THE MILITARY MONITOR,
AND
AMERICAN REGISTER.

"THE PUBLIC GOOD OUR END."

Vol. 1.]

[No. 20.

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N. YORK, 1812.

OFFICIAL.

DOCUMENTS

Accompanying the President's Message to Congress.

(Continued)

MR. RUSSELL TO MR. MONROE.

London, 19th September, 1812

Sir—On the 12th instant I received your letter of the 27th of July last, and the copies of my note to lord Castler-ech, and of his lordship's reply enclosed herein, will inform you that the propositions, made in consequence of it, have been rejected.

As I have but this moment heard of the immediate departure of the Friends, I have time only to add, that I have received the communications of Mr. Graham of the 9th and 10th of August, by the Cleaner, and that I leave London this evening, to embark on board the Lark, at Plymouth, for New-York.

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

An interesting interview took place between lord Castlercegh and myself on the 16th inst, the account of which I must, for want of time, reserve until I have the honor to see you.

(Signed) JONA. RUSSELL.

POSTSCRIPT.

MR. RUSSELL TO LORD CASTLEREAGH.
18, Bentinck St. 12th Sept. 1812

[Private]

My Lord—In consequence of additional instructions which I received from my government this morning, I called about noon at the Foreign Office, and found with regret that your lordship was out of town. My object was to communicate to your lordship the powers under which I act, that you might perceive their validity and extent. I have, however, sought to state them substantially in the official letter which I have herewith the honor to transmit to your lordship, but should you find any thing that stands in need of explanation, previous to being submitted to his royal highness, I shall remain at 18, Bentinck street, to receive the compliments of your lordship. If your lordship could, in courtesy, find any motive in my personal convenience to hasten a decision upon the propositions which I have submitted; the season of the year, my anxiety to depart (all my arrangements being made and all my baggage having left town) and the detention of the Lark at much expense, will plead powerfully in my favor.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration, your lordship's very obedient and very humble servant.

(Signed) JONA. RUSSELL.

Lord Viscount Castlercegh, &c. &c.

MR. RUSSELL TO LORD CASTLEREAGH.
18 Bentinck St. 12 Sept. 1812

My Lord—I hasten, authorized by instructions recently received from the government of the United States, and urged by an unadvised anxiety to arrest the calamities of war, to propose to your lordship a convention for the suspension of hostilities, to take effect at such time as may be mutually agreed upon, and stipulating that each party shall forthwith appoint commissioners, with full powers to form a treaty, which shall provide, by reciprocal arrangements, for the security of their seamen, from being taken or employed in the service of the other power; for the regulation of their commerce, and all others interesting questions now depending between them, and that the armistice shall not cease without such previous notice by one to the other party, as may be agreed upon, and shall not be understood as having any other effect, than merely to suspend military operations by land and by sea.

In proposing to your lordship these terms for a suspension of hostilities, I am instructed to come to a clear and distinct understanding with his Britannic majesty's government, without requiring it to be formal, concerning impressment, comprising in it the discharge of the citizens of the United States already impressed; and concerning future blockades; the revolution of the orders in council being confirmed.

Your lordship is aware that the power of the government of the United States to prohibit the employment of British seamen must be exercised in the sense and reason of the constitution; but there is no reason to doubt that it will so exercised effectually & with good faith. Such a measure, as it might by suitable regulations and penalties be made completely effectual and satisfactory, would operate almost exclusively in favor of Great Britain; for as few American seamen ever enter voluntarily into the British service, the reciprocity would be nominal, and it is sincerely believed that it would be more than an equivalent for any advantage she may derive from impressment.

By the proposition which I have now the honor to make in behalf of my government, your lordship will receive the earnest desire of the president to re-
move every obstacle to an accommodation, which consists merely of form; and to secure the rights and interests of the United States in a manner the most satisfactory and honorable to great Britain as well as to America.

The importance of the overture now made, will, I trust, obtain the most early consideration of his royal highness, the prince regent, and I shall detain the vessel in which I have taken my passage to the United States, until I have the honor to learn his decision.

I have the honor to be, my lord, with high consideration, your lordship’s most obedient servant,

(Signed) JONA. RUSSELL.

Lord Viscount Castlereagh &c. &c.

—

Lord Castlereagh to Mr. Russell.

Lord Castlereagh presents his compliments to Mr. Russell, and requests to have the honor of seeing him at his house in St. James’s Square at nine o’clock this evening.

Foreign Office, September 16, 1812.

N. B. Received a little before 5 o’clock.

Mr. Hamilton to Mr. Russell.

Dear sir—I have not seen lord Castlereagh since his receipt of your two letters of the— but have received his directions to say to you that, he is concerned that he cannot have it in his power to reply to them for a few days; or would have had much pleasure in attending immediately to your request in that respect. You may be assured that no delay will take place, which can be avoided.

I am dear sir, faithfully yours,

W. HAMILTON.

Foreign Office, Sept. 16. 1812.

Jonathan Russell, Esq &c.

Mr. Russell to Mr. Hamilton.

Dear sir—I have learnt with much regret and disappointment, that lord Castlereagh has directed you to inform me, that it is not in his power to give me an immediate answer to the last letters which I have had the honor to address to him. The object of these letters was of a nature to require an early decision. Reluctant, however; by any precipitancy on my part, to protract the present unhappy relations between the two countries; I beg you to acquaint his lordship that I shall remain in town until Sunday (the 20th inst.) when, unless some special and satisfactory reason be assigned for a longer delay, I shall consider it to be my duty to proceed to Plymouth to embark for the United States.

I am, dear sir, with great truth and respect, your ob’t serv’t.

(Signed) R. T. RUSSELL.

3, Benneck St. 16, Sept. 1812.

N. B.—Sent at 3 o’clock.

Lord Castlereagh to Mr. Russell.

Foreign Office, Sept. 18th, 1812.

SIR—Under the explanations you have afforded me of the nature of the instructions which you have received from your government, I have, as on the preceding occasion, been induced to lay your letter of the 12th inst. before his royal highness the prince regent.

His royal highness commands me to express to you his regret that, he cannot perceive my substantial difference between the proposition for a suspension of hostilities which you are now directed to make, and that which was contained in your letter of the 24th Aug. last.— The form of the proposed arrangement, it is true, is different; but it only appears to aim at executing the same in a more covert, and, therefore, in a more objectionable manner.

You are now directed to require as preliminary to a suspension of hostilities, a clear and distinct understanding, without, however, requiring it to be formal on all the points referred to in your former proposition. It is obvious that, were this proposal accepted, to the discussion on the several points must substantially precede the understanding required.

This course of proceeding, as bearing on the face of it a character of disguise, is not as likely to lead in practice to any advantageous result; as it does not appear on the important subject of impressment that you are either authorised to propose any specific plan, with reference to which the suspension of that practice could be made a subject of deliberation, or that you have received any instructions for the guidance of your conduct on some of the leading principles, which such a discussion must in the first instance involve.

Under these considerations, the prince regent sincerely laments that he does not feel himself enabled to depart from the desision, which I was directed to convey to you in my letter of the 2d inst.

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

CASTLEREAGH.

Jonathan Russell, Esq &c.

Mr. Russell to Mr. Monroe.


SIR—Since writing you this morning, fearing, that this government should infer from my silence, an acquiescence in the strange and unwarrantable view which lord Castlereagh has in his last note thought fit to take of the overtures which I have submitted, and of the powers under which I acted, I have considered it my duty to return an answer, of which the enclosed is a copy.

With great consideration and respect, I am, sir, your assured and obedient servant,

(Signed) JONA. RUSSELL.

To the hon. James Monroe, &c.

Mr. Russell to lord Castlereagh.

London 19th Sept. 1812.

My Lord—I had the honor to receive, last evening, your lordship’s note of yesterday; and have learnt with great regret and disappointment, that his royal highness the prince regent has again rejected the just and moderate propositions for a suspension of hostilities, which I have been instructed to present on the part of my government. After the verbal explanations which I had the honor to afford your lordship on the 16th inst. both as to the object and sufficiency of my instructions, I did not expect to hear repeated any objections on these points. For itself, the American government has nothing to disguise; and by varying the proposition as to the manner of coming to a preliminary understanding, it merely intended to leave to the British government which might be most congenial to its feelings. The propositions presented by me, however, on the 24th of August and 12th inst. are distinguishable by a diversity in the substance as well as in the mode of the object which they embraced; as by the former, the discontinuance of the practice of impressment was to be immediate, and to precede the prohibitory law of the United States relative to the employment of British seamen; when by the latter both these measure are deferred to take effect simultaneously hereafter.

Having made a precise tender of such law, and exhibited the instructions which warranted it to your lordship, I have learnt with surprize that it does not appear to your lordship that I am authorised to propose any specific plan on the subject of impressment. I still hope that the overture made by me may again be taken into consideration by his Britannic Majesty’s government; and as I leave town this afternoon for the U. States, that it will authorize some agent to proceed thither and adopt them as a basis for reconciliation between the two countries, an event so devoutly to be wished.
I have the honor to say, my lord, your most obht humble serv’t.
(Signed) JONA. RUSSELL.
The Rt. Hon. Lord Castlereagh, Esq.

Mr. RUSSELL TO MR. MONROE.
[Private.]

On board the Lark, 7th Nov. 1812.

Sir—I have the honor to inform you that I am now passing the Narrows, and expect to land in New-York this day. I conceive it my duty to repair to the seat of government, and shall set off as soon as I can obtain my baggage. In the mean time I am sorry to inform you, that the second proposition for an armistice was rejected like the first, and a vigorous prosecution of the war appears to be the only honorable alternative left to us.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration and respect, sir, your very obedient servant.

JONA. RUSSELL.

To the hon. James Monroe, Esq., &c.

Copy of a letter from Major General Samuel Hopkins to his excellency Gov. Shelby.

"On the Wabash, near the mouth of Pine Creek, 27th Nov. 1812.

My Dear Sir,

By Col. Richard Taylor, quartermaster-general, who goes on as quick as possible to Fort, I have it in my power to give you a general information of the movements of the army since my last.

On the 11th the army marched from Fort Harrison on the road formerly made by Gov. Harrison’s army, and, the boats set out at the same time.—The length of time the enemy had expected us made it necessary to guard ourselves in an especial manner. The rise of the waters, from the heavy fall of rain preceding our march, and some large creeks, left us no doubt of considerable difficulty and embarrassment; inasmuch that not until the 14th did we pass Sugar creek, three miles above the road.

From every information, I had no hesitation in moving on the east side of the Wabash. The Vermillion, Pine creek, and other impediments on the west side superadded to the presumption that we were expected and might more easily be annoyed and ambuscaded on that route, determined me in this measure. The boats too, with our provisions of rations, forage and military stores, could be more easily covered and protected, as the line of march could be invariant nearer the river. Lieut. Col. Barbour, with one battalion of his regiment, had command of the 7 boats, & encamped, with it on the bank of the river almost every night. This so protracted our march that we did not reach the Prophet’s town until the 19th. On the morning of this day I detached 300 men to surprise the Wintanao town lying on Ponce Passau creek, one mile from the Wabash and 4 below the Prophet’s. This party, commanded by Gen. Butler, surrounded the place about break of day, and found it evacuated.—There were in the main town at about 40 houses, many of them from 50 to 50 feet in length, besides many temporary huts in the surrounding prairie, in which they had cultivated a good deal of corn. On the 20th, 21st and 22 we were employed in the complete destruction of the Prophet’s town, which had about 40 cabins and huts, and the large Kickapoo village adjoining below it on the west side of the river; consisting of about 160 cabins and huts, finding and destroying their corn, reconnoitering the circumjacent country, and constructing works for the defence of the boats and the army, seven miles east of us, on the Ponce Passau creek, a party of Indians were discovered; they had fired on a small party of ours on the 21st and killed a man by the name of Dunn, a gallant soldier in Capt. Duval’s company. On the 23d upwards of 60 horsemen, under the command of Lieut. Cols. Miller and Wilcox, anxious to bury their comrades as well as gain a more complete knowledge of the ground, went on to a point near the Indian encampment, fell into an ambuscade, and 18 of our party killed, wounded and missing. Among these are three hopeful young officers and one private from the 7th (Wilcox’s) regiment, viz. Mars, Edwards, Murray, and the private Webb, presumed to be killed; the other 14 were of the rangers. On the return of this party, and the information of a large assemblage of the enemy, who, encouraged by the strength of their camp appeared to be waiting for us, every preparation was made to march early and engage the enemy at every risque; when from the most violent storms and fall of snow, attended with the coldest weather I ever saw or felt at this season of the year, and which did not subside until the evening of the 23d, we were delayed until the 24th. Upon arriving on the ground, we found the enemy had deserted their camp before the fall of the snow, and passed the Ponce Passau. I have no doubt but their ground was the strongest I ever have seen—the deep rapid creek spoken of was in their rear, running in a semi-circle, and fronted by a bluff 100 feet high, almost perpendicular, and only to be penetrated by three steep ravines. If the enemy would not defend themselves here, it was evident they did not intend fighting at all. After reconnoitring sufficiently, we returned to camp, and found the ice so accumulated as to alarm us for the return of the boats. I had fully intended to have spent one more week in endeavoring to find the Indian camps; but the snowless, shirtless state of the troops, now clad in the remnants of their summer dress—a river full of ice; the hills covered with snow; a rigid climate, and no certain point to which we could further direct our operations; under the influence of the advice of every staff and field officer, orders were given and measures pursued for our return on the 25th. We are now progressing to Fort Harrison through the ice and snow, where we expect to arrive on the last day of this month. From Vincennes I shall have the honor of addressing your excellency again; but before I close this, I cannot forbear expressing the merits of the officers and soldiers of this command.

After leaving at Fort Harrison all unfit for duty, we had in privates of every corps about 1000—in the total 12 40, or thereabout. At the Prophet’s town upwards of 100 of these were on the sick report. Yet sir, have we progressed in such order as to menace our enemy from any annoyance; seven large keel-boats have been covered and protected to a point heretofore unknown in Indian expeditions; three large Indian establishments have been burnt & destroyed, with near 3 miles of fence, (and all the corn, &c. we could find) besides many smaller ones; the enemy have been sought in their strong holds, and every opportunity afforded them to attack or alarm us; a march on the east side of the Wabash, without road or cognizance of the country, fully 100 miles, perfect; and this was done with a naked army of infantry, aided by only about 50 rangers and spies—all this will have been done in twenty days. No sigh, no murmur, no complaint.

I certainly feel particular obligations to my friends gen Butler and colonel Taylor, for their effectual and ready aid in their line as also capt. Z. Taylor, of the 7th U. S. regt. Messrs. Gist and Richardson, my aid-de-camp, and Major J. C. Breckenridge, my secretary, for a prompt and effectual support in every instance. The firm and almost unparalleled defence of Fort Harrison by capt. Z. Taylor, has raised for him a fabric of character not to be effaced by my enology. —To col. Barbour, for his officer-like management, in conducting and commanding the boats, my thanks are due, as also to cols. Miller, Wilcox and
Defence of New-York.

No. XIII.

Having proposed a plan for the organization of the Militia, and submitted the outlines of a system for their discipline I shall next endeavour to obviate some objections that possibly may be made against the practicableness of the latter.

The first objection, perhaps will be, that the time requisite to be devoted to attain a competent knowledge of the duties that I have laid down as necessary, cannot be spared by the generality of persons who fill the ranks of our militia battalions. The second is,—that those who cannot afford time can but ill bear any additional expense.

To the first objection I answer, we can acquire a sufficient knowledge of all that is necessary to know, in little more time than is now misspent in learning to chain down human energy by an awkward imitation of the military machines of Europe. Like a man pretending to teach geometry without knowing any of its definitions we endeavour to be soldiers without having learned the first principles of military discipline. Beginning where we should end is it any wonder that our movements should be retrograde.

Let us for a moment attend to what we take so much pains to acquire.

The marching salute, the standing salute, and the reception of the colours are seldom or never over in less than two or three hours from the time of assembling. Then, after half a dozen consultations of officers in front, the music and drums most "trop" along the line; nor when they cease are the men put into motion; the commander must be saluted as he slowly walks his horse along the front, while the battalion remains at a present for three or four minutes! at length the ranks are closed; the column formed (God knows how) and the march commences; when such an extension takes place, that, the distance between the front and rear platoons is sufficient for three such battalions to form in order of battle. Arrived at the exercising ground the head of the column is halted till the latoons regain their distance; when the line is formed by wheeling them "backward on the reverse flank."

The evolutions, or "manoeuvres" as they are called, is difficult to describe, suffice it to say, they are of a piece with the march and formation from column; complex and without any fixed basis, and always executed irrelatively, and wanting the aid of guides or markers to prepare or fix points.

Notwithstanding this defect or rather total want of system, it is astonishing to witness the docility of the men; their tractableness; and the adroitness of the officers. Six or seven hours are usually spent in practising many unwarrantable novelties; and it often happens that night falls before the men return to the regimental parades, when previous to being dismissed, the colours must be lodged, perhaps at the distance of a mile: till the return of the party the men stretch on the grass already damp with the evening dew, a most fruitful scribblers have spent in practising many unmeaning grateful acknowledgements, such liberality, if it was more general would enable him to meet with ease, a considerable expense, soon to be met, for engraving, &c.

He does not require this of any of his subscribers, but where it is convenient, he will be very grateful for the favour. The 4 first numbers will be published in the present month, and forwarded to subscribers. If any subscribers have not received their papers regularly, they will please to give notice at the Printing Office, and their future delivery will be attended to, if any number has not been received by any of his friends, the editor by being made acquainted with it and the papers wanting, if desired will supply them.

Persons desirous of becoming subscribers are informed they can be supplied with all the numbers published.

British Elections.—It appears that the war party has triumphed in the late British elections, and that America must owe the restoration of peace to her own prowess, such an impression as can be made on the enemy must be effected if the people are not prepared for eternal war, for such would be the interest and design of the political sharpeners, who guide the helm in England. Mr. Canning on being declared elected to represent the great city of Liverpool, delivered a speech to the populace, which clearly proves how meanly he thinks of their sentiments in avowing himself an advocate for war, he concludes that his election is a proof, that his opinion is in accordance with the public sentiment, as if the British people were permitted to exercise the elective franchise in that general manner that characterizes freedom, their canning would feign make the people of Liverpool and, with them, the English nation, believe that the rescinding.
of the orders in council was intended as a concession to America, although it is a notorious fact, that they were rescinded in order to relieve the distresses, appease the anger, and avert the danger apprehended from the starving, dissatisfied, and rebelling people of England but we understand these things better in America, and will not be galled by the quixotic empiricism of a state, bulbous.

**TRIPLE ALLIANCE.**

The Dey of Algiers, the Prophet of the Wabash, and the king of England are in strict alliance against the rights, liberties and independency of the only free nation on earth, what an alliance! Plunder, Murder and Madness, are the characteristics of these allies; but they bite against a file, and it is to be hoped, that America will never pay tribute to the African pirate, that the Wabash chief shall not be again received into favour or protection; and that the crazy monarch of England may expiate his crimes, by a total expulsion from the Western Continent.

**ENGLAND.**—The fast anchored Isle of the world's last hope—the bulwark of our reliion such are the terms which are applied by many writers, orators, and Rhymesters to England, when speaking of that political Harlot which has made the nations of the earth drunk with the cup of her abominations.

How well she merits those distinguished epithets, the accounts of her antichristian conduct in India, written by a learned and pious divine of her national church, will fully suffice. Want of room prevents us from giving in this number a description of the worship of Juggernaut, the celebrated Idol of India. Let the reader bear in mind that this horrid worship is not barely tolerated, or connived at, but is actually a source of revenue to Britain, "the bulwark of our religion."

"Bulwark of our holy religion." [FROM THE PANOPLIST.]

"Letters arrived from India, a few days ago, communicating the agreeable information, that the American missionaries, Messrs. Judson and Newell, with their wives, who sailed from Salem in the Caravan on the 18th of Feb., last, arrived at Calcutta about the middle of June, after a pleasant voyage of 116 days. The joy of this intelligence was damped, however, by the fact, that the British government in India had ordered back the missionaries; and

**cap.** Heard of the Caravan states, that he should probably be obliged to give bonds to take them back, before he could be permitted to clear out for his return."

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**Summary.**

Shipments of flour as usual, take place for Lisbon; possibly our sympathies are excited by Lord Wellington's misfortunes and we wish to make his winter quarters' comfortable.

Query—Which is more injurious—"A peace like a war?"—or "a war like a peace?"

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**FOREIGN.**

When we recollect that the Russians sung "Te deum" for the battle of Moscow, tho' the consequences of that action, were the conflagration of their ancient capital, and the occupation of its smoking remains by the troops of Napoleon; we must confess that the late account of the defeats of the French, are viewed by us, not merely with caution, but with considerable suspicion; nor, does it tend in the least to remove our doubts, that the accounts have been received through the medium of a London translation.—Though the Emperor of the French, may yield to the power of the elements, and the inclemency of the season, and retire a considerable distance for the regret, is revolutionary indeed.—the reader may be expected to happen so speedily as in England. There "curses loud and deep" are daily uttered against their profligate rulers, that have brutified a gallant nation, who look to the assassination of their rulers with gladness and express their satisfaction at the horrible act by "bells and bonfires" as they were formerly accustomed to celebrate the defeats of their enemies.

It is natural for people so circumstanced to wish for deliverance by any means; no change can make the English manufacturer worse; to a revolution he looks, not merely on account of some speculative notions on government: the opinions of Sir Robert Filmer and Bellarmine, Hobbes and Payne, are recieved by him now with similar indifference. The regal sirlorn and loyal pudding, no more meet his eyes; his food, and we mention it with regret, is revolutionary indeed. The former well fed Englishmen is now reduced to a bare subsistence on potatoes and oat meal; and to cool his thirst, he must resort to spring water, the only liquid in England, from which, government does not derive a revenue! This is the country where a revolution may be expected not in France, where such an event is as unlikely to happen as a separation of the United States and the formation of a northern confederacy.

Intelligence from Portugal, mentions, that the French have re-entered Madrid, which is probable, considering what an imposing mass the divisions of Soult, Suchet, Foy and Souham, united under Massena, will present to the British, under Lord Wellington, who is in full retreat from Burgos; before which place he must have suffered considerably, as one of his battalions alone had upwards of one hundred killed and wounded.

"The Great Lord" has called upon the people to rise en masse; but it is similar to calling "spirits from the vastly deep"—they wont obey his call, and thus his Lordship will be furnished with a good excuse for bidding "a long farewell" to Madrid and all his Spaniards greatness.
Extracts.

We present our readers with the following extracts from a recent work, descriptive of the Russian peasantry and soldiers; which we hope will be found interesting at a period when so many expect the deliverance of Europe from the “magnanimity” of the Emperor Alexander and the prowess of the “universal Russian nation.”

The colouring is not from the pencil of a "Jasobin" or "modern philosopher;" but, the whole piece, light and shade, is the production of a "loyal Briton."—Robert Kerr, Esq., the author of "Panorama Paintings"—justly celebrated for his Panorama paintings.

Russia contains but two classes of people,—the Nobles and the Slaves.

If we estimate the divisions of so numerous an assemblage, as the population of St. Petersburg, which a multitude of bodies must be the slaves. Probably thirty thousand may be the amount of the aliens; and if we allow 20,000 for the court and the military, then 200,000 are the residue of the populace or slaves.

Owing to the peculiar constitution of the empire, the arts and sciences, are in general but secondary objects in the minds of the natives. The nobles deem no profession honourable but that of arms. Ambition would be thought to stoop, if it sought any celebrity from excelling by the chisel, the pencil or the pen: hence the finest talents among the highborn are never directed towards any of these points. Military glory is all their aim, and if it chances to be united with the spontaneous growth of any milder genius, it is well; the possessor is pleased, and his friends delighted; but no fame accrues from classical endowments. The study of the arts and sciences is left to slaves; or at best, to slaves made free; and they, unhappy men! from being descended from that contemptible race, can never, by any exertions of their own, or by the conclusive appeal of appropriate actions, assert the inherent nobility of the heavenly gifted mind. Slavery is a taint that can never be erased: and thus the generous ambition of genius is defaced at the very root.

The boors are all slaves, each estate has its natives boors by hundreds (similar to Virginia Negroes) who perform all its agricultural duties. They are extremely industrious; and when under a good owner, daily improve and become more valuable.

Their attachment to their lord when well treated, is generally as warm as their enmity on the reverse. Indeed, I was told the other day of a gentleman, who, possessed of a large Village, with its inhabitants, and wanting money was going to sell it and them.

His slaves who loved him, hearing of this intended transfer of them to some new, and perhaps less amiable proprietor, went in a body to him, and offered to collect among themselves all the little savings their labour had amassed; and if the sun were inadequate to supply the deficiency, several volunteered to be sold, if he would but consent to remain master of the Village.

Whenever a new levy is made for the army, a given number (according to the State’s necessity) is taken from every five hundred slaves capable of bearing arms.

They are so well and rapidly disciplined by means of the cane, that the change from a clumsy blundering boor, to that of a neat active soldier, is generally instantaneous, as that from one of his native winters to all the beauties of spring. He is brought up from his derevna or Village, with his beard and hair in the trim of nature; clad in sheepskins, leder shoes, and walking with all the trudging awkwardness of unrestrained habit. A very short period changes his aspect entirely.

His beard is shaved off, his hair bound into a regular queue; and by way of making it grow in a more martial form, it is shaven from the forehead, over the ears, half way from the back part of the head. A regimental greatcoat is put upon his person; he is booted and set upright upon his legs, at his peril not to lose his position. Thus then is he metamorphosed and ere long has all the air of a soldier, completely getting rid of what he once had been. The custom of shaving the head answers two purposes: to put their hair in training, and to prevent desertion, this mark making discovery so certain, that few, if any, ever dare run the risk.

Their mode of drill differs little from the British & they are heavier in taking rapid positions; but for steadiness and mechanical movements, none can exceed them.

Taken from a state of slavery, they have no ideas of acting for themselves when any of their superiors are by; hence, they are as ready to receive all outward impressions as a piece of clay in the modeller’s hands; and that the bands of their modeller’s are not very idle, they daily feel on their heads and shoulders enforced by the tax. The following account of the evening devotion in Russian camps will be new to most of our readers.

At nine o’clock, the whole line turned out in their foraging caps and great coats and without arms. The drum and their station in the centre of each battalion. The band was in the rear. The retreat or tattoo was beat. The band then played a sacred piece of music extremely solemn, which the stillness of the evening additionally favoured. A signal was given by the commanding officer when the whole became uncovered. A silence a few minutes took place; it was a pause, so extremely still, as to create an expecting awe in the spectator; and it was broken by the softest, and I may say the most angelic breathings from the choral band, who, accompanied by the music, sung a delightful and simple hymn. During this, each soldier crossed himself with the utmost devotion; and the behaviour of the officers was not less devout. The scene was new to me, and differing widely from the close of the day in a British camp [widely indeed to our own knowledge] I must acknowledge I never witnessed a ceremony so impressive on my feelings, nor an address to the deity so awful and sublime. As soon as the holy rite was finished, the men put on their caps, faced to the right and were dismissed.

The following unnatural custom, we never recollect to have read of before, in any author who treats of Russian manners and customs. Our traveller justly attributes it to its real cause; slavery, which exists nowhere else upon so large a scale as in the universal Russian nation.”

Fathers marry their sons to some blooming girl of the village at a very early age, and then send the young men either to Moscow or St. Petersburg, to seek employment, leaving their brides a few days after their marriage to the care of their parents. At the expiration of some years, when the son returns to his cottage, he finds himself the nominal father of several children, the offspring of his own parent! who had deemed it his duty thus to supply the place of a husband to the young wife. This is done all over Russia, and is never considered a hardship by the parties. Indeed so far from it, the fashion continues; and when the son becomes resident in his native village, if he have a numerous stock thus raised to him, he marries them off, sends them a packing; and then enjoys himself, like a Turk in his meagre, amongst their wives.

Whether this horrid, unnatural, and immoral custom, arose from any policy in the nobles who might issue an order, to this effect, to compensate themselves for perhaps some great mortality amongst their young serfs in the case of...
long and destructive wars, I cannot tell; but I think it very likely; as no propensity in nature could ever dictate so abominable a perversion of nature. As it is the interest of the owner of slaves to increase their population, it is also to his advantage to allow of the emigration of the young men to the cities as much as possible; for, as he receives an annual pecuniary acknowledgement from all who leave his village to pursue their own plans, in proportion as they amass money, he may raise the rent they pay him for themselves, and so improve his revenue by their fortune. On these grounds, I suppose the horrid practice I have just mentioned, is permitted to pass unnoticed. The nobleman finds his lands stocked with a growing generation of slaves, and he cares not by what means they were planted.

**SAILORS' DINNER.**

On Thursday last, at 2 o'clock P.M. the gallant seamen belonging to the frigate United States, to the number of about 400, cleanly dressed; and accompanied by a committee of the Corporation, marched in procession through Pearl-street to Wall-street, and through Wall-street to the City Hotel in Broadway, where they partook of an excellent dinner, in the Assembly-Room, which was decorated in the same manner as at the Grand Naval Dinner given on Tuesday the 20th ult. We understand that the Boatswain of the frigate United States presided, and did the honours of the table very respectfully.

The Corporation and the Gentlemen who composed the Committee of the late Grand Naval Dinner, dined together in the Ten Room.

During the procession the American Colours were displayed, a complete band of music attended, the streets were crowded with citizens, and loud bursts of applause to the gallant defenders of the country were echoed and re-echoed from every quarter:

After the procession had entered the room, the following address was delivered by John Vanderbilt, jun. Esq. a member of the Corporation.—[Mer. Ad.

"**BRAVE AMERICAN TARS.**"

"The Corporation of the City of New-York, have ordered you this Entertainment. It is given as a tribute to your valor, displayed in the capture of the British frigate the Macedonian."

"Behold ye tender Miniature of your gallant achievement. See yourselves entwined in wreaths of Laurels, with the brave HULL, and JON FG., and their valiant crews. Emblems of our gratitude—Tokens of Honour, which alone belong to the Brave.

The burst of applause, which resounds from Georgia to Maine, and the shout of your Victory, proclaimed in the castle and the cottage, excites us to mingle our emotions of joy with the voice of every True American; and hail you here as well as welcome guests.

"The mistress of the Ocean, bustling of her power, challenging to single combat, and confident of her superiority, has thrice been vanquished.

"You have taught her a lesson, that coming in contact with the hearts of Yankee Oak, they were not encountering the vassals of an European Tyrant.

"Remember then, ye valiant Tars, that you have been rocked in Freedom's Cradle; enlisted voluntarily under your Country's banners.

"Not torn by a merciless Press Gang, from your wives and children, and dear connections—But, fired with an ardent zeal for glory, and to assert the rights of your injured Country, and punish the haughty foe, who dare to arrogate to themselves, Rights, inherent to us, by the Laws of Nations, the Laws of Nature and Nature's God.

"You have nobly vindicated your Country's Honor on the Ocean—You have added new Laurels to the bosom of your country, and your country receives it as a pledge that you are resolved to support her Rights; and that her Flag shall never be tarnished by cowardice or struck, whilst there is a Shot in the Locker.

"The Laurels gained by your bravery, shall ever be Green in the remembrance of every True American, and whilst under the Command of a Decatur, whose tried valor and skill, are manifest, (not only in the late glorious conflict, but also, who made the world to Heave his colors in disgrace, you will always be sure of Victory.

"Go on then as you have begun in the path of valor and duty. Your Country's reward is at hand; and, may every American Tar, animated by your example and success, go and do likewise."

At six o'clock, at the request of the Managers of the Theatre, the jolly tars proceeded in a body to that place of amusement, in good order, where the pit had been exclusively occupied by the gallant crew of the frigate United States, who behaved with the utmost decorum.

We have been unable to obtain the extracts which were drank at the dinner for this day's publication.

We do not recollect of ever seeing the Theatre so crowded. The Pitt was entirely occupied by the gallant crew of the frigate United States, who behaved with the utmost decorum.

**BUFFALO, Dec. 22.**

**NEW ARRANGEMENT—Brigadier Gen. Alexander Smyth, has given up the command of this frontier to Col. Moses Porter, of the U. S. Artillery. Gen. Smyth has proceeded for Washington.**

**Ogdensburg, Dec. 22.**

Last Sunday evening four British soldiers of the Glengarrian Regiment, got on board of a boat at Prescott Harbour, and pushed off. They were discovered and pursued until within a few rods of our shore, when they called loudly for assistance—the pursuers gave up the chase on observing a number of our soldiers advancing to assist the deserters.—They state the number of troops at Prescott to be about 200.

Died, on Tuesday evening last, Henry Miller, a private in Capt. McNutt's company, from Jefferson County. On Friday morning last, Christopher Calkins, a musician in Capt. Bell's company, from Herkimer County; and Job Fisk, a private in Captain Huty's company, from Oneida.

**BATTLE WITH THE INDIANS.**

**From the Freeman's Chronicle Extra.**

FRANKLINTON, (Ohio) Dec. 24, 1812.

Capt. Hite has just arrived, express from Col. Campbell's detachment, which, it will be recollected, left this place on the 17th ult. on a secret expedition. From him we learn the following account of a most obstinate and hard fought battle, in which the valor, intrepidity and firmness of the American troops shone with a lustre which has never been surpassed during the present war.

On the 17th, after marching all night, Col. Campbell, with his command, arrived at one of the Massasinewa towns, and instantly charged upon the town, drove the savages across the Massasinewa river, killed seven of them and took 37 prisoners—only two of our men were killed in this skirmish. While contending with the enemy at this town, they sent a runner to another of the towns, about 3 miles distant, which was immediately evacuated. On the 18th, before day break, the horrid savage yell was heard, the word was given to arms, and a most desperate conflict commenced. Capt. Pierce, of the Zanesville troop, behaved gallantly, and died nobly. Lieut. Waltz, of Capt. Markel's company, (from Greenbush, Pa.) was shot through the arm, and not being satisfied with that he again endeavored to mount his horse, and in making the effort was shot through his head. His death was glorious. Capt. Trotter, while charging with fury upon the enemy, was wounded in the hand. Lieuts. Basye and Hickman, were slightly wounded. A great number of horses were killed. The action continued with unabated fury for one hour, when the savages were routed and driven in all directions.

Capt. Hite states that between 30 and 40 Indians were known to be killed—how many were wounded could not be ascertained—37 were taken prisoners. We had two officers and six
privates killed, and twenty three privates wounded, eight supposed dangerous. The town where the battle was fought was burnt without resistance. The Indians were of the Delaware and Miami tribes, entirely destitute of any kind of valuable property. It was stated that Tecumseh, with 4 or 500 warriors, was about 15 miles from the scene of action, and our troops anticipated another attack on their return. The attack commenced on the right line commanded by major Ball, who repelled it with that firm and manly courage which is his distinguishing characteristic. To attempt to bestow praise upon one officer, or one private, more than another, would be unjust and ungenerous. All fought with equal bravery all, deserve the highest encomiums. Col. Campbell's force was about 400, that of the enemy about 400. One hundred volunteers are to march from Greenville to reinforce Col. Campbell.

PRIZE MONEY.—The specie, amounting to about 168,000 dollars, captured by Com. Rodgers's squadron on board the British Swallow Packet, bound from Jamaica to England, was landed at the Navy Yard in Charlestown, under the direction and orders of the Marshal of the district, who caused it to be placed in six waggons, which with colors flying and drums beating, attended by the boats' crews of the squadron, and protected by a guard of marines, proceeded through Charlestown and Boston to the State Bank, where it was deposited, amidst the huzzas of a large collection of spectators.

DISTRIBUTION.

Prize money &c. captured by national vessels, belongs, one half to the United States, and the other half to the captors. This half is divided into Twenty parts and distributed as follows:—

To the Captains: 3
To the sea Lieut.'s & sailing-masters 2
To the marine officers, surgeons, 2
boatswains, gunners, carpenters, 2
masters' mates and chaplins.

To midshipmen, surgeon's mates, 3
captain's clerk, school masters, 3
boatswain's mates, carpenter's mates, 3
gunner's mates, ship's stewards, 3
sailmakers, master at arms, 3
amorers, & coxswains.

To gunner's yeomen, boatswain's yeomen, 3
quarter-masters, quartermasters, 3
gunners, cooper's, sailmaker's mates, 3
serjeants and corporals of marines, 3
drummers and fifers, and extra petty officers.

To seamen, ordinary seamen, marines and boys: 5

Of the specie captured by the squadron one half amounts to $4,000 dollars—a twentieth of which is $200 dollars. We trust that a resolve will pass Congress relinquishing the half which accrues to the public to our gallant men.

We consider the American Navy to be indivisible; and we hope the same attentions will be paid to all our squadrons. The officers who discharge their duty to their country with zeal and fidelity, though the evidence of it may not be so conspicuous, are equally entitled to the grateful notice of their fellow-citizens, with their more fortunate brethren.—Boston Cen.

NAVAL COURT OF INQUIRY.

According to general usage in similar cases, a Court of Enquiry has been held on the conduct of Capt. Jones, late commander of the United States ship Wasp, and his officers and crew in surrendering the same to a British ship of 74 guns. The following decision of the Court, approved by the Secretary of the Navy, we have pleasure in laying before the public:

OPINION OF THE COURT

The Court having heard the statements and evidence in this case, and having maturely considered the circumstances attending the surrender of the United States ship of war Wasp of 15 guns to his Britannic Majesty's ship the Poictiers of 74 guns; particularly the crippled and disabled state of the Wasp from the brilliant and successful action with his Britannic Majesty's ship the Frolic, of superior force to the Wasp, about two hours before the Poictiers hove in sight—and the force and condition of the Poictiers, which made it useless for them to contend, and rendered them unable to escape—are unanimously of opinion, that there was no impropriety of conduct on the part of the officers and crew of the said ship the Wasp, during the chase by the Poictiers or in the surrender—but that the conduct of the officers and crew of the Wasp on said occasion was eminently distinguished for firmness and gallantry, in making every preparation and exertion of which their situation would admit.

Nat. Intell.

The London Courier of Nov. 9th contains the following paragraph:—

"The following Gentlemen have, it is said, been appointed American Commissioners for the care of property captured under the flag of the U. States, prior to the issuing of letters of marque:—

C. Long Esq: A. Wedderburn, Esq:—Hancock, Esq: and Dr. Burnaby."

A letter from Liverpool dated the 7th of Nov. has the following Postscript:—

P. S. "An order from Government has appear ed, declaring the Licences, or Passports, valid, that were granted by Admiral Sawyer to American vessels carrying provisions to the Peninsula, and directing that all such vessels, having been detained by British cruisers shall be released."

Lord Wellington, it appears, raised the siege of Burgos on the 26th of October, in consequence of the rapid approach of the combined armies of the Centre and of the South. Our London papers contain a paragraph under the Paris date of Nov. 4, stating that these two armies united are more than 30,000 strong, and were in full march upon Madrid. A private letter from Portugal has, we understand been received in this city, stating that Lord W. was drawing his forces towards Lisbon; and that he had issued a Proclamation, calling on the inhabitants of Spain and Portugal to rise en masse against the common enemy.—From the whole, it is to be apprehended, that the French armies are about to regain the strong positions from which they have been driven during the campaign of 1812.

Com. Adv.

We understand that Mr. Joseph G. Chambers, of Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, has invented a GUN, which he can charge in such a manner, that by a single operation on the trigger it will discharge several loads in succession, (say six or eight) with a spare between each sufficient to take another aim. —This gun has one barrel, and does not exceed a common gun in size.

An American Gentleman, who has just arrived from Paris, states, that the American Minister, Joel Barlow had set off for the head-quarters of the French army, for the purpose of personally soliciting from Bonaparte 12 sail of the line and 36 frigates, to be manned by Americans. He also mentions, that Paris was in a most agitated state when he left it, and confirms the report which was received a few days since of the death of Savary.

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