wars when the regulars and militia are mingled; Cromwell was not a soldier by profession.

The art of war has this charm in common with other sciences; the most trifling progress in it, redoubles our emulations, and the connexion of ranks and duties is so intimate, that in regarding those of the private soldier, an officer learns his own—who will assert this important science has ever been perfectly comprehended? what General has fully attained to a knowledge of its various branches? what advantages of body and mind does it not require? one may say that Bonaparte became a great warrior in a few years; yes, but each successive year rendered him more perfect and from this and other examples, a young

officer should be convinced of the necessity of close application to the rudiments of his profession, on this principle rests the propriety of a standing force in every state, and I say again, the demagogues are more dangerous than the best officers; and the last will serve to keep the former in due obedience to the laws.

Machiavel argues against a standing army; but does he not weaken his argument, when he declares that "inexpedience makes a man cowardly and force mutinous; whereas, by being well armed, accommodated and exercised he imbues courage" again he says that "arms put legally into the hands of soldiers, never did, nor can do harm" this is certainly a mistake, for armed bodies whether regular or militia may prove dangerous when headed by ambitious chiefs; suppose the militia of Baltimore were again called out to preserve the peace, and through the influence of their officers to refuse to return to their homes; regular forces might be ordered to force them to obedience, partisans might arise on both sides and hence from their violence a civil war; his true as Machiavel observes, Rome preserved her liberties four hundred years and Sparta eight hundred with their armed militia, but Rome and Sparta were then uncorrupted; and thus the safest position may be dangerous some time or other, for the militia must be armed, or foreigners employed, which last is a certain step towards usurpation; the best mode is to arm and organize the militia and at the same time to maintain a small standing force—however the military of a country be regulated, it is certain, that when a state is once corrupted, corrupt men will rise to power the family of some new favored Otho, because he was like the former.

If a General be reserved in his conduct on ordinary occasions, his resolutions will not be questioned by his subalterns when secrecy is absolutely necessary; this is the best argument in favor of reserve in words and action; and here again, in asking advice, the compliment is the greater.

A body of troops, when fatigued, should not make a general attack; but partially press the enemy at different points; thus some attack while others breathe; general St. Cyr observed this rule at the attack of Rolensolm one of the Black mountain's.

An attack upon undisciplined troops should be quick & general, unless under particular circumstances disciplined armies are best attacked on the flanks, hanging upon them.

RUPERT.

(The remainder in our next.)

The Military Monitor.

NEW-YORK.

MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 19, 1812.

THE OBJECT.—What motive had England in forcing war on the United States, is a question in the mouth of every even the most indifferent politician; and what motive could she have? say we, ranking ourselves with the un-knowing ones. Much as we condemn British policy in many respects! we hitherto could discern in the projects of England some object, the attainment of which would be to them worth risking the possible evil that might result from failure.

In all the tyrannies and injustice duplicity, and treachery practiced towards Ireland, we saw an object—Ireland was to be made subservient to England—the Irish must not be manufacturers lest it might lessen the profits of the British manufacturer—the Irish must not have trade, lest it might injure the British monopolist—the Irish must not have arms lest they would use them for the benefit of Ireland, the Irish must not be educated lest they might read the Rights of man—the Irish must not have a resident parliament—their representatives should be too restless or uncomplying with the will of a British minister. All these advantages were to be acquired and to remain without tyranny and injustice to Ireland. Without tyranny, Ireland, the best prop of England, would assert her independence—without Ireland, England could not rule the seas. Here then was an object.

When England induced the Emperor of Germany to wage war against Louis the 16th, and the French people soon after the French revolution, when England subsequent to the death of Louis took a direct part in the war against the French people, when she poured out her treasures to subsidize a great portion of that incongruous association of kings, princes and potentates which were allied for the destruction of the French people, there was an object—France was to be partitioned, and the first, second, and third, sons of the British king, to be crowned at Paris. This project, the execution of which proved impracticable, did then appear to many good politicians as very feasible.

When England carried her arms into Egypt there was an object—Egypt was the high road to the British possessions in India, deprived of which Britain might possibly cease to exist as a nation—here then was an object, an object worth risking every thing for.

When England bombarded Copenhagen, there was an object. France, it could be seen, was going to command the European continent, and England could not support her independence without the mastery of the seas; the possession or destruction of the Danish fleet seemed necessary to this end, and was of course the object of this project.

When England carried her arms into Spain and Portugal there was an important object; the Peninsula had a long sea coast and a fleet; both of these in possession of France, and the maritime preponderance of England would be endangered.

The late war in Germany by which the Emperor of Austria became a political cypher and the present Russian war by which another

Emperor will probably be annihilated, had their objects. They both drew away the attention and resources of France from Spain and Portugal; and, although neither Germany nor Russia could procure advantages from these wars, yet England, the promoter of both, had an object, and one which was the most likely to rescue the Peninsula from the Bonaparte-dynasty.

Were we to follow England through all her wars and projects, previous to that in which she is now engaged against America, we could discover always objects—objects the attainment of which was either probable or apparently possible.

But when we come to the present war against the United States, we become bewildered in thought, wrapped up in amazement: without a practicable object, without a possible advantage, without provocation on the part of the United States, with every thing to lose and nothing to gain, England has waged war against the United States, against a government whose policy and interest was pacific—England was the first to transgress—England was the first to wage war, for such would be the true construction of English conduct previous to that moment when America, having exhausted endurance and negotiation, had no resource against the multiplied and multiplying infractions on her sovereignty, the plundering of her property, the enslaving of her citizens except an appeal to arms.

We shall in a future number, perhaps our next, offer some observations on the unwise, the extremely imprudent conduct of England towards the United States of America.

Summary.

The arrival of the British frigate *Janon*, in the bay of New-York, as a flag of truce, with despatches for the American government from Admiral WARREN, puts the arrival of the Admiral at Halifax beyond doubt. He arrived in the latter place on the 27th ult. on board the *San Domingo* of 74 guns. The report that the *Swiftsure* packet sailed lately from England as a flag of truce, direct for America, would justify the opinion that the Admiral is not invested with any other than war-powers; and that from him we are to expect only canon-law; his despatches by the *Janon*, probably relate only to some regulation respecting prisoners or other matter incidental to a state of war.

A number of troops, are said to have arrived at Pensacola, from the Havannah, and considerable reinforcements were arriving and expected at Halifax and Quebec, destined principally, as we believe, for the defence of Lower Canada, where the tug of war will probably be severe.

Our armies are yet but preparing for the active service for which they are destined—General Harrison has been appointed, by the President of the United States, commander in chief of the North Western Army. This army increases astonishingly in numbers, consisting principally of volunteers—the discipline of the troops seems well digested, and calculated not only for securing a communication with each other and with their country, but so as to effect such a junction as circumstances may require. The National Intelligencer gives an extract of a letter, dated at Chittagohe, Oct. 5, 1812, which states that "general Winchester was at or near Fort Defiance with about 3000

Ohio and Kentucky volunteers, and that a body of Indians and British, amounting to about 5000, with six pieces of artillery, lay encamped about 3 miles distance. Winchester was hourly expecting an attack."

"Our troops, though not led generally against the enemy, prove, in the few partial encounters which occur, to be more than a match will always prove victorious against the disciplined machines of despots; nor will our patriot-soldiers be entirely without discipline—this is daily acquiring by them, and their progress in military knowledge, is much promoted by the ardour with which they engage."

From the constant movement of troops, it is not easy to calculate the probable numbers at each of the principal points from whence invasions of Canada may be expected. The North Western Army, that at, or near Niagara, and that at Plattsburg may, without any material error, be estimated at between 25,000 and 30,000 men; and these armies can be quickly reinforced from encampments in the interior. A letter to the Editors, dated camp at Greenbush, October 10, says "There are here about 2500 men, artillery (light and heavy) infantry and dragoons, the greater part of which will shortly bend their steps to the North."

Among the captures by private armed vessels we notice the arrival of the British Packet *Princess Amelia*, from the privateer *Rossie*, captain Barney, after a desperate engagement.

The gallant captain Hull of the *Constitution* is appointed to the command of the naval station of New-York, some additional measures are in contemplation for securing the entrance of our harbour against British ships.

Lieut. Col. Miller, the brave commander of the 4th Regiment which was captured at Detroit, has been exchanged for the *Guerriere* Captain.

The Southern Indians are committing great depredations and massacres in East Florida; and the inhabitants were flying into Georgia.

From our fleet, at sea, we have no tidings. The result of their cruise, whatever may be their fate, will be honorable to themselves.

FOREIGN.

Bonnaparte, it appears, has taken possession of Smolensk a city within the Russian dominions from whence he will probably direct his course towards the city of Moscow. unless the Russians will prevent him, a circumstance which the immensely numerous, the well contented and well commanded troops of France forbid us to expect—should the French emperor reach Moscow, he will there dictate the terms on which Alexander may reign at Petersburg, it is certain that Sweden and Denmark must be parties to any terms that may be forced upon Russia, one of which indubitably would be a non-importation of British manufactures.

The siege of Cadiz was raised on the 24 August: the French prospects of conquering the Peninsula would seem to be at an end, or removed to a very distant period; it is however said that another large French army, is entering Spain in hopes of retrieving the late disasters. It is matter of melancholy reflection that Spain and Portugal should continue scenes of such desolating warfare without the prospect of any happy result, or that the inhabitants should be ruined by a conflict which, whatever may be the result, must leave them in slavery.

London papers to the 27th August have been received by ship *Charles* from Liverpool, no

material news is brought by her—it was much believed that the rescinding of the Orders in Council would produce peace with America—how shallow must be the politician who can believe that America will make peace on a mere promise to alter one mode of injuring her; for surely the rescinding of the Orders (if they can be so altered as to be actually rescinded) is no more than a promise to discontinue injury in that way—it contains no stipulation against enslaving our citizens, arming Indians, purchasing scalps, employing private spies, &c. &c.

The prince regent of Portugal has issued a decree, forbidding prizes taken by the ships or vessels of either the United States or Great Britain from entering the ports of that kingdom; excepting only in cases where the laws of nations require it; and even in these cases they are not to be permitted to sail or unload, nor be allowed to remain longer than that may be necessary to avoid danger, or procure such success as they may stand in need of.

List of Enemy's vessels, captured and brought into port or destroyed by the public and private armed vessels of the United States

(Continued from Niles's Weekly Register.)

121. Brig *Mary*, from Scotland for Newfoundland, captured by the *Yankee*, and released, to dispose of her prisoners, 47 in number.

122. Schooner *Venus*, with 119 puncheons of rum, sugar, &c. sent into Portland by the *Teazer* of New-York.

123. Ship *Osborne*, 10 guns, 13 pounders, 29 men, for Gibraltar for St. Andrew's in ballast, burthen 500 tons—sent into ditto by ditto after a long fight in which no person on either side was injured. It is said the governor of Nova-Scotia has offered 30,000\$ for the *Teazer*. This privateer carried only two guns, and at the time she captured the *Osborne*, had not 30 men.

124. Brig *Eliza*, from Jamaica for Halifax laden with rum and sugar, sent into New-York, by the *Marengo* of that port.

125. Brig *Richard*, 300 tons, laden with timber—sent into Marblehead by the industry, of Lynn.

126. Brig *Nancy*, with a full cargo of provisions—sent into Salem by the *Fair Trader*, of that port.

127. Brig ———, from Quebec for the West-Indies, laden with flour—sent into New-York by the *Bunker-Hill* of do.

128. Schooner ———, sent into Providence, (Me.) by the *Leander*, of Providence, (R. I.) 'Tis is the little privateer which certain persons at that place suak, to prevent such disasters.

129. Brig *Leonidas*, of 14 guns, a first rate vessel, from Jamaica for Belfast, laden with about 230 hhds sugar, 73 puncheons rum, coffee, pimento, &c. sent into Savannah by the *Mars*, of Norfolk. The brig was carried by boarding after a short resistance, in which she had one man wounded.

130. Schooner *Sky-Lark*, from Quebec for Martinique, laden with provisions, sent into New-York by the *Bunker-Hill*, of that port.

131. Brig *Lady-Freest*, from Halifax for Jamaica, sent into New-York by the *Marengo*, of do.

132. Brig *Friends*, sent into Boston by the Benjamin Franklin of New-York.

133. Brig *Mary*, from Pictou, for England—sent into ditto by ditto.

134. Ship *Jenny*, 19 guns and 18 men, from Liverpool for St. Johns, with salt—sent into Salem by the *Rossie* of Baltimore.

135. Ship *John* of Lancaster, 16 guns and 30 men, from London for Martinique—sent into Philadelphia by the United States' squadron under commodore Rodgers.

136. Schooner *John*, of 10 tons, from Point-Petre for Halifax, a very valuable and fast-sailing vessel, laden with sugar and rum, sent into Portland by the *Teazer* of New-York.

137. Ship *Grenada*, 11 guns, 30 men 700 tons burthen, laden with 700 hhds of sugar, with large quantities of cotton and coffee, from Point-Petre Guadalupe, for London, sent into Charleston, by the *Young Eagle* of New-York.

138. Schooner *Shadock*, also armed, from Antigua for Liverpool, laden with molasses, in company with the *Grenada*, sent into ditto. The *Eagle* carries but one man and 42 men—she engaged the *Grenada* and *Shadock* at the same time, and in an hour and a half captured them both. The captain of the *Shadock* was killed and two of his men wounded; three men were wounded on board the ship—no person hurt belonging to the privateer.

139. Barque *Diana*, with a valuable cargo of rum, sugar, &c. worth 100,000\$ sent into Savannah, by the *High Flyer* of Baltimore.

140. Brig *Koebuck*, with a full cargo of rum, from Grenada, laden with rum, sent into New-York by the *Rosamond* of N. York. The *Koebuck* is a very valuable vessel, formerly belonging to the United States, but feebly captured under the orders in council.

141. Ship *GUERRIERE* capt. Dacres, of 49 guns and 509 men, captured by the United States frigate *Constitution* after a very short action, in which the Englishman was so terribly maulled, having also lost his three masts, as to make it impossible to get him into port. The *Koebuck* burnt him—see official account.

142. Brig *Lady Warren*, from St. Marks, taken by the frigate *Constitution* and burnt.

143. Brig *Abena*, from Nova Scotia for New-Castle, Eng. taken by ditto and ditto.

144. Barque *Harriet* of Liverpool, from Maranhack, taken by ditto.

145. Brig *Duchess* of Portland, from New-Castle for Pictou, taken by the squadron under commodore Rodgers and burnt.

LOSS OF THE PRIVATEER SCHOONER HIRAM.

Extract of a letter from Mr. John R. Dicker to the editor of the New-England Gazette, dated St. Barles, Sept. 12, 1812.

"I received the following account of the loss of the privateer schooner *Hiram*, of Bristol, (R. I.) James Wilson, commander, from the carpenter."

On the 19 of Aug. 1812, at 2 P. M. lat. 19, 45 N. being at the foretop, heard a pistol go off; soon after she blew up, carrying every thing on the quarter deck, together with all the cabin furniture, into the air; I then came down and assisted in clearing away the boat, in order to save some of our lives, as the schooner was sinking—after we got the boat out she was upset several times, so many getting in her, the boatswain however persuaded them that he would make a raft, which he attempted but found impossible. At length we got our boat ready, and six of us got in her, viz. Samuel Colman, carpenter; Robert, Robinson boatswain; Saml. Brown, seaman, Charles Prince, seaman, William Charles, cook (the two latter were coloured) and Harry a mulatto boy, who was so much burned

and wounded that he died in about two hours after leaving the wreck. We then cut two pieces out of his thighs (which we dried in the sun and committed the body to the waves) on which we subsisted, without any fresh water, four days and a half.

Before we left the unfortunate spot, we looked for an officer to assist us in navigating our boat; but not finding any, we put up a prayer to God to carry us to some of the islands, after this we rowed to the south all night, and made this we rowed round to leeward. At 2 P. M. we landed on Barbuda, being all able to walk but Brown, him the inhabitants carried with us to the governor, John James Esq. who treated us in the most humane and tender manner, giving us every assistance in his power. After remaining three or four days, we went sent to Antigua, where the American Consul treated us very ill; and the boatswain Brown and myself begged a passage on board a schooner. Capt. Dunlap, bound to St. Barts, where we arrived on the 6th Sept. and received all the assistance we needed from the benevolent Capt. William, R. Noyes, whose kindness we shall never forget.

Extracts.

In the following extract from the discourse delivered by the rev. Mr. HARGROVE to the "first Baltimore volunteers," previous to their departure to the "tented field," the reader will discover patriotism and eloquence—the citizen-soldier will feel his enthusiasm rising and keeping level with the devotion of the preacher; readers of every rank and station will participate in the feelings with which Mr. HARGROVE must have inspired his hearers on that day when the best sons of Baltimore assumed the buckles to avenge the wrongs inflicted on their country. Every parent (and many there are) whose children died in a "floating hell" will sympathize with the bereaved HARGROVE; all, all will shudder and feel indignant; eternal hatred to the enemy of mankind will almost supersede the divine doctrine of forgiveness; the unnatural and religious excesses of the enemy raise, in the breasts of the injured, a struggle between religion and nature which requires a God to reconcile.—With HARGROVE let us drop a tear; but, like his, let it be dried up by the fervor of patriotism. *Ed. Mon.*

"A longer endurance of British outrage on our national rights, would only mark the degradation of the American character, and sink us, even in our own esteem. Rise, then, in all the majesty of your character, as American citizens, follow your leaders, and fear no danger. Rise and face your old and proud oppressors, whom you have formerly conquered while you were but in your cradle. They are mercenaries:—you are freemen. They fight for sixpence a day, and without hope of any greater reward; you fight as lords of the land; and for a

country that has provided and reserved for you, a princely inheritance, and a crown of honorable fame. My prayers shall go with you: 'tis all I have to give. Had I yet a son:—Had I fifty sons, I would not keep one back in this day of my trial, I had a son:—I have a son no more! I permitted him to go to sea, at the age of 17, to visit foreign climes:—after a few months absence he panted again for the atmosphere of liberty, and twice attempted to return, but twice was pressed, by the proud mistress of the ocean, and confined on board "a floating hell!"—He attempted a third time to reach me; and found a refuge from his bondage in the watery deep. O! shall not God visit for these things? Shall not his soul be avenged on such a nation as this?"

We have occasionally announced such appointments in the Army, &c. as have come to our knowledge; but it is very probable that some of these which have been made have never been so published by us. We therefore publish the following complete List of the General Officers of the United States' Army.

Major-Generals.
HENRY DEARBORN.
THOMAS PINCKNEY.

Brigadier-Generals.
James Wilkinson, Thomas Flournoy,
Wade Hampton, John Armstrong,
James Winchester, John Chandler,
Joseph Bloomfield, Wm. H. Harrison,
William Hull, John P. Boyd,

Quarter-Master-Generals.
MORGAN LEWIS.
Adjutant-Generals.
THOMAS CUSHING.
Inspector-General.
ALEXANDER SMYTH.

Certain reports having gone forth injurious to the reputation of captain H. Brush, the commandant of the Chillicothe volunteers, who were escorting provisions to Detroit, a court of inquiry was ordered at his especial request, which was convened at Chillicothe on 13th instant. The esquire, who stated that when captain Elliot reached the American camp at the river Raisin with the flag of truce, captain Rowland & a guard of twelve men were detached to receive him; that on captain E's approach he presented certain papers of captain R. including a copy of the capitulation at Detroit; but so strong were the feelings of R. that on looking them over, he exclaimed with great warmth and indignation, "Treason by G—d! that the sensation prevailed the whole camp, and that captain Brush

on inspecting these papers pronounced them palpable forgeries, and told the officer that he should detain him until he was further advised, and hold him responsible for the consequences." The witness goes on to state, that the troops being at length reluctantly compelled to yield assent to its repeated confirmations brought to the camp by the number of soldiers who arrived there in the afternoon, a council of war was called, which decided that these troops were not bound by the capitulation of Detroit, and that the best service they could render to the United States was to break up the camp, and bear away all the public property which they could save, the design was accordingly carried in to execution on the next day (Aug. 17) at 11, P. M.—All the public property was saved which circumstances would permit. Captain E. was released as soon as it was confirmed that the documents were true; and on being invited, supplied with the commandant, and laid down in his marquee.

On these facts the court did not hesitate one moment to report their opinion that "during this campaign capt. Brush had behaved in all things as became a brave and prudent officer." *Enquirer.*

The Governor of South-Carolina in his message to the Legislature at the opening of their extra sitting on the 24th ult. says—

"It affords me satisfaction to state that our quota of 5000 men was organised with expedition and is composed principally of volunteers. In many cases the draft was resorted to only to decide who should have the privilege of being accepted as a part of the quota: in some instances, officers who could not obtain commands have volunteered as privates. The military ardor of our citizens has every where evinced itself by a readiness to serve the country: nor has their patriotism been shaken by the suffering and privation of the camp, the hardships and fatigues of which (more trying than the dangers of battle) are borne by them without a murmur.

Nearly 60 companies have volunteered from the state of Pennsylvania, including Cavalry, Infantry, and Riflemen. From these is to be taken the detachment of 2000 men called for from that state.—The Adjutant General in his orders to them says—"It is confidently expected that the patriotism of the volunteers is too sincere and ardent to permit them to make any objections to crossing the boundary line of the U. S. otherwise they will render no service to their country." [N. Y. *Thoenasia.*

From Cobbett's Weekly Register of August 4, 1812.

To the Prince Regent on the dispute with America

It has been stated, with an air of triumph, by the partisans of your ministers that the *opposition* are pledged to support a war against America, unless she is satisfied with the repeal of the orders in council. But, the *people*, sir, have given no such pledge; the manufacturers have given no such pledge; and the war will not be a jot the more popular on account of its having the support of that set of men who are called the *opposition*, and for whom the people have no respect any more than they have for their opponents. The orders in council were a grievance to America, but not a greater grievance than to see her citizens dragged by force into a service which they abhor on so many accounts however unpleasant and honorable it may be to our own countrymen. This grievance was known to exist; and, therefore, if the *opposition* have given a pledge to support a war against America, unless she be satisfied with the repeal of the orders in council alone they have given a pledge to do that in which they will not have the support of the people.

I am one of those, sir, who do not regard a great extension of trade as a benefit; but, those who do; must lay their account with seeing much of our trade destroyed for ever by a war with America. Three or four years of war would compel her to become a manufacturing country to such an extent as never more to stand in need of English goods; so that if your royal highness's ministers do insist on exercising the power of seizing people on board of American ships at sea, those persons who manufacture goods for America must seek another market, for that is closed against them for ever.

For many years, sir, there has existed in this country a faction perfectly desperate in their hatred of freedom.—They not only hate all free nations, but they hate the very word of freedom. I am well satisfied that persons of this description would gladly hear of the murder of every soul in America. There is nothing that they hate so much as a man who is not a slave, and who lives out of the reach of arbitrary power. These persons will be exceedingly grieved to see peace restored between the two countries on terms equally honorable to America; but I am, for my part ready to confess that with me it will be a subject of joy; I am ready to declare that I see less reason than ever for an Englishman's wishing to see the people of America hum-

bled or brought down, and that it will grieve me exceedingly to reflect that England is taxed and that English blood is shed, for the purpose of enforcing the power to impress American seamen; but this mortification I shall, I trust, be spared by the humanity and wisdom of your royal highness.

From the London Morning Chronicle, Aug. 4
They (the British ministers) think lightly of the people of America, who do not see the lamentable evil that are like to spring from the war so unhappily begun. The demand for more troops for the reinforcement of our garrison—the demand of ships and seamen to organize blockades at the mouths of their numerous rivers—the stopping again of our looms and manufactories, in the moment when trade was about to revive—and with these the injury to our revenue, and the preventions of all power of diminishing our own expence, are evils of a magnitude which must strike every considerate man—and which would have influenced any prudent and rational government.

From the Peterburgh Intelligencer.

We feel an honest pride in re publishing the following letter and the handsome compliment which succeeds it.—The one asserts facts; and the other, we have the vanity to say, offers not an unmerited eulogy to the spirit which has always animated our little town.

Petersburg has not only produced 100 likely young men (of manly souls and Spartan spirit) to assist in combating the enemies of our common country; but it has also raised the means to equip this gallant band in the most splendid style, and to smooth their road to the "tented field." The company will march supplied with every comfort which it is possible for the most liberal imagination to conceive. Nor have the minds of our females been divested of those feelings of patriotism which they owe their country, and of gratitude which are due to the defenders of the Republic. They have prepared for the company an elegant Stand of Colors, and their fair hands are now employed in completing the Uniform, Knapsacks, &c. in time for the parade on the 15th. So incessant, indeed, have been the demands for work, that the tailors, &c. have not been able to cut out the garments, &c. with sufficient rapidity, to comply with them.

The company will take up the line of march on the 20th. Recruits are offering daily. Many (owing to the restrictions as to number) will have to be rejected!

Postscript.

An arrival from England, brings papers to the 4th Sept.—no news.

The Barbadoes frigate, & the schooner Mary & Emilie (her prize) from Bordeaux for New-York, are cast away on the Isle of Sables.

A Messenger (a post Captain) in the Navy from England, has arrived at this port, in the *Swiftsure*, with an authenticated copy of the repeal of the Orders in Council. It is said that he brings instructions to Mr Baker, the British Charge d'Affaires to return to England, if the repeal is not immediately acted on by the United States Government, as the basis of a peace.

The Canandaigua Messenger (extra) of the 10th inst. brings an account that the sailors lately arrived on the lines together with a party of militia, amounting to 200 men, went from Buffalo in boats, and took the British vessels, the brig Adams (surrendered at Detroit) and the schr. Caledonia which were lying under protection of the British Fort Erie, which they succeeded in running aground at Black-Rock; they also made 50 prisoners. The British battery opposite Black-Rock, kept up a desultory fire, which was continued when the *Stag* left Buffalo, on the morning of the 9th. Major Wm. H. Cuyler, aid to gen. Hull, while riding on the beach, was unfortunately struck by a shot which put an instantaneous period to his existence.

United States Revenue.—We think it highly probable, from the great influx of British goods, and the brilliant success of our privateers, that the revenue of the United States in the present year, to be derived from duties on import and tonnage, will amount to at least twenty millions of dollars, instead of five millions, as estimated by the secretary of the treasury—for the British goods, be their fate what it may, must pay the duties upon them. To recruit the treasury, to aid the war, and make their own fortunes, the Baltimore cruisers are doing their full share; and will, if their good luck continues, be the means of contributing a million to the public purse. Besides, we are fitting out several other vessels to help them in the good work; and in all parts of the United States, we observe an increased and constantly increasing desire, to raise the revenue, by bringing in as many enemy's ships as possible. [Weekly Reg.]

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