

from incumbrances, and belonging exclusively to the occupier. A farmer in these circumstances, did he duly estimate his own lot in life, would see a hundred reasons of gratitude to one for complaint.

A practical farmer, whose livelihood depends upon this calling, should make it the pinnacle of his worldly ambition to excel in it. If he neglect his farm for almost any thing else, he is generally a loser both in interest and credit.—Solomon, the wisest observer of men and things, tells us of his disgust at sight of the lands of a slovenly farmer. "I went by the field of the slothful— and lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down."—Owner, where art thou? Perhaps dozing away thy time in slumber and in sloth; perhaps spending it at the tavern; or perhaps dreaming of promotion, or engaged in the business of some petty office. Better mind thy own proper business: else "shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man." A farmer, on the other hand, who keeps his lands and his stock in excellent order, need not be ashamed even were Solomon himself passing by. Every passing traveller no sooner casts his eyes over such a farm, than he honors the proprietor in his heart. The proprietor moreover is sure to receive for his pains, something more solid than mere honor—a comfortable decent livelihood, for which he is indebted to Him only, whose is the earth, and the fulness thereof.

It is not the abundance of land, but the thorough and skilful cultivation of it, that fills the barns with hay, the cribs with corn, and the mansion house with plenty. For one to crave a larger farm than he can cultivate to profit is therefore an expensive folly: for whatever a neglected field is worth, the interest of that capital, together with yearly taxes, will at length eat the field up.

If a farmer neglect his farm, his farm will neglect him. The husbandman must first labor, else he partaketh not of the fruits. He must be vigilant, else the carelessness will waste and lose what industry gains. He must be economical and frugal; else his outgoes exceeding his incomes, he is sure finally to "come out at the little end of the horn." He must not feel himself above his business, else he will find himself below it. He must always mind to do every thing in its season, else he will have double work, and half crops.—Finally, he must study agriculture as a practical science, and make use of the means in his power to increase his information and skill in this business; else will he neither shine in his calling nor reap the profits from it, which he might, and which others actually do.

Farmers, venerate the plough, the hoe, the scythe and the sickle. If you exchange the implements of husbandry for other means of livelihood, you venture in a lottery where there are several blanks to a prize. "Look over your lands, and see what parts may be cultivated to more advantage—how you can raise more grain and flax—keep more cows and sheep—fat more cattle—sell more beef and pork, and other articles of produce. Study agriculture; carry it to the greatest perfection. It is the basis of our wealth, of manufactures, and of commerce."

WASHINGTON CITY, May 28.  
Copy of a letter from Commodore Rogers to the Secretary of the Navy.  
U. S. Frigate President, off Sandy Hook, 23d May, 1811.  
SIR—I regret extremely being under the necessity of representing to you an event that occurred on the night of the 16th inst. be-

tween the ship under my command and his Britannic Majesty's ship of war the Little Belt, commanded by Capt. Bingham: the result of which has given me much pain, as well on account of the injury she sustained, as that I should have been compelled to the measure that produced it, by a vessel of her inferior force. The circumstances are as follows:—On the 16th inst. at 25 minutes past Meridian, in 17 fathom water, Cape Henry bearing S. W. distant 14 or 15 leagues, a sail was discovered from our mast head in the East, standing towards us under a press of sail. At ½ past 1 the symmetry of her upper sails (which were at this time distinguishable from our deck) and her making figure showed her to be a man of war. At 45 minutes past 1, P. M. hoisted our ensign and pendant: when, finding her signals not answered, she wore and stood to the southward. Being desirous of speaking her, and of ascertaining what she was, I now made all sail in chase; and by ½ past 3 P. M. found we were coming up with her; as by this time the upper part of her stern began to show itself above the horizon. The wind now began, and continued gradually to decrease, so as to prevent my being able to approach her sufficiently before sunset to discover her actual force. (which the position she preserved during the chase was calculated to conceal) or to judge even to what nation she belonged: as she appeared studiously to decline showing her colors. At 15 or 20 minutes past 7, P. M. the chase took in her studding sails, and soon after hauled up her courses, and hauled by the wind on the starboard tack; she at the same time hoisted an ensign or flag at her mizen peak; but it was too dark for me to discover what nation it represented; nor for the first time her broad side was presented to our view; but night had so far progressed that altho her appearance indicated she was a frigate, I was unable to determine her actual force.

At 15 minutes before 8 P. M. being about a mile and a half from her, the wind at the time very light, I directed Capt. Ludlow to take a position to windward of her and on the same tack, within short speaking distance. This however the commander of the chase appeared from his manœuvres to be anxious to prevent, as he wore and hauled by the wind on different tacks four times successively between this period and the time of our arriving at the position, which I had ordered to be taken. At 15 or 20 minutes past 8, being a little forward of her weather beam, and distant from 70 to 100 yards, I hailed "what ship is that?" Having asked the first question, I of course considered myself entitled by the common rules of politeness to the first answer; after a pause of 15 or 20 seconds, I reiterated my first inquiry of "what ship is that?" and before I had time to take the trumpet from my mouth, was answered by a shot, that cut off one of our maintop-mast breast back stays and went into our mainmast—at this instant, Capt. Caldwell (of marines) who was standing very near to me on the gangway having observed "she has fired at us," caused me to pause for a moment. Just as I was in the act of giving an order to fire a shot in return; and before I had time to resume the repetition of the intended order, a shot was actually fired from the second division of this ship; and was scarcely out of the gun before it was answered from our assumed enemy by three others in quick succession, and soon after the rest of his broadside and musketry. When the first shot was fired, being under an impression, that it might possibly have proceeded from accident and without the orders of the commander, I had determined at the moment to fire only a single shot in return, but the immediate repetition of the previous unprovoked outrage induced me to believe that the insult was premeditated, and that from our adversary being at the time as ignorant of our real force as I was of his, he thought this, perhaps, a favorable opportunity of acquiring promotion, altho at the expence of violating our neutrality & insulting our flag: I accordingly with that degree of repugnance incident to feeling equally determined neither to be the aggressor, or to suffer the flag of my country to be insulted with impunity, gave a general order to fire; the effect of which, in from 4 to 6 minutes, as near as I can judge, having produced a partial silence of his guns, I gave orders to cease firing, discovering by the feeble opposition that it must be a ship of very inferior force to what I had supposed, or that some untoward accident had happened to her.

My orders in this instance however (altho they proceeded alone from motives of humanity and a determination not to spill a drop of blood unnecessarily) I had in less than four minutes some reason to regret, as he renewed his fire, of which two 32 pound shot cut off one of our four-throwers and injured our fore-mast. It was now that I found myself under the painful necessity of giving orders for a repetition of our fire against a force which my forbearance alone had enabled to do us any injury of moment: our fire was accordingly

renewed and continued from 3 to 5 minutes longer, when perceiving our opponent's gaff and colors down, his maintop-sail yard up on the cap and his fire silenced, altho it was so dark that I could not discern any other particular injury we had done or how far he was in a situation to do us further harm, I nevertheless embraced the earliest moment to stop our fire and prevent the further effusion of blood. Here a pause of half a minute or more took place, at the end of which, our adversary not shewing a further disposition to fire, I hailed and again asked "what ship is that?" I learned, for the first time, that it was a ship of his Britannic Majesty's; but owing to its blowing rather fresher than it had done, I was unable to learn her name. After having informed the commander of the name of this ship, I gave orders to wear round under his lee and haul by the wind on the starboard tack, and heave to under topsails and repair what little injury we had sustained in our rigging, which was accordingly executed, and we continued lying to on different tacks with a number of lights displayed, in order that our adversary might the better discern our position, and command our assistance, in case he found it necessary during the night. At day light on the 17th, he was discovered several miles to leeward, when I gave orders to bear up and run down to him under easy sail: after hailing him I sent a boat on board with Lieut. Creighton, to learn the names of the ship and her commander, with directions to ascertain the damage she had sustained, and to inform her commander how much I regretted the necessity on my part which had led to such an unhappy result; at the same time to offer all the assistance that the ship under my command afforded, in repairing the damages he had sustained. At 9 A. M. Lieut. C. returned with information that it was his Britannic Majesty's ship Little Belt, commanded by Capt. Bingham: who, in a polite manner declined the acceptance of any assistance; saying, at the same time, that he had on board all the necessary requisites to repair the damages, sufficiently to enable him to return to Halifax.

This however was not the most unpleasant part of Capt. Bingham's communication to Lt. Creighton, as he informed him, that, in addition to the injury his ship had sustained, between 20 and 30 of his crew had been killed and wounded.

The regret that this information caused me, was such, you may be sure, as a man might be expected to feel, whose general pride is to prove, without ostentation, by every public as well as private act, that he possesses a humane and generous heart; and with these sentiments, believe me, sir, that such a communication would cause me the most acute pain during the remainder of my life, had I not the consolation to know that there was no alternative left me between such a sacrifice, and one which would have been still greater, namely, to have remained a passive spectator of insult to the flag of my country, whilst it was confided to my protection—and I would have you to be convinced, sir, that however much individually I may previously have had reason to feel incensed at the repeated outrages committed on our flag by British ships of war, neither my passions nor prejudices had any agency in this affair.

To my country, I am well convinced of the importance of the transaction which has imposed upon me the necessity of making this communication; I must, therefore, from motives of delicacy, connected with personal considerations, solicit that you will be pleased to request the President to authorize a formal inquiry to be instituted into all the circumstances, as well as into every part of my conduct connected with the same.

The injury sustained by the ship under my command is very trifling, except to the fore and main masts, which I before mentioned; no person killed, and but one (a boy) wounded.

For further particulars I refer you to Capt. Caldwell, who is charged with the delivery of this communication.

I have the honor to be,  
With great respect,  
Sir, your obedient servant,  
(Signed) JOHN RODGERS.  
Hon. PAUL HAMILTON,  
Secretary of the Navy.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### Baptism of the KING of ROME.

On the 20th March at 9 in the evening, the King of Rome was christened in the Thuilleries Chapel. His Majesty, the Emperor, accompanied by the Princes, Princesses, and Great Dignitaries, was followed by two witnesses of the ceremony. The Great Officers, Ministers, the Grand Eagles of the Legion of Honor, Military Officers, Pages bearing flambeaux, and the Heralds of Arms. The Chapel had been prepared for his Majesty the Emperor with a *fautail*, surmounted

by a canopy, and provided with a praying desk. The King of Rome, preceded by his Officers, was carried by his Governour, the Marshal Duke of Congliano, carried the end of his mantle. The galleries of Chapel were filled by the persons belonging to the Court. His Majesty was received at the gate of the church by his Eminence the Cardinal Grand Almoner, who presented to him the blessed water. He was seated betwixt the altar and the balustrade upon a tapestry of white velvet, a stand of granite, surmounted by a magnificent vermilion vase, forming the baptismal font. The two sponsors were the Archduke Grand Duke of Wurtzburg, uncle of the Empress, and Prince Eugene, the late Empress's son. On the right of the altar were the Cardinals, on the left the Bishops, in their robes and ratchets. All having taken their places, the Cardinal Grand Almoner sang the *Veni Creator*, accompanied by the music of the chapel. After the hymn, his Majesty advanced the seat, towards which his Majesty advanced with the child and the sponsors, and presented the child to be baptised. This ceremony was followed by *Te Deum*, sung by all the music of the chapel. During the *Te Deum*, the King of Rome carried by his Governours and attended by his state officers, by an Aid-de-Camp of the Emperor, four Chamberlains, two Grooms, and a Master of the Ceremonies, preceded by four pages, was carried back to his apartment. M. the Count of Lacedede, Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honor, and M. the Count of Marefcalchi, Grand Chancellor of the Order of the Iron Crown, after having received the orders from the Emperor, carried the grand cordon of these orders to the King of Rome. During the ceremony a beautiful display of artificial fire-works, and the most brilliant illuminations throughout the whole city, satisfied the public joy.

On the 22d of March the Emperor, being on his Throne, surrounded by the Princes of his family, and all the great Officers of State, an address was presented to him by the Senate, in which it was stated that the happiness of his people was his first object. The Emperor replied thus—

"The testimony of France goes directly to my heart. The great destiny of my son will be accomplished. With the love of the French every thing will be easy for him. I am pleased with the sentiments you express."

The Council of State was presided by the Prince, Arch Chancellor of the Empire, and made a similar Address.—His Majesty replied:—

"I have eagerly desired what Providence has granted me. My son will live for the happiness and glory of France. Our children will devote themselves for her happiness and glory. I thank you for the sentiments which you express."

From Cadiz papers of April 9.  
ELVAS, March 26.—In the action of yesterday, between Campo Mayor and Badajoz, 500 of the enemy's cavalry were killed and they left 24 pieces of cannon.

The army of Marshall Beresford have not passed the Guadiana, but preparations are made for it.

CADIZ, April 9.—The Council of Regency, well satisfied with signal services and merit of the general officers and men, who with equal obstinacy and valor, have given to the country one of its proudest days, has manifested its extraordinary pleasure and gratitude to the allies, and she does the same to the Spanish army, and it has ordered that the necessary information may be collected respecting those who distinguished themselves, in order to grant them the rewards which are due.

The general and extraordinary Cortes, being informed of the valor, intrepidity and good order with which the officers and soldiers of the 4th army fought the enemy on the 5th ult. declared themselves satisfied with their military conduct, and requested that it may be signified to them by the Council of Regency, and has ordered it to be published in orders of the day.

Finally the Council of Regency has been with satisfaction, the lists transmitted by the general in chief, and others in command, recommending the officers of every class, sergeants, corporals and soldiers, who possessed particular merit in this battle, and from a view thereof will attend to them in due time.

GIBRALTAR, March 30.—A division of about 7000 men, (foot and horse) sailed from Cadiz Bay on the 18th inst. and landed the next day at Palos, where it was supposed they would immediately proceed to join Ballaberos, and subsequently march with him, on to Seville. On the day the expedition set sail, Victor made vigorous attacks