BUFFALO, Dec. 1. 1812.

Progress of the war on the Niagara Frontiers.

From the time the armistice expired, until Saturday last, the weather, with the exception of one day, was inclement and extremely unfavorable to military movements and warlike operations. However, on Friday last, a movement being resolved upon, the troops removed from their several encampments, and concentrated their forces in the vicinity of Black Rock. On Saturday morning, at three o'clock, a party of about 200 sailors and soldiers, under the command of captain King, made a descent upon the enemy's shore: attacked and carried 3 several batteries, dismounted and spiked their cannon, and destroyed the gun carriages. The most determined intrepid bravery was displayed upon this occasion. About 30 prisoners, among whom were two British officers, were captured. A large two story house was burned, in which was a quantity of ammunition. A barn near the house was also fired and consumed, in which it is said were the enemy's light artillery; several horses already harnessed were destroyed. The loss of the British in killed and wounded is uncertain: it is rated at between 20 and 30. Our loss consists of 4 or 5 killed & (say 20) wounded. Captains King & Dox taken prisoners, the latter wounded and retaken. Sailing master Watts was killed. The party returned to Black Rock about 6 o'clock. During this daring enterprize, there were a few cannon shot fired from our battery.

A short time after this achievement, Colonel Wynder, with a column of 300 regulars from his regiment embarked (whether with an intention to cross the river, or to reconnoitre, we know not) at the mouth of Conjockety creek, behind Squaw Island, and after passing the foot of the Island, dropped a few minutes down the river, on the enemy's shore, when the boats were furiously attacked with grape and musketry, from a considerable force on shore, which had lain in ambush; the fire was very spiritedly returned from the boats for several minutes. Seeing, however, the danger of effecting a landing against a superior force on shore, possessing every advantage, the boats returned with a small loss in killed and wounded.

A detachment of Colonel Porter's light artillery had now passed over to Squaw Island, where two pieces played upon the enemy with some effect. From an early hour in the morning until 12 o'clock, the several batteries at Black Rock, mounting 24, 18, 12, and 6 pounders, played upon the opposite shore. The enemy returned but a few shot from a 6 pounder, which had escaped spiking.

Between 9 and 10 o'clock, 3 sailors embarked in a boat, passed over to the enemy's shore, and set fire to the dwelling house of B. Hardison, and to the house and store of Mr. Douglas, which were consumed. After remaining on that shore about two hours, they returned, with a boat loaded with articles taken from the houses. We understand that this act was unauthorised.

From 7 until 10 or 11 in the morning there was a constant embarkation of troops at the Navy Yard, and before the hour of 11 there were about 60 boats loaded and stationed in shore, awaiting the signal to make a descent. The day was fine—the troops were in excellent spirits—no opposing force *appeared* on the shore. A flag was now sent by gen. Smyth to the British commander—the flag returned—the troops in the boats were ordered to debark, and the volunteers, who were in readiness for embarkation, were ordered back to their respective encampments. Since which period, several movements have taken place, but as we are in possession of no official statements, we can at present give no further account; perhaps, indeed, hereafter, some satisfactory statement may appear.

From the Norfolk Ledger.

Mr. Editor—I was visiting one of my neighbors a few days past, and whilst there, I understood, from the cries which I heard in an adjoining room, that some distressing accident had happened. I immediately entered the room, and found that a young lady in the family had accidentally upset a tea-kettle of boiling water, and had scalded both her ancles.

Having noticed some time ago in your paper, the certificates of sundry persons, that *Carded Cotton*, applied to burns would have a good effect, it occurred to me that this would be a good opportunity to try and prove its efficacy. I requested that some cotton should be brought, and immediately applied in large rolls to the feet and ancles. This was done, and the young lady, who suffered excessively for about four hours, was gradually relieved from the smart and pain, and was able to walk about the house, with the bandage on, before night. The next morning, when I visited there, she had on her stockings and shoes, and she assured me she felt no other inconvenience from the accident than that it made her feet tender.

You are at liberty to publish this, if you think it will add any weight to the certificates already given for a discovery which cannot be too extensively known. Yours, &c.

FRANCIS S. TAYLOR.

Norfolk, Nov. 25, 1812.

NEW STORE,

West end of Charles-Town; opposite Mr. Henry Haines' tavern.

John Carlile,

Takes the liberty of informing the public generally, that he has just received and finished opening a neat assortment of

WINTER GOODS,

suitable for the present season, consisting in part of the following articles:

Superfine and common cloths, assorted,
Superfine and common cassimeres,
Bedford cords,
Cords, thicksets and velvets of the best quality,
Callicoes, flannels and umbrellas;

ALSO,

A good asssortment of Cutlery,
Britania spoons,
Gentlemens, fashionable and best spurs,
And many other articles too numerous to mention—together with a good assortment of

Wines, Spirits & Whiskey,

Molasses, and Sugars of every quality,
Coffee, Teas, &c. &c.

All of which was purchased very low, and will be sold at the most reduced prices for cash or country produce.—Any person wishing to purchase for cash, will find a great advantage in calling on him, as he is determined to sell as low as they possibly can be sold in this part of the country

December 4, 1812.

Valuable Negroes for Sale.

I will sell eight valuable negroes, viz. three men, two women, and three very fine children—the children will not be parted from the mother. One of the women was hired for several years by Mr. Williamson, as a cook, at 45 dollars per year. As those negroes are not sold for any fault, they will not be sold to what is termed negro buyers, nor to any man that is not reputed a good master.

HENRY GANTT.

December 11.

Take Notice.

THE purchasers at the sale of the personal estate of John Bryan, dec'd. are hereby informed, that their obligations became due on the 16th of October last. The subscriber will attend at Charles-Town on the first day of December court, to receive payment, and will consider it a favor if those indebted will meet him on that day and make payment, as he is about to leave this county, and it would be disagreeable to him to put the papers into the hands of any other person to collect.

DANL. COLLETT, *Adm'r.*

Jefferson County, Dec. 11.

Negroes for Hire.

THE subscriber as Trustee for the children of Mrs. Harriet Christian, late dec'd. will offer for hire on the first day of January next, opposite the door of Robert Fulton's Hotel, in Charles-Town, a negro woman aged about 26 years, and a boy aged about 11; the woman is well known in this place, and has the character of being as valuable a slave as any in the valley, she is an excellent cook, washer, and table servant; the boy although of tender years, is remarkable for his activity & usefulness.—Bond with approved security will be required.

ROBERT C. LEE.

Charlestown, Dec. 11, 1812.

Five dollars Reward.

Strayed or stolen from the subscriber's stable, in Charlestown, on Tuesday the 10th inst. a bright sorrel horse, about 7 years old, 15 hands high, the near eye defective, and shod all round. The above reward will be given for information of said horse, so that I get him again, and all reasonable charges if brought home.

WILLIAM GROVE.

Nov. 27.

WORTHINGTON, COOKUS & CO.

Have received, and are now opening at their Store in Shepherd's-Town,

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

Fall & Winter Goods,

Which are well worth the attention of those who may wish to purchase. October 30. tf.

Notice to Travellers.

THE proprietors of the *Winchester* and *Frederick-Town* MAIL STAGE, take this method to inform their friends and the public in general, that they intend to run but once-a-week after the 8th day of December, starting from Mr. M'Guire's Tavern, Winchester, every Friday morning, at 3 o'clock, A. M. and arrive at Frederick-Town on the evenings of the same days—Returning—to start from the house of Mrs. Kimbell, Frederick-Town, every Saturday morning, at 3 o'clock, A. M. and arrive at Winchester on the evenings of the same days. Stage fare and allowance of baggage, as usual—All baggage to be at the risk of the owner.

WILLIAM SCOTT,
GEORGE BARRICK.

December 2, 1812.

FOR SALE,

A likely Negro Man,

aged about 23 years. He is offered for sale for no other reason than that he ran away without cause. The purchaser must agree to remove him at least 300 miles from this place. Inquire of the Printer.

Jefferson county, Nov. 6. tf.

Take Notice.

ALL those indebted to the late firm of *John Anderson, and Co.* by bond, note or book account, are earnesly requested to come forward and pay their respective balances to *JOHN CARLILE*, who has all the bonds, notes, and book accounts assigned to him—he hopes that all those who owe said firm will come forward immediately and discharge their accounts, as it is not in his power to give any longer indulgence; he therefore hopes that every person owing will evince a willingness to pay, as the money is wanting immediately. JOHN CARLILE.

Charles Town, Nov. 27.

James Brown & Co.

At their Store in Shepherd's-Town, are now opening and selling,

ROSE, striped and plain Blankets
Superfine white and scarlet Flannels
Yellow, red and white ditto, assorted qualities
Bearskins, Coatings and Forrest Cloths
Kerseys, Half-Thicks and Plains
Jersey Stripes and Plains
Superfine Cloths & Cassimeres } assorted
Middle and low-priced ditto, } colors
Bedford Cords and Stockinets
Velvets and Velveteens, assorted
Marseilles, Toilenette, Swansdown and Silk Vestings
Silk, Cotton and Worsted Hosiery
Silk, Kid, Shammy and other Gloves
Black, pink, crimson, blue and straw-colored Canton Crapes
French ditto ditto
Groceries and Liquors
Hardware and Cutlery
Books and Stationary
China and Queen's-ware

Together with a variety of other articles, as well of necessity as of elegance and taste. They are determined to sell their goods at a remarkably low advance for ready payment—and to punctual customers, at a short credit.

November 6. tf

Jefferson County, to wit. September Court, 1812.

Isaac Evans and his wife, late Jane Barnhouse, Complainants,
vs.
Richard Barnhouse, William Barnhouse, Nancy Barnhouse, Caleb Barnhouse, Magnus T. Barnhouse, and Augustus Barnhouse, heirs at law of Richard Barnhouse, deceased, Defendants.

IN CHANCERY.

THE defendants not having entered their appearance and given security according to the act of assembly and the rules of this court, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that they are not inhabitants of this commonwealth; on the motion of the plaintiffs by their counsel, it is ordered, that the said defendants do appear here on the fourth Monday in October next, and answer the bill of the plaintiffs; and that a copy of this order be forthwith inserted in the Farmer's Repository for two months successively, and published at the door of the court-house of said county.

A copy. Teste,

GEO. HITE, C. J. C.

Corn for Sale.

TO be sold, at public vendue on the plantation of the late Lancelot Lee, dec'd, (about four miles from Charlestown, Jefferson county) on Wednesday the 30th of the present month, a quantity of corn, supposed to be about 350 or 400 barrels, on a credit of six months.—Also, at the same time and place, a waggon and horses, cows and calves, and some household and kitchen furniture, &c. &c.

JAMES CHIPLEY, Executor of the estate of Lancelot Lee, dec'd.

P. S. All persons having claims against said estate are earnestly requested to produce them to the subscriber on or before the day of sale. J. CHIPLEY, Ex'or, &c.

December 18.

Caution.

THIS is to caution the public and my neighbours in general from cutting any timber on my land, or in any other manner trespassing on it, as I have sustained great loss in that way. One of my corner stones which was planted by myself and John Melvin and John Buckles, some years past, in the place where a locust stake formerly stood, and on which we put the two first letters of our names, is entirely taken away, which I believe was done by one of my neighbours, or some evil designed person, as it has been a corner at the place where the stone stood I believe more than 30 years. I intend to use the best possible means in my power to prevent such practices in future, and leave it to the public to judge whether this is doing as we wish others to do unto us. ADAM LINK.

December 18, 1812.

10 Dollars Reward.

DESERTED from the Recruiting Rendezvous at Charlestown, Jefferson county, Va. on the 10th instant, a soldier named SAMUEL MASSEY, born in Chester county, state of Pennsylvania, aged 29 years, 5 feet 9 inches high, light complexion, light eyes, dark hair, down look when spoken to, and by profession a shoemaker. Had on when last seen, a light colored fur hat, soldier's frock, and a brown broad cloth coat—other articles of clothing not recollected. The above reward will be paid on his delivery to any officer of the U. S. army, together with all reasonable charges.

OTHO W. CALLIS, Lieut.
12th regt. U. S. Infantry.

December 18.

Hides & Skins wanted.

THE highest price, in cash, will be given for hides and skins, delivered at the subscriber's tan yard, about 50 yards from the Charlestown mill.

JACOB E. PARSON.

Charlestown, Nov. 13. 3 m.

☞ Notice.

THE highest price in cash will be given for Hides and Skins, delivered at my shop opposite Ann Frame's store.

HENRY ISLER, senr.

Charlestown, Dec. 16.

Negroes for Hire.

THE subscriber will hire his negroes for the ensuing year, on New-Year's Day, at his farm between Charlestown and Shepherd's-Town. R. DUFFIELD.

December 18.

LOST,

On Thursday night the 17th inst. between Charlestown and the White House Tavern, nine yards of homemade drab cloth, with trimmings for a coat. Any person finding the above cloth, and will return it to the subscriber, at Dan. Collett's, shall be generously rewarded. WILLIAM WEST.

Dec. 18.

Jefferson County, to wit. March Term, 1812.

Leonard V. Davis, Thomas W. Davis, and William R. Davis, Complainants,
vs.
Mary Davis, Joseph W. Davis, Nancy Davis, Clementius R. Davis, and Aquila Davis, an infant, by Joseph W. Davis, his next friend, and William Worthington, Defendants. In Chancery.

THE defendant William Worthington not having entered his appearance and given security according to the act of assembly and the rules of this court, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that he is not an inhabitant of this commonwealth: On the motion of the complainants by their counsel, it is ordered that the said defendant do appear here on the fourth Monday in May next, and answer the bill of the complainants, and that a copy of this order be forthwith inserted in the Farmer's Repository for two months successively, and posted at the door of the court house of said county: And it is further ordered that the defendant Joseph W. Davis be restrained from paying away or secreting any money, goods or effects in his hands belonging to the absent defendant William Worthington, until the further order of this court.

A Copy. Teste, GEO. HITE, Clk.

November 27.

Digitized by Harpers Ferry National Historical Park under grant from Harpers Ferry Historical Assoc.

FARMER'S REPOSITORY.

CHARLES-TOWN, (*Jefferson County, Virginia,*) PRINTED BY RICHARD WILLIAMS.

Vol. V.] FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1813. [No. 249.

TERMS OF THIS PAPER.

The price of the *Farmer's Repository* is Two Dollars a year, one dollar to be paid at the time of subscribing, and one at the expiration of the year. No paper will be discontinued until arrearages are paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding a square, will be inserted *three* weeks to non-subscribers for one dollar, and 25 cents for every subsequent insertion.—Subscribers will receive a reduction of one fourth on their advertisements.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE,

To the Legislature of Virginia.

Council Chamber, Nov. 20th, 1812.

To the Senate and House of Delegates.

It would have been to me, fellow citizens, a source of great pleasure, could I have communicated to you, that since your last session the two great contending powers of Europe, sensible of their injustice towards us, had at last abandoned their offensive measures, and made honorable reparation for the insults and injuries they had so long, and so wantonly inflicted upon the United States.

It is painful, on the contrary, to be obliged to state, that the conduct of these powers has been essentially otherwise.

Whilst France was wantonly committing the most lawless and unprincipled outrages, she was nevertheless making strong professions of friendship. This induced a hope on the part of the General Government that by remonstrance, and negociation, it might be possible to avoid, a resort to the last extremity against that power.—Great Britain on the other hand, as little restrained by considerations of justice, and availing herself of her naval superiority, continued not only her acts of violence by which our commerce was harrassed on every ocean, but added injuries peculiar to herself, and boldly proclaimed her unalterable determination to persevere in her iniquitous cause.

Although it would be as painful as humiliating to recapitulate, in detail, the wrongs which this power for a series of years has done us, yet a rapid review of the most important incidents, during that time, may not be without its use, as it will present a volume of evidence, demonstrating to the world the ardor with which America has cherished peace, her patient and long suffering under injustice and oppression, and the imperious necessity which finally compelled her to assume a hostile attitude.

At the commencement of the war so affecting to humanity and which has so long desolated Europe, America, just recovered from the convulsive throes of her own revolution, and at peace with the world, was reposing under the benign influence of a government founded upon the rights, and having for its object the happiness of man, administered by the genius of a Washington, whose illustrious virtues by the unanimous consent of the nation, had obtained for him the most honorable of all titles, that of father of his country. Under such auspicious circumstances, she was marching with rapid strides to the fulfillment of her high destinies. This prosperous career, could be arrested only by the interruption of her peace. Its preservation therefore, as consonant to her inclinations as to her interest, became the object of unceasing solicitude. And that nothing might be attributed to her, which should justify the belligerent powers, in disturbing the peaceful attitude she had determined to preserve, she invariably maintained towards each an impartial neutrality; she discharged with the most scrupulous fidelity every obligation imposed by justice, performed with cheerfulness every act of kindness dictated by friendship, and took no farther interest in the troubled scenes of Europe, than to weep over the folly and wickedness which kept alive a war, every where marked with unusual carnage and desolation.

With such disposition and such conduct, she might well have hoped that her rights would have been respected and her peace undisturbed. How far this just expectation has been realized, let the long and bloody roll of acts of injustice and violence perpetrated by Great Britain, answer.

She had scarcely become a party to the war, when with the avowed and wicked purpose of starving thirty millions of people, she directed her cruizers, in contempt of the laws of nations, to seize and bring into her ports every American vessel, bound to France with provisions, and not content with this offensive measure herself, she solicited her allies to co-operate with her, and actually bound them by treaties to follow her example. She next interdicted our *direct* trade between the colonies of her enemy and the mother country—*then* she would not permit that trade by the *circuitous* route—an aggression which (independent of its intrinsic enormity) was characterized by *perfidy*, in as much as, by the solemn decisions of her own courts, that trade had been pronounced legitimate. Our citizens, confiding in this pledge, covered the ocean with their vessels:—When, to the indignant amazement of Americans by an *expost facto* regulation, British cruizers were let loose upon their property to ruin the owners. Her new and unwarrantable system of blockade, interdicted our intercourse with whole countries:—She caused her vessels of war to hover around our coasts—infest our harbors, insult our sovereignty, and murder our citizens.—She caused thousands of our native born seamen to be impressed on the high seas, and torn from their homes, their families and their country: finally, by her orders in council she insolently assumed the power of regulating our commerce, thereby reducing us, if submission, on our part had followed, to a state of colonial vassalage.

America amidst these outrages, continued to give new proofs of her pacific disposition, and actually retired from the ocean; thereby abandoning for a time, one of the essential prerogatives of sovereign power; a measure accompanied with a sacrifice, for extent and duration, without a parallel.

It will ever be remembered, (for it forms an important epoch in our transactions with Great Britain) with what eagerness, upon the first appearance of an amicable disposition on the part of that power, the American government seized the opportunity to renew by an arrangement with her Representatives here, our friendly relations:—With what forbearance it cast the mantle of oblivion over the wrongs we had suffered—and altho' millions of our property lawlessly plundered by G. Britain, were unrestored; although thousands of our seamen were in captivity, and her hands were reeking with the unatoned for blood of our citizens, yet we generously forgave all, and extended to her the hand of friendship.

Had Great Britain cherished a disposition for peace, there was nothing which *she* could object in this arrangement.—Yet she thought proper to disavow it, to recall the agent who made it, upon the pretended ground of having exceeded instructions; and to appoint a successor whose character was every way suited to the unfriendly designs she harbored against us; remonstrance and an interdiction of commercial intercourse were the only measures to which America recurred, upon an occasion which would have justified a resort to extremities.

France at length announced her determination to rescind her iniquitous decrees.—The American government again pressed Great Britain, in compliance with her uniform promises to follow the example set her rival, and hopes were entertained that she would yield to her interest, what had been refused to justice. Whilst the American government was indulging this expectation, and cherishing the prospect that peace might yet be preserved; the Prince Regent by his proclamation of the 21st April, announced the fixed purpose of his government, to persevere in the offensive course it had so long pursued, unless France should rescind entirely (not only as it regarded America, but *all nations*) her illegal decrees—a subject in which we had no essential concern. About this time, satisfactory evidence was obtained of a project, planned by G. Britain, of endeavoring to effect, by a secret agent, the dismemberment of these States through all the horrors of a civil war: a scheme, to the intrinsic darkness of which were added deeper shades of guilt, from the circumstances of its being carrried on at the very moment, when through her accredited agent here, she was indulging in the most amicable professions. The measure of her outrages being thus filled, and that of our patience exhausted, the unpleasant alternatives, of an appeal to arms, or a base surrender of our rights, were presented to the constituted authorities of the United States. With a courage, becoming the Representatives of a free people, they weighed the preservation of our rights, our honor, and our character, against the privations and hazards of war, and accepted it as an equivalent.—Accordingly, on the 18th of June, 1812, war was formally declared against Great Britain and her dependencies. This determination produced a crisis in our affairs of the utmost importance. For, to the weighty considerations inseparably incident to a state of war with so powerful a nation, there was to be added one of peculiar high interest, which by its irresistable tendency, was calculated to excite the solicitude of every lover of his country. The constitution of the United States (with whose successful progress is indissolubly connected not only the happiness of America, but of afflicted man, in every region of the earth) was for the first time, to be put upon trial as to its capacity for war, and should it survive the firery ordeal, unhurt, it might under providence, challenge immortality.—When then, the Representatives of the people of U. America in Congress assembled (who are destined, in common, with us all, to participate in whatever doom may await us,) had, driven by an unjust and imperious nation, resolved to commit our cause to the God of battles—when, too, the illustrious chief, who now presides in our councils, and whose life has been devoted to the service of his country, had given his sanction to this solemn appeal; and when the fate of unborn millions was connected with its succesful issue, it was reasonably to have been hoped, (whatever diversity of opinion might have existed, or whatever might have been the violence of contending parties) that every patriot would have sacrificed upon the altar of his country, all minor considerations, and that the American people, animated by one sentiment, would, by an union of councils and efforts, have prosecuted the war with vigor, to extort from their common enemy an honorable peace.

It is a source of painful regret, that this hope of union, should even in a partial degree, have been disappointed; or that there should have been any class of citizens so far influenced by delusion, prejudice or faction, as to ascribe the war to any other motives, than anxiety to avenge the wounded honor, and preserve unimpaired, the essential rights of United America. This regret, however is lessened by the reflection, that the people of the United States in an appeal recently made to them through their Congressional elections, have by a large majority, manifested a determination to support their government in the course adopted, and to encounter without a murmur the inconveniencies of war, waged for the protection of whatever is dear to freemen. And it is a source of pride and congratulation that his holy zeal in our country's cause is manifested no where more strongly than among the good people of this commonwealth.

[Here the Message recounts the proceedings of the Executive Department during the recess of the Legislature:—The Governor's Circular to the Commandants of Regiments, exhorting them to a vigorous discharge of their duty in the discipline of their respective corps, and the preservation of the public arms; the distribution of arms and ammunition to the militia of certain counties exposed to invasion; the detachment of the States' quota of militia, as also the regiment at Norfolk, and the 1500 men ordered to the western borders: the Governor's visit to Norfolk and its neighborhood for the purpose of learning whatever might be essential to its defence &c. and adduces some very cogent reasons to show that it is the duty of the Governors of the States to hold their Militia subject to the requisitions of the general government. The niggardly appropriation for the contingent fund, made during the last session, is noticed as having been the cause of much embarrassment with the Executive, who was limited to a mere pittice, and consequently could not provide for the expences incident to a state of war, otherwise than upon his own responsibility, which he in fact, and from the best of motives, partially submitted to.—The Message then calls the attention of the Ligislature to the defects in the militia system, and recommends 1st. that each regiment should assemble, in some central position and continue in camp, such a length of time as would be considered sufficient to give the necessary knowledge of tactics and discipline, or 2nd. that all musters be abolished except the annual regimental one, and that the Officers of each Brigade meet at some convenient point, once a year, to be trained for from ten to fifteen days, without intermission. Proposes that the Office of Adjutant General be merged in that of Inspector General, which Officers to be empowered to appoint the several Brigade Inspectors, that there may be a greater uniformity in tactics throughout the states, and recommends some military tracts digested by Col. Duane, for the government and discipline of the Militia of this State.—After some very necessary and just strictures on the shameful waste and abuse of the public arms distributed among the militia, and pointing out the absolute expediency of Legislative interference to prevent a continuance of the same, the Message proceeds—]

I enclose for the consideration of the Legislature, a report (marked No. 2) of the commissioners appointed to explore the upper navigation of James River; and have the satisfaction, also, to inform you, that the commissioners appointed to ascertain the practicability of a connection between that river and the western waters, have performed the duties assigned them, and are now preparing a report, which shall be transmitted as soon as received. These subjects claim your attention; the first, from the circumstance that, if the Legislature do not interfere, the collection of tolls by the James River Company, will cease on the first of February next: the second, on account of its great importance.

To facilitate the communication between the Eastern and Western waters is an object worthy of Virginia. Its advantages must be incalculable. To our western brethren in particular, whose facilities to market will be augmented, it is of primary consideration.—To the state in general, highly interesting; as it will cherish intercourse and promote connections friendly to union, with the growing states of the West.—In a commercial point of view, it will connect us with those vast and fertile regions, destined to become in progress of time, the emporium of wealth, a portion of which, as from a never failing fountain, will continually pour into our lap.

This subject, important as it is, will not however limit the attention of the Legislature. The connection of the waters of the Roanoke with some one of our navigable rivers (the practicability of which seems universally admitted,) is scarcely less important. Indeed, various improvements in our internal navigation have been projected, and no doubt, may be accomplished; but either through the supineness of those directly interested, or from the want of funds, have hitherto failed of success. Connected with this subject, the documents marked 3, 4 and 5, are submitted, and recommended to your attentive consideration.

Should these objects meet with the Legislative aid, to which they are entitled, no rational doubt need be entertained that we shall, be indemnified *directly* by tolls, and *ultimately*, by the increase of wealth, which improvements of this kind never fail to carry with them. I cannot omit to press upon the attention of the Legislature the state of our *roads*, which is to us a just subject of reproach. The condition of the public roads is not unfrequently resorted to for the purpose of testing the extent of improvement in the country where they lie. Should we cast our eyes over the map of America, and compare the progress of Virginia with that of some of her sister states, whose territory is not so extensive, whose population is not so numerous, and whose physical advantages in no one instance exceed her's; how striking, how humiliating the contrast!—New York, for example, so far back as 1809, had three thousand and seventy one miles of turnpike road, with a capital of $5,140,000; and the increase of both since that time, is doubtless, considerable.

When these circumstances are coupled with their vast projects of inland navigation, one branch of which costs 5,000,000 dollars, it will shew the wisdom of her policy, under whose benignant influence she has been enabled to carry on these great works, so honorable to her character.

A report is preparing by the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, shewing the manner in which they have vested the funds of that institution.—While upon the subject, I cannot refrain from inviting the attention of the Legislature to the propriety of establishing some literary institution, corresponding in magnitude, with the extent, the population, and resources of the state. It is

scarcely to be credited, that, in a government like ours, receiving its character from public sentiment, no effort has been made to enlighten that sentiment by fostering the means of education; but that a measure universally admitted to be productive of such vital consequences to a free government, should have been left entirely to individual exertion. Our records exhibit the almost incredible fact, that the Republican Legislature of Virginia has never, since the first moment of its existence, contributed one cent on an establishment of this kind. The result has been expected:—Our youths, sent to other states, influenced by more enlightened policy; vast sums of money expended abroad; their affection for the parent state lessened; habits formed, and opinions imbibed unfriendly to the principles of the majority of her citizens.

A report is in train, and will shortly be completed, by the Visitors of the Penitentiary, which when received, will be transmitted without delay, and will furnish the necessary information relative to that institution. It is my duty, however to mention, that, since the last session, the former superintendant has resigned. But the prosperity of the institution has received no check from that occurrence; since we have had the good fortune to find a successor in Col. Wm. Campbell, who gives us daily proofs that our confidence was well placed. It was a source of gratification to the Executive, that they could unite, with the advancement of the public good, an act of gratitude to a citizen, whose long and meritorious services during the revolutionary war, gave him strong claims to the patronage of his country.

The annual report of the superintendant of the armory, (which will be prepared as shortly as possible, compatible with a standing regulation of the institution,) will disclose to you the progress in the fabrication of arms.

The letter in the packet B. No. 6 from the judges of the General Court, brought to our notice a defect in our system of criminal jurisprudence. The discharge of one prisoner by the superior Court of Norfolk, at its May session, from the impossibility of procuring a prosecutor on behalf of the commonwealth, and the probability that many others may escape for the same reason at the October session, were objects of such moment as to receive our immediate attention. I addressed a letter to the Attorney General, disclosing to him the difficulty, and requesting, (if in his power,) that he would attend in person. The professional engagements of that gentleman in the Superior Courts, where the state also required his services, preventing him from attending, upon full consideration it was deemed advisible to solicit the aid of some other respectable member of the profession, to represent the commonwealth in that court. Mr. Alexander McRae was induced to undertake the duty, rather from a disposition to render a service to his country, than from pecuniary consideration. The result of his labours proves that the course pursued was as necessary, as the appointment was prudent; one of the offenders having been sentenced to death, and four others to the Penitentiary. It belongs to the Legislature to apply the remedy to an evil, which, should it become general, will be productive of the most serious consequences.

Some objects of minor importance will be the subjects of future communications.

I owe it to the Council of State, to make known that their attention to the duties of their station has been unremitted, and that they have placed me under perpetual obligations by their friendly support and cordial co-operation.

I cannot conclude this communication without reminding you of the abundant cause of congratulation in the universal plenty with which our land abounds, in the uniform subordination to the laws in every part of the Commonwealth, and the consequent happiness of every description of our citizens.—Nor can I omit to invite you to join with me in rendering to the God of Mercies the homage of our grateful hearts for these distinguished proofs of his good Providence, and fervently praying that he may continue to have our beloved country in his holy keeping.

JAMES BARBOUR.

LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA.

On Wednesday last, Mr. Lee of Norfolk Borough after a handsome introductory tribute to Commodore Decatur and his brave crew, submitted the following resolutions to the House of Delegates which were unanimously agreed to:

Whereas the General Assembly of Virginia entertains a just sense of the utility of the American Navy as a shield of commerce, an instrument of war, and a bond of that happy Union, which encircles the good people of these States, and constitutes them one nation: and whereas it is not more the duty of the Congress of the U. S. to reward the illustrious actions of the citizens of the U. S. in general, than it is the duty of the several state governments to honor, by special distinctions, the patriotic deeds of their respective citizens—Be it therefore resolved that the General Assembly of this Commonwealth holds in the highest estimation the valor, and intrepidity, displayed by Commodore *Decatur*, his officers and crew, in the late gallant victory obtained by the United States frigate *United States* over his Britannic Majesty's frigate the *Macedonian*.

And be it further resolved unanimously, that the governor of this commonwealth be and he is hereby requested to present along with the thanks of the General Assembly, in the name of the commonwealth, to Commodore Stephen Decatur and to Lieut. Wm. H. Allen, and John C. Nicholson appropriate swords, commemorative of the late gallant exploit of themselves and their brave compatriots of the Frigate United States.

Resolved unanimously, that the General Assembly tender their most sincere and affectionate condolement to the friends and relations of those gallant souls who perished while vindicating the rights of their Country, and supporting the honor of the American flag, in the late splendid victory obtained by the U. States' frigate United States over his Britannic Majesty's Frigate Macedonian.

And be it further resolved unanimously, that the Governor of this commonwealth be requested to transmit to each of these officers above mentioned a copy of these Resolutions.

LEGISLATURE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The following resolution was offered in the House of Representatives of this state, on Thursday last by Mr. Ellmaker.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill providing for the enlistment, within and by the authority of this commonwealth, of two regiments of infantry, each consisting of 1000 men, to serve during the war, in substitution of a portion of the quota of militia which may be demanded by the general government: *Provided*, The President be authorised by Congress to accept and put them under the pay of the United States.

On the same day the resolution relative to building a ship of war, and loaning it to the government of the United States, was read a second time, and a committee appointed to bring in a bill for that purpose.

GENERAL SMYTH.

Copy of a dispatch from Brigadier General Smyth to Major General Dearborn, transmitted to the Secretary at War.

CAMP, NEAR BUFFALOE,
4th Dec. 1812.

SIR—The troops under my command having been ordered to hut themselves for the winter, it becomes my duty to report to you the proceedings had here since I took the command on this frontier.

On or about the 26th of October, I ordered that 20 scows should be prepared for the transportation of artillery and cavalry, and put the carpenters of the army upon that duty.

By the 25th of November, ten scows were completed; and by bringing boats from Lake Ontario, the number was encreased to seventy.

I had issued an address to the men of New-York, and perhaps 300 volunteers had arrived at Buffaloe. I presumed that the regular troops, and the volunteers under cols. Swift and M'Clure, would furnish 2300 men for duty; and of gen. Tannehill's brigade, reporting a total of 1650, as many as 413 had volunteered to cross into Canada. I deemed myself ready to "cross with 3000 men at *once*," according to your orders.

Preparatory thereto, on the night of the 27th November, I sent over two parties: one under lieut. col. Boerstler; the other under capt. King, with whom lieut. Angus of the navy, at the head of a body of seamen, united. The first mentioned party was to capture a guard, and destroy a bridge about five miles below Fort Erie; the second party were to take and render useless the cannon of the enemy's batteries and some pieces of light artillery. The first party made some prisoners, but failed to destroy the bridge; the second party, after rendering unserviceable the light artillery, separated by some misapprehension.—Lieut. Angus, the seamen, and a part of the troops returned, with all the boats, while captain King, capt. Morgan, capt. Sproul, lieut. Houston, and about sixty men, remained. Capt. King, notwithstanding, with those under his command, advanced to the enemy's batteries, attacked and took two of them in succession, rendered unserviceable the cannon, and took a number of prisoners. In descending the Niagara some distance, two boats were found, on board of which capt. King sent his prisoners, all his officers, and half his men. His high sense of honor would not allow him to quit the remainder. He was captured with them.

Orders had been given that all the troops in the neighborhood should march at reveillee to the place of embarkation. A part of the detachment sent in the night having returned, and having excited apprehensions for the residue, about 250 men under col. Winder put off in boats for the opposite shore; a part of their force had landed, when a force with a piece of artillery appeared. A retreat was ordered; and col. Winder's detachment suffered a loss of six killed and twenty wounded, of whom six were officers.

The general embarkation commenced as the troops arrived; but this being the first time the troops had embarked, the whole of the scows were occupied by about one third part of the artillery, while about 800 regular infantry, something upwards of 200 twelve-months' volunteers, and perhaps 200 of those militia who had volunteered their services for a few days, occupied all the boats that were ready. The troops then embarked, moved up the stream to Black Rock, without sustaining loss from the enemy's fire. It was now the afternoon, and they were ordered to disembark and dine.

The enemy shewed a force estimated at 5 or 600 men, drawn up in a field at some distance from the river; and had one piece of artillery, said to be a 9 pounder, ready to fire on our troops.

There remained unembarked, a part of the artillery; a few cavalry; the volunteers under col. M'Clure, amounting on that day to 340 men; a detachment from gen. Tannehill's brigade (number unknown and little relied on.)* There were also sundry crowds who might, perhaps, have followed the army—if it was successful.

Recollecting your instructions "to cross with 3000 men *at once*," and to consult some of my principal officers in "all important movements," I called for the field officers of the regular and twelve months' volunteers embarked. Colonel Porter not being found at the moment, capt. Gibson was called as the next senior officer of artillery.

These questions were put—"*Is it expedient* NOW *to cross over? Is the force we have sufficient to conquer the opposite coast?*"

The first question was decided in the negative by colonels Parker, Schuyler, Winder, lieut. cols. Boerstler and Coles, and major Campbell. Col. Swift of the volunteers *alone* gave an opinion for *then* crossing over.

The second question was not decided. Col. Parker, col. Schuyler, lieut. col. Coles, and major Campbell, were decidedly of opinion that the force was insufficient. Col. Winder, col. Swift, lieut. col. Boerstler and captain Gibson deemed the force sufficient.

I determined to postpone crossing over until more complete preparation would enable me to embark the whole force *at once*, according to your instructions. The next day was spent in such preparations; and the troops were ordered to be again at the place of embarkation at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 30th November. On their arrival, they were sent into the adjacent woods, there to build fires and remain till 3 o'clock in the morning of the 1st December, when it was intended to put off two hours before day light so as to avoid the fire of the enemy's cannon; in passing the position which it was believed they occupied below, to land above Chippeway, assault that place, & if successful, march through Queenstown for Fort George. The contractor was called on to furnish rations for 2500 men for four days, when it was found he could furnish the pork but not the flour. Sixty barrels were required, and only thirty five furnished.

The embarkation commenced, but was delayed by circumstances, so as not to be completed until after day light, when it was found that the regular infantry, 688 men; the artillery, 177 men; col. Swift's volunteers, about 230; six companies of federal volunteers, amounting to 276 men; about 100 militia of col. Dobbins' regiment, and a few men in a boat with Mr. P. B. Porter, contractor's agent, who was to pilot the enterprize, had embarked; the whole on board, without the commissioned officers, being 1500 men, or thereabouts, and it was now two hours later than the time fixed on for setting out. There were some groups of men not yet embarked; they were applied to, requested, and ordered by the brigade major, to get into the boats; they did not. He estimated their number at 150; it was probably greater.

It then became a question whether it was expedient to invade Canada, in open day-light, with 1500 men, at a point where no reinforcement could be expected for some days. I saw that the number of the regular troops was declining rapidly. I knew that on them chiefly I was to depend.

I called together the officers commanding corps of the regular army. Col. Parker being sick, those present were col. Porter of the artillery, col. Schuyler, col. Winder, and lieut. col. Coles.

I put to them this question: "*Shall we proceed?*"

They *unanimously* decided that we ought not.

I foresaw that the volunteers who had come out for a few days would disperse. Several of them had on the evening of the 28th broken their musquets, because they had not seen a battle. I foresaw that the number of the regular troops would decrease; the measles had affected them generally; the constant use of fresh meat had produced dyssenteries, and they were now in tents in the month of December. I informed the officers that the attempt to invade Canada would not be made until the army was reinforced, and directed them to withdraw their troops, and cover them with huts immediately.

The volunteers and neighboring people were dissatisfied, and it has been in the power of the contractor's agent to excite some clamor against the course pursued. He finds the contract a losing one at this time, and would wish to see the army in Canada, that he might not be bound to supply it.

I am sorry the situation of the force under my command had not been such as to make the propriety of a forward movement obvious to all. Circumstanced as we were, I have thought it my duty to follow the cautious counsels of experience, and not by precipitation, to add another to the list of our defeats.

You will perceive my motives by my letter of the 30th of October, wherein I said, "I would cross in three days, if I had the means. Without them, it would be injustice to the nation and myself to attempt it. *I must not be defeated.*"

Allow me to recommend to your attention, and that of the Secretary of War, captain William King, of the 15th infantry, as an officer of the first class.—His dauntless bravery, refined mind, high sense of honor, and ambition to distinguish himself, render him a fit subject for promotion; and he is, perhaps, the best disciplinarian in the army.

I have the honor to be,
With perfect respect, sir,
Your most obedient,
ALEXANDER SMYTH,
Brigadier-General.

Major Gen. Dearborn.

**Six hundred men of this brigade are said to have deserted in 24 hours. A court martial of this brigade fined a volunteer twelve and a half cents for desertion.*

BUFFALOE, Dec. 8.

To the Editor of the Buffaloe Gazette.

SIR,

A friend has just handed me a proof sheet of your paper this morning, in which is contained what purports to be general Smyth's *official* account of the affairs of the 28th of November and 1st December.

I beg that you will suspend the publication so long as to assure the public that in your next I will give a *true* account of some of the most prominent transactions of those days.

When our lives, our property; when the precious and dear bought gift of our ancestors—the sacred honor of our country; when every thing that we prize as men, or ought to hold dear as patriots, are falling and fading before us, it is time to speak out; whatever be the hazard.

In ascribing, as I shall not hesitate to do, the late disgrace on this frontier to the cowardice of general Smyth, I beg to be understood as not intending to implicate the characters of the officers whose opinions he has brought forward to bolster up his conduct. *Several* of them I know to be as brave men as ever wielded a sword; and their advice, if indeed they gave the advice imputed to them, may be accounted for in the obvious consideration, with which every one who *saw* him must have been impressed, that any military attempts under such a leader, must in all human probability prove disgraceful.

PETER B. PORTER.

LATEST FROM FRANCE.

New-York, December 21.

By the Dick, from Bordeaux we have French papers to the 4th ult. They contain the French Bulletins to No. 23, the last of which is dated at Moscow, Oct. 9. It states that the advanced guard of the Grand Army was posted twenty leagues from Moscow: that the Russian Army was quartered upon Kolonga; that skirmishes took place daily, in which the French were victorious; that the Duke of Elchingen, with his division, was at Boghordock; and that Murat's division was at Troitsa. It also states, that the able Russian General, Prince Bagration, had died of his wounds; and that the inhabitants of Moscow were returning to their homes; and that Napoleon was in good health, and doing all he could to make them comfortable.

On this news the Evening Post observes, "It will be recollected, that Bonaparte entered Moscow on the 15th of September; from the above mentioned Bulletin, it appears, that on the 9th of October he remained in the same situation, having done nothing more towards the conquest of Russia. This is certainly against him; and if he is obliged to remain there through the winter, although he may be in "good health," he will be indisposed before spring.

We learn, verbally, that Massena was still at Bayonne, waiting for reinforcements; and the French troops in Spain and Portugal, suffering for the necessaries of life.

It was reported in France, that the Emperor had sent for Mr. Barlow to meet him at Wilna.

The report of the death of Prince Bagration was not believed in France.

LATEST FROM ENGLAND.

Philadelphia, Dec. 21.

Arrived Cartel ship George Washington, capt. Warrenton, in 50 days from Liverpool. To the politeness of Mr. Guire, a passenger, the editor of the Freeman's Journal is indebted for London papers to the 27th and Liverpool papers to the 28th October, inclusive.

The ministerial party has completely succeeded in the recent elections in England, and it was said, that as America has declared war, it should be a war of extermination, and that either her or Great Britain must fall.

A proclamation was issued by the prince regent in Council, declaring all English sailors traitors, who are found on board American vessels.

We are also informed, that a proclamation had been issued declaring *that all British subjects naturalized in the United States, who were found in arms against England, should be considered as traitors, and suffer death.* This Proclamation is not to be found in the papers in our possession and if issued at all, must be in the papers of the 22d, 23d, or 24th of October which are missing from our file.—But we are inclined to believe that the report has originated in mistake from the circumstance of the Proclamation respecting the sailors mentioned above.

The Russian fleet was to be sent to England for safety, and preparations were making at Portsmouth for its arrival.

One of the oldest and most respectable houses in London, in the Danish trade, has failed.

The last accounts from the north stated, that three several Russian armies had got in Bonaparte's rear, and his retreat was cut off. Smolensko was again in possession of the Russians. Prince Bagration had died of the wounds he received in the battle of Moskwa. [Doubted.]

Burgos still held out against Lord Wellington.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 22.

The frigates United States and Macedonian remained at anchor last evening, at the Brothers, waiting an easterly wind to come through Hell-Gate.

Capt. Barnard of the private armed sch'r. General Armstrong, has politely favored the editors of the Mercantile Advertiser with a file of Barbadoes papers, (which he procured at sea) to the 19th November, from which the following articles are taken:—

Bridgetown, Nov. 7.

On Wednesday last, an alarm was raised for the appearance of a fleet off this coast, which proved to be that from Cork, which sailed thence on the 22d September. The Jamaica vessels proceeded yesterday under the charge of the Fawn.

At the distance of about 180 miles to the windward of this island, the Fawn gave chace to an American topsail schooner privateer, and soon after spoke H. M. S. Tribune, which informed that the enemy's cruiser had been in sight for the four preceding days, and appeared to have so much confidence of her ability to escape, that she did not resort to any of those customary measures of precaution, with vessels of her description, when a man of war is in view. On the same day, the Helena also observed a small privateer reconnoitring that part of the fleet which came more immediately under her charge.

November 10.

We have the satisfaction of announcing the capture of the Yankee privateer brig of 16 guns, by his majesty's brig Peruvian, capt. Westropp; the Opossum, capt. Wolrige, was lately seen in the chace of the Orders in Council, off St. Bartholomews.—There are two American schooners cruising to the windward, with which the Tribune fell in, but they escaped by superior sailing: and there is another of this description in the neighbourhood of the Grenadines.

The American privateer sch'r. Blockade, of 8 guns, but pierced for 18, boarded off Martinique a Swedish sloop from St. Barts. that arrived at St. Vincent on the 30th ult.—This cruiser was from some part of Connecticut, and had then in company a schooner which she had captured belonging to St. Lucia.

Accounts are daily received of depredations committed on our commercial pursuits by American privateers. The brig Union, from Guernsey bound to St. Croix, was captured on the 26th ult. 200 miles to windward of this Island, by the General Armstrong, of 19 guns (one of large calibre on a traverse,) and 140 men: the master and crew were put on board a colony boat, with the intention of being landed at Berbice, but on its way thither, falling in with the schooner Industry, of this port, the master availed himself of a passage, and arrived here on Tuesday evening last.

By a schooner arrived this morning, that was boarded to leeward by the Joel Barlow, of 10 guns and 65 men, we learn that the brig Nancy, which sailed hence on Tuesday night last for Gaudaloupe, was taken on the following morning by this cruizer, and sent to America, being the 13th prize that had fallen into her possession. The Ram (tender) that anchored in the bay yesterday, was chased by the enemy until she had neared this Island.

There are two privateers cruizing off Demerara, with one of which the ship Caledonia, arrived at that colony, had an action, and succeeded in beating her off. The Queen Charlotte Packet and merchant brig Hawke, (armed) with a number of volunteers from the militia and a party of the 60th regiment had gone in pursuit of the enemy, but the result of their expedition was not known at the time of the latest departure from that colony, which has arrived here.

November 17.

The Lancashire Witches, from Martinique, arrived yesterday; she had sailed some time before for this island, but was chased back by an American privateer; besides which, a large schooner of 14 guns and another on a traverse, having a smaller schooner in company as a tender, had been cruizing for three days successively off Maran Bay; and it having been the opinion that a landing would be attempted by them, the militia in that quarter of the Island had been kept under arms.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 22.

Arrived, private armed sch'r. Bona, Dameron, from a cruize On the 24th ult. in the lat. of Barbadoes, engaged a large ship of 22 guns; continued firing some time from our long gun, when it bursted and broke one of the men's legs; then determined on boarding. Accordingly sheered along side, when 29 officers and men; boarded and carried her; finding a great deal of damage done to the ship, they hailed the B. for the Doctor, who was sent on board; the sea being rough, the boat stove along side after they got on board.

Six days previous to the capture of the ship was in company with the Tom, Wilson, of Baltimore; a sail was descried and chase given—the Tom sailing best brought her to action, and after a severe engagement she struck, with the loss of her captain and four wounded. She proved to be the British Packet, Townsend, Cox, from Falmouth for Barbadoes, there were several passengers on board, among whom were some women; after the Packet had struck it was observed that something was thrown over; the Bona's boat was then going on board, and immediately made for it, and reached it before it sunk. It proved to be the MAIL, which she has safely brought in with her; the Packet was ransomed and pursued her course; neither the Bona nor Tom suffered any damage in the engagement with the Packet. Had two men wounded in the engagement with the ship.

SALEM, Dec. 19.

BRITISH HUMANITY—*or conduct perfectly characteristic of the subjects of the "Bulwark of our religion."*

On the 12th Oct. last, the privateer schr. Industry, Mudge commander, captured the British ship Caroline, bound to St. Andrews. Being the last of his cruize, and having exhausted his crew by manning prizes, capt. Mudge found himself with his few remaining hands on board the privateer unable successfully to resist the prisoners, who instigated by the crew of the Caroline and their assistance, rose and took the command. They then bore down upon the prize ship, and retook her. Mr. Benj. Laskey, prize master, with six others composing the prize crew, they treated very ill, and put in irons for about three hours, while they got out the long boat. They then put them into it, with 1 bag of bread, 12 gallons of water, and 35 pounds of pork, and one of the ship's steering sails, and in lat. 42, 50, long. 61, 30, set them adrift on the wide ocean, pertinaciously deaf to the supplications of these victims of their cruelty, although they conjured them by every thing sacred in humanity, civilization, or *religion*, to desist from their barbarous purpose. The crew usurped the command of the ship and put away for Ireland, leaving Mr. Laskey and his fellows to the mercy of the deep, in a very leaky boat, wherein their bread was wet—their feet remaining in the water were so swollen that they could not get on their shoes—without compass or quadrant, and doomed in all human probability to immediate death. Happily however they constructed a temporary sail and awning, chinked the boat, and after four days with much difficulty made the land a little way from Halifax, and were taken into custody as prisoners of war.

CHARLES-TOWN, January 1.

DIED, on Wednesday last, after a short but severe illness, which she bore with christian resignation, Mrs. *Rebecca M'Cartney*, wife of Mr. Joseph M'Cartney, of this place.

Gen. Smyth and Gen. Porter. We understand a duel has been fought between these two generals; & that after exchanging shots without injury, a reconciliation took place, by concessions being made on the part of Gen. Porter.

The bill to increase the Navy of the United States, as sent from the Senate, authorising the building four 74 gun ships, and six frigates, has passed the House of Representatives, and wants only the signature of the President of the United States to become a law. *Nat. Intel.*

The British brig of war Plumper, from Halifax for St. Johns, with 36,000*l.* on board was totally lost on Point Lapro, near Easport, on the 5th inst. and out of 100 men, only the captain and 11 were saved.

Extract of a letter dated Bordeaux, October 31.

"*There is a bright prospect of a perfect good understanding between this country and the United States being speedily accomplished. By letters from Paris we learn, that Mr. Barlow left that city on the 25th for Wilna, at the express solicitation of the duke of Bassano, in the belief that a treaty favorable to the interests of both countries may be terminated, and an arrangement made relative to the property captured at St. Sebastians, &c. &c.*"

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Natchitoches, Louisanna, dated the 31*st Oct. to his correspondent in this city.*

"The volunteers to aid the Spanish Revolution under the command of Col. M'Gee, left the Trinity River for St. Antonio, on the 18th inst. nearly 1000 strong. From accounts, there will be no opposition at St. Antonio. Letters from Col. M'Gee state that they will make but a short stay at St. Antonio, but proceed on over the River Grand, where it is reported a division of Gen. Rayon's army have arrived, and are putting to death every European and their adherents they can catch: and that the Patriots are in possession of Mexico."

Albany, Dec. 18.

We are happy to announce, that the gallant Col. Fenwick, who was severely wounded and taken prisoner at Queenstown, arrived in this city on Wednesday.

Dayton, Ohio, Dec. 2.

General Harrison is still engaged in collecting supplies for his army; an undertaking, at this season of the year, and in the present condition of the roads, attended with difficulties almost inconceivable. We believe all idea of invading Canada from this quarter sooner than spring, is already abandoned. General Harrison does not intend to risk his fame and the safety of his troops, upon contingencies. We presume he does not intend to march until his means of supply are fixed upon a sure basis.

James Logan, the half-blood Shawanoe Indian, who has been acting as a spy in General Harrison's army, for some time past, was severely wounded last week by some of his countrymen, while on an excursion near Fort Defiance, in company with Capt. Jonny and another Indian.—His wound is said to be mortal.

Frakfort, Ky. Dec. 11.

Capt. Craig, of Shawanee town, went up the Illinois river with eighty men, expecting to join Gen. Russell, but did not fall in with him, & he (Craig) proceeded on until he came to the old Peoria town, 20 miles above the one destroyed by Russell, where he was fired upon by some Indians, whose fire he returned, and made good his landing without the loss of a man. He met with no opposition in the town (those who fired on him having made their escape.) He took 42 prisoners, got a large quantity of furs, destroyed their houses and property, consisting of large barns full of wheat, cribs full of corn and gardens full of cabage. He also took an English trader there. The prisoners he has delivered up to Gov. Howard, and has safely returned—so that all is not unsuccessful.

☞THE subscribers to General *Henry Lee's* Memoirs of the Southern War, are hereby informed that there are several copies of that work now in the hands of Mr. John Humphreys, which, it is requested will be called for as soon as convenient—Subscription six dollars, to be paid for on delivery.

Public Sale.

TO be sold at public auction, at the late dwelling of Joseph Bond, deceased, on Friday the 8th instant, all the personal estate of the said dec'd, consisting of a number of valuable young horses, cattle, sheep, hogs and geese, one good road waggon and geers, ploughs and harrows, with a variety of other farming utensils—all the household and kitchen furniture, amongst which is an eight day clock—a number of good beds, & bedding, a large quantity of excellent hay, and corn, 70 or 80 acres of fallow wheat in the ground, &c. &c. Eight months credit will be given. At the same time will be offered for rent for a term of years the farm and mill of the said dec'd.

The sale to commence at 10 o'clock, and attendance given by

SAMUEL M'PHERSON,
THOMAS PHILLIPS,
Administrators.

Jefferson county, Jan. 1, 1813.

Negro Man for Sale.

TO be sold, at private sale, a young, healthy, strong Negro Man. He will be sold for ready money or on a credit of twelve months, as may best suit the purchaser; but if sold on a credit, approved security will be required. Persons who wish to buy with a view of carrying him out of the state, need not apply. For a view of this negro and for the price, &c. apply to Robert Worthington, of Shepherd's-Town, Va.

January 1, 1813.

Negroes for Hire.

WILL be hired to the highest bidder, on Saturday the 2nd of January next, at Mount Hammond, a number of negroes, consisting of men, women and children—among them are one tolerable blacksmith, one man and one womah house servants, and one old cook—The hiring to commence at 11 o'clock.

Also at the same time and place, will be sold for cash, *thirty or forty Sheep*, some work horses, two mares, and two colts. JAMES FULTON.

Jefferson County, Dec 25, 1812.

A Stray Bull.

CAME to the subscriber's residence near Charlestown, some time in September, *a dark red bull*, with some white under his belly, supposed to be about four years old—Appraised to 12 dollars. The owner is desired to come, prove property, pay charges and take him away.

JOHN BOLEY.

December 31, 1812.

A Stray Shoat.

CAME to the subscriber's farm, near Shepherd's-Town, about the 1st of May 1812, a black and red boar Shoat. The owner is desired to come, prove property, pay charges and take it away.

JOSEPH M'MURRAN.

January 1.

OFFICIAL REPORT

TO BRIGADIER GENERAL SMYTH,
Commanding the Army of the Centre.

SIR,

I beg leave to inform you that on the morning of the 21st Nov. at 8 o'clock a heavy cannonading opened upon this garrison from all the batteries at and in the neighborhood of Fort George, which lasted without intermission until after sun down. They had five detached batteries, two mounting 24 pounders, one mounting a 9 and two mortar batteries, one 10 1-2 inch. The batteries firing hot shot which set some of our buildings on fire, but from the extraordinary vigilance of the officers and men, particularly Major Armistead of the U. S. corps of engineers, whose indefatigable exertions were extended to all parts of the garrison, the fires were got under without being observed by the enemy.

Our garrison was not as well provided with artillery and ammunition as I could have wished; however the batteries opened a tremendous fire upon them, in return, with hot shot admirably well directed.

Several times during the cannonading, the town of Newark was in flames, but was extinguished by their engines—as also the centre building in fort George. Their mess house and all the buildings near it were consumed. Capt. M'Kean commanded a 12 pounder in the S. E. block house, and distinguished himself by his usual gallantry and skill. Capt. Jacks, of the 7th regiment militia artillery commanded a 6 pounder on the N. block house and together with a party of his own company, though placed in a situation most exposed to the fire of the enemy, maintained their position like veterans.

Lt. Rees of the 3d regiment artillery had the command of an 18 pr. on the S. E. battery which was pointed at a battery *en barbette*, mounting a 24 pr. and also at Fort George; several well directed shot were made from this gun, which proved the skill of its commander. About 10 o'clock Lt. Rees had his left shoulder bruised by a part of the parapet falling on him; which though it did not materially injure him obliged him, to retire, and capt. Leonard of the 1st regt. U. States artillery at that moment arriving, he took command of this battery for the remainder of the day. Lt. Wendel of the 3d regt. artillery, had the command of an 18 and a 4 pounder on the W. battery—and Dr. Hooper of capt. Jacks' company, had command of a 6 pr. on the mess house. Of these gentlemen and their commands, I cannot speak with too much praise, and from their shot (all of which was hot) the town of Newark was repeatedly fired, and one of the enemy's batteries silenced for a time.

An instance of extraordinary bravery in a FEMALE [the wife of one Doyle, a private of the U. States artillery, made a prisoner at Queenstown] I cannot pass over. During the most tremendous cannonading I have ever seen, she *attended the five pounder on the old mess house with red hot shot, and shewed fortitude equal to the Maid of Orleans!* Lieuts. Ganseevoort and Harris of the 1st. regiment U. States artillery, had command of the Salt battery at Youngs-town, mounting an 18 and a 4 pounder. These two guns played upon the garrison of Fort George and the buildings near it; from every observation I could make during their fire, I am happy to say they merited my warmest thanks for their skill in the service of these guns. Lieut. Harris, from his 4 pounder, sunk a schooner which lay at their wharf—she was one of those taken by the enemy at the mouth of the Genessee river a short time since. He also assisted in burning and destroying the buildings near the wharf. These two officers and their men, in the warmest part of the cannonading, having fired away all their cartridges, cut up their flannel waistcoats and shirts, and the soldiers their trowsers to supply their guns!

I cannot say too much in praise of all the officers and soldiers of the artillery immediatly under my observation in this garrison; they merit the thanks and esteem of their country for the defence of it, and I believed it never sustained so sharp and continued a bombardment.

The enemy threw more than 2000 red hot balls into it, and a number of shells amounting to more than 180, only one of which did injury to our men.

Lt. col Grey commanded the artillery—the unremitting attention paid to his duty, proves him an officer whose zeal and science do honor to himself & country, to this gentleman I feel much indebted for the manner he acquitted himself.

To the officers of my regiment [particularly capt. Milligan] and the soldiers who assisted the artillery, and those employed in extinguishing the fires and carrying off the killed and wounded, I am also much indebted, they merit my warmest thanks. To Dr. West of the garrison, Dr. Hugan of the 14th regt. U. S. infantry, and Dr. Craig of the 22d regt. U. States infantry, I offer my thanks.—They were employed during the entire day in the most critical duties of their profession.

Our killed and wounded amount to 11;

Killed,

Sergeant Jones	1st regt.	U. S.	artillery.
Salisbury—3d	do.	do.	
Privates Stewart	22d	do.	do.
Lewis	1st	do.	do.

Wounded

Lieut. Lewis	22d regt.	U. S.	infantry.
Privates Bowman	14th	do.	do.
M'Evoy	1st	do.	do.
Campbell	1st	do.	do.
Welsh	1st	do.	do.
Ray	3d	do.	do.
Woodworth	7th regt.	militia	art'y.

From the numbers we saw carried off from the enemy's batteries, I presume many more were killed and wounded on their side.

Only two of the above men were killed by the enemy's shot, the rest by the bursting of a 12 pounder in the S. E. block house and by the spunges of the guns on the N. block house & at the Salt battery.

GEORGE M'FEELEY,
Lt. col. commanding Fort Niagara.

OUR "FIR BUILT FRIGATES."

The following singular article is extracted from the *London Evening Star*. It is a curious text—the officers and crews of our "*fir-built Frigates*" have made an excellent comment upon it.

Bost. Pap.

"We have received letters and papers from New York to the 14th, and from Washington to the 9th ult. We are not surprised to find from these, that the repeal of the Orders in Council, ample and unconditional as it was, has not satisfied the demagogues of America. The American Government has now thrown off the mask even of moderation, which its members have assumed in their negociations with this country, and has made common cause with France in her attempt to subjugate the world. The tone of the "National Intelligencer," the organ of Mr. MADISON'S Government previous to the arrival in America of the formal repeal of the orders in council, was moderate if not pacific; but now that Great Britain has receded from her high and commanding attitude as *mistress of the seas* and *dictator of the maritime law of nations*, America, like an ungrateful minion, turns upon *her Benefactor*, and demands still further concessions—the American flag is now to secure "all that sails under it." This is precisely the language of the French government—"Free ships make free goods," has been eternally echoed in our ears, since the commencement of the war, and but yesterday we were told by France that the Treaty of Utrecht was the line of demarcation of our maritime rights.—This is bold language to utter to a nation whose seamen have successively beaten every power in Europe into *a confession of their superiority*—a nation whose fleets have annihilated, in succession, those of Spain, Holland, France, Russia and Denmark. *Our maritime superiority is, in fact, part of the law of nations.* It has been the conqueror, since men associated together in a civilization, to give laws to the conquered; and is Great Britain to be driven from the proud eminence which the blood and treasures of her sons have attained for her among the nations by a piece of striped bunting flying at the mast heads of *fir-built frigates*, manned by *a handful of bastards and outlaws?*"

For Sale.

ON Saturday 2d of January, 1813 will be offered for sale at Muse's Mill, a number of valuable work horses, cattle, hogs, Farming utensils, household furniture, books, &c. &c. Nine months credit will be given, by the purchasers giving bond & approved security. The sale to commence at 10 o'clock.

BATTAILE MUSE.
December 25, 1812.

Stray Heifer.

CAME to the subscriber's residence, near Charles-Town, on the 22d of August, 1812, a *Red Heifer*, about two years old—no mark or brand perceivable. Appraised to seven dollars. The owner is desired to come, prove property, pay charges and take it away.

THOMAS COCKRELL.
Jefferson County, Dec. 25, 1812.

BLANK BOOKS

For Sale at this Office.

10 Dollars Reward.

DESERTED from the Recruiting Rendezvous at Charlestown, Jefferson County, Va. on the 17th inst. a soldier named CHRISTOPHER TUCKER, born in Loudoun County, state of Virginia, aged 33 years, five feet four inches high, dark complexion, dark hair, dark eyes, and by profession a Stone Mason—had on when last seen a gray broad cloth coat, overalls made of dark corduroy—other articles of clothing not recollected. The above reward will be paid on the delivery of him to any officer of the United States army.

OTHO W. CALLIS, Lieut.
12th regt. U. S. Infantry.
December 25, 1812.

Six Cents Reward.

ABSCONDED from the subscriber on the 29th of the 10th month last, a boy named JACOB CAIN, about 17 years of age, 5 feet 1 inch high. The above reward will be paid if brought home, but no charges.

SAMUEL SWAYNE.
Jefferson County, Dec. 25.

FALL GOODS.

THE subscriber informs his customers, and the public, that in addition to the Goods he opened in the early part of the season, he is now opening a very large assortment of

MERCHANDISE,

well adapted to the season, embracing almost every article required in his line: The articles which have been most *scarce* and *difficult* to obtain for some time past, will be found among the present assortment, and having been purchased in the best markets for cash, will be sold accordingly cheap.

To Blacksmiths.

The subscriber has for Sale,

Genuine Millington Crowley Steel, warranted first quality, for Axes and other edge Tools,

Best English Blister, for Mill Irons, Hammers, &c.

Do. Country Blister, Bar Iron, Sheet Iron, Strap Iron. ALSO,

Anvils and Vices,

of the first rate.

JAMES S. LANE.
Shepherd's-Town, Nov. 20.

Valuable Negroes for Sale.

I will sell eight valuable negroes, viz. three men, two women, and three very fine children—the children will not be parted from the mother. One of the women was hired for several years by Mr. Williamson, as a cook, at 45 dollars per year. As those negroes are not sold for any fault, they will not be sold to what is termed negro buyers, nor to any man that is not reputed a good master.

HENRY GANTT.
December 11.

Jefferson County, to wit.
September Court, 1812.

Isaac Evans and his wife, late Jane Barnhouse, Complainants,
vs.
Richard Barnhouse, William Barnhouse, Nancy Barnhouse, Caleb Barnhouse, Magnus T. Barnhouse, and Augustus Barnhouse, heirs at law of Richard Barnhouse, deceased, Defendants.

IN CHANCERY.

THE defendants not having entered their appearance and given security according to the act of assembly and the rules of this court, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that they are not inhabitants of this commonwealth; on the motion of the plaintiffs by their counsel, it is ordered, that the said defendants do appear here on the fourth Monday in October next, and answer the bill of the plaintiffs; and that a copy of this order be forthwith inserted in the Farmer's Repository for two months successively, and published at the door of the court-house of said county.

A copy,
Teste,
GEO. HITE, C. J. C.

Caution.

THIS is to caution the public and my neighbours in general from cutting any timber on my land, or in any other manner trespassing on it, as I have sustained great loss in that way. One of my corner stones which was planted by myself and John Melvin and John Buckles, some years past, in the place where a locust stake formerly stood, and on which we put the two first letters of our names, is entirely taken away, which I believe was done by one of my neighbours, or some evil designed person, as it has been a corner at the place where the stone stood I believe more than 30 years. I intend to use the best possible means in my power to prevent such practices in future, and leave it to the public to judge whether this is doing as we wish others to do unto us.

ADAM LINK.
December 18, 1812.

Ten Dollars Reward.

DESERTED from the Recruiting Rendezvous at Charlestown, Jefferson county, Va. on the 10th instant, a soldier named SAMUEL MASSEY, born in Chester county, state of Pennsylvania, aged 29 years, 5 feet 9 inches high, light complexion, light eyes, dark hair, blown look when spoken to, and by profession a shoemaker. Had on when last seen, a light colored fur hat, soldier's frock, and a brown broad cloth coat—other articles of clothing not recollected. The above reward will be paid on his delivery to any officer of the U. S. army, together with all reasonable charges.

OTHO W. CALLIS, Lieut.
12th regt. U. S. Infantry.
December 18.

☞ Notice.

THE highest price in cash will be given for Hides and Skins, delivered at my shop opposite Ann Frame's store.

HENRY ISLER, senr.
Charlestown, Dec. 16.

Hides & Skins wanted.

THE highest price, in cash, will be given for hides and skins, delivered at the subscriber's tan yard, about 50 yards from the Charlestown mill.

JACOB E. PARSON.
Charlestown, Nov. 13. 3 m.

LOST,

On Thursday night the 17th inst. between Charlestown and the White House Tavern, nine yards of homemade drab cloth, with trimmings for a coat. Any person finding the above cloth, and will return it to the subscriber, at Dan. Collett', shall be generously rewarded. WILLIAM WEST.
Dec. 18.

Jefferson County, to wit.
March Term, 1812.

Leonard Y. Davis, Thomas W. Davis, and William R. Davis, Complainants,
vs.
Mary Davis, Joseph W. Davis, Nancy Davis, Clementius R. Davis, and Aquila Davis, an infant, by Joseph W. Davis, *his* next friend, and William Worthington, Defendants. In Chancery.

THE defendant William Worthington not having entered his appearance and given security according to the act of assembly and the rules of this court, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that he is not an inhabitant of this commonwealth: On the motion of the complainants by their counsel, it is ordered that the said defendant do appear here on the fourth Monday in May next, and answer the bill of the complainants, and that a copy of this order be forthwith inserted in the Farmer's Repository for two months successively, and posted at the door of the court house of said county: And it is further ordered that the defendant Joseph W. Davis be restrained from paying away or secreting any money, goods or effects in his hands belonging to the absent defendant William Worthington, until the further order of this court.

A Copy. Teste,
GEO. HITE, Clk.
November 27.

NEW STORE,

West end of Charles-Town; opposite Mr. Henry Haines' tavern.

John Carlile,

Takes the liberty of informing the public generally, that he has just received and finished opening a neat assortment of

WINTER GOODS,

suitable for the present season, consisting in part of the following articles:

Superfine and common cloths, assorted,
Superfine and common cassimeres,
Bedford cords,
Cords, thicksets and velvets of the best quality,
Callicoes, flannels and umbrellas;

ALSO,

A good asssortment of Cutlery,
Britania spoons,
Gentlemens, fashionable and best spurs,
And many other articles too numerous to mention—together with a good assortment of

Wines, Spirits & Whiskey,

Molasses, and Sugars of every quality,
Coffee, Teas, &c. &c.

All of which was purchased very low, and will be sold at the most reduced prices for cash or country produce.—Any person wishing to purchase for cash, will find a great advantage in calling on him, as he is determined to sell as low as they possibly can be sold in this part of the country

December 4, 1812.

Negroes for Hire.

THE subscriber as Trustee for the children of Mrs. Harriet Christian, late dec'd. will offer for hire on the first day of January next, opposite the door of Robert Fulton's Hotel, in Charles-Town, a negro woman aged about 26 years, and a boy aged about 11; the woman is well known in this place, and has the character of being as valuable a slave as any in the valley, she is an excellent cook, washer, and table servant; the boy although of tender years, is remarkable for his activity & usefulness.—Bond with approved security will be required.

ROBERT C. LEE.
Charlestown, Dec. 11, 1812.

FARMER'S REPOSITORY.

CHARLES-TOWN, (*Jefferson County, Virginia,*) PRINTED BY RICHARD WILLIAMS.

Vol. V.] FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1813. [No. 250.

TERMS OF THIS PAPER.

The price of the *Farmer's Repository* is Two Dollars a year, one dollar to be paid at the time of subscribing, and one at the expiration of the year. No paper will be discontinued until arrearages are paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding a square, will be inserted *three* weeks to non-subscribers for one dollar, and 25 cents for every subsequent insertion.—Subscribers will receive a reduction of one fourth on their advertisements.

BRITISH SAILORS.

By his royal highness the prince regent, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty.

PROCLAMATION.

George, P. R. Whereas we are informed, that great numbers of mariners and seafaring men, his majesty's natural born subjects, are in the service of divers foreign princes and states, to the prejudice of his majesty's kingdom; and whereas attempts may be made to seduce some of his majesty's subjects contrary to their allegiance and duty to his majesty, to enter on board ships or vessels of war, or other ships or vessels belonging to the United States of America, with intent to commit hostilities against his majesty or his subjects, or otherwise to adhere or give aid or comfort to his majesty's enemies upon the sea; now we, in order that none of his majesty's subjects may ignorantly incur the guilt and penalties of such breaches of their allegiance and duty, have thought it necessary, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, and by and with the advice of his majesty's privy council, to publish this proclamation, hereby notifying, & declaring that all persons, being his majesty's subjects, who shall enter, or serve, or be found on board any ships or vessels of war, or other ships or vessels belonging to the United States of America, with intent to commit hostilities against his majesty or his subjects, or who shall otherwise adhere or give aid or comfort to his majesty's enemies upon the seas, will thereby become liable to suffer the pains of death, and all other pains and penalties of high treason and piracy; and we do hereby declare in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, our intention and firm resolution to proceed against all such offenders, according to law.

Given at the court at Carlton-house, the 26th Oct. 1812, and in the 53d year of his majesty's reign.

BUFFALO, December 15.

DUEL.

[We are happy to have it in our power to give the official account of the recent affair on Grand Island; it will tend to counteract the numerous falsehoods which are in circulation respecting the meeting. The challenge, we understand, was given by Gen. Smyth.]

A meeting took place between Gen. SMYTH and Gen. PORTER yesterday afternoon on Grand Island, in pursuance of previous arrangements.

They met at Dayton's tavern and crossed the river with their friends and surgeons—both gentlemen behaved with the utmost coolness and unconcern—a shot was exchanged in as intrepid and firm a manner as possible, by each gentleman, but without effect. It was then represented by Gen. Smyth's second, that Gen. Porter must now be convinced that the charge of cowardice against General Smyth was unfounded, and should, in honor, be retracted; which, after mutual explanations, as to the matters which had given rise to the charge, was accordingly done by him. General Smyth then explained, that his remarks on Gen. Porter, were the result of irritation, and were intended as provocatives, from having been assailed by Gen. Porter, and that he knew nothing derogatory to Gen. Porter's character as a gentleman & officer.

The hand of reconciliation was then offered and received.

We congratulate the friends of these gentlemen upon the fortunate termination of a difference, arising from too much precipitation, but which has been adjusted in a manner so honorable to both.

WM. H. WINDER,
SAMUEL ANGUS.
Black Rock, Dec. 13, 1812.

TO THE PUBLIC.

In the Gazette of last week, I promised to give an account of some of the most "prominent transactions of the 28th November and first of December." Having since that time received from general Smyth, assurances which, as a man of honor, I am bound to believe, that the course pursued by him on these days, was such as was required by his orders and instructions from the secretary of war, and general Dearborn, this communication will assume a character quite different from the one then contemplated. I am pledged, however, to the public to give facts, which I shall proceed to do without comment: leaving it to time to develope the object of military movements which have appeared to me and others not only extraordinary but inexplicable.

On the 27th of November there was collected at this point a military force of about 4,500 effective men, consisting of regular troops, New York, Pennsylvania, and Baltimore volunteers, all under the command of gen. Smyth.

There were lying at the navy yard near Black Rock, which had been previously prepared for the purpose of transporting the troops across the river,

75 public boats calculated to carry 40 men each,	2800
5 long boats belonging to individuals, but which had been taken into the public service, calculated to carry 100 men each,	500
10 scows for artillery, and 25 men in each,	250
Besides a number of small boats,	
	3,350

At two o'clock on that day I received a copy of general Smyth's order for the march of all the troops, the succeeding morning at reveille to the navy yard to embark for Canada. I immediatly gave orders for the New York volunteers who had been placed under my command, to parade at 4 o'clock in the morning at their encampment about one and a half miles from the navy yard. In the evening I learnt that the parties mentioned in general Smyth's dispatch were to cross the river at 11 o'clock at night to attack the enemy's batteries opposite Black Rock. Gen. Smyth not being here, I waited on lieut. Angus and suggested to him the propriety (if within the scope of his orders) of postponing the enterprize until morning, to give as little time as possible before the passage of the army, for the enemy's troops to collect from their station down the river. They landed at three in the morning under a severe fire of musquetry and grape shot from two pieces of flying artillery. Lieut. Angus with his little band of sailors, assisted by capt. King and a few of his party, attacked the principal force of the enemy consisting of about 250 at the Red house (the seamen charging with their pikes and swords against muskets and bayonets) and routed them in all directions; capt. Dox, who took a distinguished part in this affair, was severely wounded.

After a hard and destructive engagement, the enemy were completely dispersed, the two field pieces spiked, and the house in which the enemy quartered fired, the seamen returned to our shore, bringing off their wounded and several prisoners. Out of 12 naval officers who embarked in this enterprise, nine of them with more than half their men, were killed or wounded. If bravery be a virtue—if the gratitude of a country be due to those who gallantly and desperately assert its rights, the government will make ample and honorable provision for the heirs of those brave tars who fell on this occasion, as well as those who survived. Captain King proceeded to spike and dismount the guns in the batteries. Lt. col. Boerstler dispersed the enemy lower down the river, taking a number of prisoners.

By sunrise in the morning, most of the troops had arrived at the place of embarkation, and the day was fine. I marched 340 of the volunteers who had rallied under gen. Smyth's invitation, well armed and provided, and in high spirits: about 150 more who came in the evening before, were at Buffaloe drawing their arms and ammunition, with orders to join as soon as possible. I stationed my men as instructed by general Smyth, in a field at the navy yard, with directions to wait for further orders. The parties who had crossed in the night aided by our batteries which at day light opened a powerful and well directed fire, and a piece of flying artillery on the island under charge of capt. Gibson, had driven every thing from the opposite shore. Colonel Winder, an officer of great intelligence, zeal and bravery, under the mistaken apprehension that the party under lieut. col. Boerstler were in danger of being cut off, made an unsuccessful attempt (although his own boat landed) to land 250 men at a difficult point down the river, and had returned as stated by gen. Smyth.

The general embarkation now commenced, but it went on so tardily, that, at twelve o'clock the whole of the regular troops and col. Swift's regiment were not in the boats. A considerable number of boats were lying on the shores of the river and creek, having been thrown up by the high water of the preceding day. Several were in the creek half filled with water and ice. I called on gen. Smyth and proposed to occupy part of those boats with my volunteers, many of whom were impatient to embark. Being, however, at this moment informed by colonel Porter, that the boats which had been used by col. Winder, were lying about a mile below, major Chapin and myself, with about 30 men, went down the shore, brought up five boats, filled them with men, and arrived at Black Rock, the point from which it was proposed to put off, as soon as many of the regular troops. At about two o'clock all the troops which it appeared were intended to be crossed at first, were collected in a group of boats at Black Rock, under the cover of our batteries. I have seen no official account of the number of men in the boats. My opinion was that the number exceeded 2000. Most men of observation who were present estimated it at 2,600. The men were in fine spirits and desirous of crossing.

Gen. Tannehill's volunteers, colonel F. M'Clure's regiment, some riflemen, cavalry, &c. amounting to about 2000, were still paraded on the shore, and, as I am informed, were ready to cross.—Several boats, of sufficient capacity to carry about 1000 men, were still lying at the navy yard unoccupied. I have not been able to learn that any order or request was made, for the embarkation of any of the troops other than the regulars and colonel Swift's regiment. The enemy, estimated at about 500, were drawn up in a line about half a mile from the river.

After remaining in the boats till late in the afternoon, an order was received to disembark. It produced among the officers and men generally great discontent and murmuring, which was, however, in some degree allayed, by assurances that the expedition was only postponed for a short time, until our boats could be better prepared.

On Sunday another order was issued by gen. Smyth for the march of the troops to the navy yard, to embark at 9 o'clock on Monday morning. I was at Buffaloe when it was received, and found that it was generally, as to time and manner, disapproved by the officers of the volunteers. I saw gen. Smyth, in the evening at Black Rock, with col. Winder, and stated my objections to his plan. The enemy had remounted his guns on the batteries, so as to render it expedient to cross at the favorable point which had been taken on Saturday, *above* the Island that covers the navy yard. Immediately *below* the island, the enemy lay in force much augmented in consequence of the affair of Saturday, occupying a line of shore of about a mile where the current is rapid and the banks abrupt. I did not believe it possible to effect a landing with raw troops, in any tolerable order, if at all, in the face of the flying artillery and infantry, which a full view of our movements in the day time would enable them to oppose to us. I proposed to postpone the expedition to night—to put off an hour and a half before day light, so as to pass this dangerous line of shore in the dark when we should suffer less from their fire, and to land about 5 miles below the navy yard, where the stream and the banks of the river were peculiarly favorable to a safe and orderly landing.—Colonel Winder seconded my proposal with great earnestness and force and it was adopted. The army was to embark at 3 o'clock on Tuesday morning, and to proceed at half past four, according to the order of a line of battle submitted a few days before by gen. Smyth—the regulars on the right, or in the front boats; gen. Tannehill's troops in the centre, and the New-York volunteers on the left, I was to go in the front boats with a chosen set of men, direct the landing, and join the New York volunteers on their arrival.

On Monday evening seven boats for col. Swift's regiment, and eight for the late volunteers, were brought some distance up the river and left at different points to avoid the noise and confusion of embarking the whole army at one place. At half past 3 on Tuesday morning, the eight boats were filled with volunteers (col. Swift's regiment being higher up) and dropped down, taking their station above the navy yard. On our arrival I found that about one half of the artillery (a corps, which has on every occasion while on the lines, shown great exactness of discipline, promptitude and zeal for the service) had embarked, and the residue were embarking. Not a man of the regular infantry was in the boats for about half an hour, when col. Winder's regiment entered the boats with great order and silence,

About three quarters of an hour after this, the remaining regulars commenced the embarkation, when I dropped down the front of the line, with a flag in my boat to designate it as the leading boat. I was accompanied by majors Cyrenius Chapin and John W. Macomb, capt. Mills of the cavalry, adjutant Chace and quarter master Chaplin, two pilots and 26 volunteers from Buffalo, under lieut. Haynes.

I mention the names of these gentlemen because they had the day before decidedly objected to passing at the proposed point by day light, but when day light appeared, and one of the men raised some difficulty on that account, he was induced to remain, and it was unanimously agreed to incur the additional hazard and patiently wait the order of the general to put off. At day light we discovered the troops disembarking, and were informed that the invasion of Canada had been abandoned for this season, and that the troops were ordered to winter quarters.

A scene of confusion ensued which it is difficult to describe. About 4000 men without order or restraint discharging their muskets in every direction.

About one thousand volunteers came in under gen. Smyth's proclamation; but owing to the state of the roads, which was bad beyond example, many did not arrive until after the first of December.

It is impossible for me to form any estimate of the number of troops embarked at any one time this morning; it was yet scarcely light, and I was at one end of a line of boats occupying a distance of half a mile. When the volunteers first arrived at the navy yard and it was found that the regular troops had not yet appeared, their officers were instructed to permit them to land and keep themselves warm by excercise, as the boats were covered by snow which had fallen during the night; but they were instructed not to leave the side of the boats, that they might immediately re-enter.

PETER B. PORTER.
Black Rock, Dec. 14, 1812.

BOSTON, Dec. 25.

Extract of a letter form Halifax, dated December 12.

"A ship (the Diligence) has just arrived, 32 days from Portsmouth, England—sailed under convoy of the Atalantic, of 18 guns, captain Hickey, in company with several other store ships, &c. for this place and Bermuda. The London papers are to November 5. She brings a confirmation of the declaration of war by Great Britain against the U. States, which took place on the 13th of October last—and an order from the prince regent for the condemnation of all American vessels and property hitherto detained, or which may hereafter be brought in as prize—with the exception of the negociation of sir J. B. Warren having been successful; in the event of which, the declaration to be considered null and void.

"The advances of Massena in Spain, with a considerable force, have induced lord Wellington to raise the siege of Burgos, and retire to Madrid.

"A gentleman who was a passenger in the Diligence, says, that it was fully un-