

The fact is in some measure within our reach to establish; and to do this, may be doing in part a justice to our military character, which otherwise might seem to have prematurely shrunk from danger, and abandoned an object which their valor might have acquired.

It is necessary therefore to recur to the number of arrivals that have taken place at Martinique, both from America and direct from France, within the last year, and especially within the short period of the last four months. We shall endeavour to trace them as they occurred, but have not the means of giving the precise dates of their respective arrivals.—The first that we heard of was the Thémis frigate, with 200 troops; then the Harmonie and Hortense frigates, with 250 each; and immediately after, the Italiene and Syrene frigates, with 500 more. The Palmyre, Plade, and Grillon, brigs of 16 guns each, then followed in close succession, all with troops and flour, from France; and soon after, the Pilâtre (another brig of 16 guns) with flour from America. The Orestes of 16 guns, and Decres of 18, both brigs, were the next from France; and then followed the Paafaron and Nifus, brigs of 16 guns each; the two former with flour only, and the latter with flour and troops. Soon after these, the ship Diligente of 20 guns, with flour and salted provisions; and then the ships Département de Land\*, of 600 tons and 24 guns, and Léon of 20, respectively from France, both with flour and troops; as were also the brig Cygne and two schooners, which next followed, with troops and salted provisions.—The brigs Papillon and Rossolis, of 18 guns each, the former with flour, and the latter with troops, then succeeded each other; and more recently, the Amphitrite, Venus and Junot frigates, having in from 500 to 600 troops, and about 4000 barrels of provisions—all from France. Besides these, (regular vessels of the Government) four brigs and three schooners, letters of marque, with assorted cargoes, have arrived at Martinique from France; and the Palmyre and Plade have each made a successful voyage to America, and have returned with full cargoes of flour; and from twenty to twenty-five American vessels have likewise added to their now abundant store. By a recapitulation of the number of troops which are actually ascertained to have arrived, and taking a probable average of those brought out in smaller vessels, we may fairly calculate the effective regular force of Martinique, at this time, at not less than 3500 men; and if to the supplies received from France and America we add those which the captures made from us have given him, and even although we confine it only to those of the ships Eliza and Prince of Asturias, and brigs Sarah Ann and Eleanor, laden with Irish and American provisions, and some Naval supplies, it must be pretty evident that he has all the means adequate to a powerful defence, and sustaining a protracted siege. Well, therefore, (as we understand he has,) might the Captain-General Villaret express his wish to bring the action to an issue—"I have (said he) 13 000 Frenchmen whom I can confide in, to defend the Sovereignty of the Country, and it shall be no easy task to conquer it while I command." Villaret is esteemed a man of amiable character, and a soldier of high honour; and perhaps it is at this time a point nearest his heart, to acquit himself with glory in the event of an attack, as he is about to be relieved from his Colonial command to be entrusted with the still more honorable one of that (at least in title) of the Navy, as Lord High Admiral of France.

To all this if we add (and it has gained much general confidence,) that the enemy expects a considerable naval force to his succour, and that there have been some demonstrations at Guadaloupe which are said to indicate an attack upon Dominica and Marigalante, to divert part of our force from before Martinique, the (at least present) suspension of such an enterprise may be a measure of real prudence and wisdom. In the mean time, our Navy has resumed its strict blockade, all the men of war recently arrived here having again sailed for that purpose. Sir Alex. Cochrane, in the Neptune, left Carlisle Bay on Thursday night, accompanied by Major-General Maitland.

The ship Charming Anna has arrived at Dominica from New-York:—she spoke on the 20th ult. a Spanish armed ship from Cadiz, out twenty-two days, which informed that a general action had been fought in Biscay, between the two grand armies of Spain and France, the latter under Marshal Ney, who, with the whole of his troops, had been completely defeated.—This intelligence, more in detail, but not to any great extent, has been transmitted to the head of our Naval Department; and is received with much confidence through both the Naval and Military circles.

**JANUARY 10.**  
Further reports to those some time since in circulation here, strengthen our confidence as to the defeat of the French in Spain. An article from St. Croix of the 26th ult. states, that after a junction had been formed between the British and Patriotic Army, a general battle had been fought, in which the enemy was totally defeated and lost 30,000 men in killed, wounded, and prisoners. It adds, that the loss of the British was 5000 in killed and wounded, but that of the Spaniards had not been ascertained. To this a corroboration is in part given by an account obtained by the schooner Amelia, from Quebec, arrived here on Sunday, which spoke on the 1st ult. the ship Pitt, from Madeira, out twenty-six days; bound to Jamaica, and was informed that reports had been received at Madeira of a Revolution in the South of France, the consequence of the interrupted and signal successes of the Spaniards!

**BOSTON, FEBRUARY 16.**  
**AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON.**  
Our papers and letters of the 7th, from Washington, gave some flattering hopes, that the peace of the country would finally be preserved, and our fellow-citizens again be permitted to enjoy the freedom of commerce and navigation. It was pretty confidently asserted, that the Embargo would be repealed before the rising of Congress; that its substitute of Non-Intercourse with France and England would not be clogged with any direct war measure; and that the army bill was to be reduced to 16,000; and that a loan of ten millions was to be borrowed in case the govern-

ment should be called upon for any extraordinary expenses in defending the country.

Since which, letters have been received to the 9th, which throw a deep gloom over these promising appearances, and again precipitate us amidst the darkness of executive tergiversation: The following extract of a letter from Washington, of the above last date, will convey some idea of what may be finally expected from the Cabinet:—

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9.**  
"The House of Representatives have been occupied this day on a motion to discharge the committee of the whole on the resolution for a repeal of the Embargo laws, so long under consideration, and have carried it 65 to 55."

"The administration party have been very busy yesterday and to day, and have made great exertions to keep the party up. Many of them wish to leave the Embargo on till the next session. I am still of opinion, that notwithstanding all this kicking and flouncing, that the present Congress will not rise and leave it on. The party wish to have something done that will in some measure save appearances for them, and they do not think giving the Merchants authority to arm in the defence of the lawful commerce of the United States is doing enough to save their sinking popularity. The system of Non-Intercourse with France and England, prohibiting all intercourse both as respects exportation and importation, does not seem to please many of them."

"This vote for discharging the Committee, again brings the resolution before the House, and there is a motion now made to refer the subject to the Committee appointed on that part of the President's Message respecting our foreign relations, and a debate is now going on. I hope this motion does not prevail; if it does, it is sending the subject to the grave.—For it is no way probable this committee would make any report this session. But the subject notwithstanding may in some new shape be got up before the House again, if the motion for referring should prevail. It is now nearly 7 o'clock P. M. and the house is still in session."

"8 o'clock.—The question on the motion for reference is taken and carried in favor of the motion—55 to 36."

Another Correspondent, confidently asserts, that the following Resolution will pass both Houses of Congress:—

**Resolved,** That the several laws laying an Embargo on all ships and vessels in the ports and harbours of the United States, be repealed on the 4th March next, except as to Great-Britain and France and their dependencies, and that provision be made by law, for prohibiting all commercial intercourse with those nations and their dependencies, and the importations of any article into the United States, the growth, produce or manufacture of either of the said nations or of the Dominions of either of them."

**CONGRESSIONAL REGISTER.**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

**TUESDAY, FEB. 7.**—The consideration of the Letter of Marque resolution was continued.—Messrs. Sloan, Cook and Lyon spoke against war measures:—when the question to strike out that part of the Resolution which proposes issuing Letters of Marque, &c. was carried Ayes 57. Noes 39.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8.**—A Convention of both Houses was formed in the Representatives Chamber, for the purpose of counting the votes for President and Vice-President of the United States.—After completing this business, the President of the Senate, who presided in the Convention, declared that

- JAMES MADISON, Esq.**  
was chosen President of the United States, and  
**GEORGE CLINTON, Esq.**  
Vice-President of the United States for four years, next succeeding the 3d March, 1809. The votes were as follows.
- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>FOR PRESIDENT.</b>                  |     |
| James Madison, . . . . .               | 122 |
| Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, . . . . . | 47  |
| George Clinton, . . . . .              | 6   |
| <b>FOR VICE-PRESIDENT.</b>             |     |
| George Clinton, . . . . .              | 113 |
| Rufus King, . . . . .                  | 47  |
| John Langdon, . . . . .                | 9   |
| James Munroe, . . . . .                | 8   |
| James Madison, . . . . .               | 3   |

After the Senate had retired, Mr. J. G. Jackson, offered a Resolution, for striking out of the Bill for repealing the Embargo, the words, "so long as the hostile decrees or orders shall remain in force," and substituting therefor a clause—"Interdicting all commercial intercourse with France or England, and the entrance into the ports of the United States of foreign armed vessels."

This Resolution, was declared to be an irregular proceeding by several members: the Speaker, however, pronounced it to be in order; but while Mr. Randolph was calling for an appeal from the chair, Mr. J. withdrew the Resolution; when the House adjourned.

**FROM SPAIN DIRECT.**

**FROM CADIZ.**—Capt. PERCIVAL, who arrived here on Monday, from Cadiz, in Spain, via the Vineyard, informs, that he left Cadiz the 6th December; when they had not heard of a junction between the British and Spanish forces; [Cadiz is one of the remote places in Spain for the receipt of information from the North] that it was generally believed the French were advancing into Spain; and that General BLAKE had been compelled to retreat; that it was not known that any decisive battle had taken place, though there had been much hard fighting;—that the Spaniards still continued favorable to the system of warfare recommended by their Junta; that of harassing their enemy and retreating, rather than risking great battles;—that the spirit of the nation continued good; that it was apparent to any one resident in Cadiz, that the Spaniards were well united, and that a determination pervaded all ranks, to emancipate their country, or perish in the struggle; that there was not the least appearance of the existence of a GODOY (Prince of Peace) party; on the contrary, that a man's life would be in danger who should utter a word in favor of that traitor;—that though there were rumors of divisions in Spain, it was impossible from appearances in Cadiz to credit them;—and that Barcelona still held out against the

Patriots. A letter from Valencia (which is the vicinity of Barcelona of the 15th November, says, "The French are about evacuating Barcelona." If this be true, they must have been starved out.

**SAINT JOHN, March 6, 1809.**

Last Tuesday His HONOR the PRESIDENT and Suite, arrived here from the Seat of Government.

At the same time a Detachment consisting of the Flank Companies of the New-Brunswick Fencible Infantry marched into town from the same place.

A gentleman has just got up from St. Andrews, who has brought a Boston paper of the 21st ult.—It contains, we understand, various and contradictory accounts from the armies in Spain, but no later accounts from Britain than those contained in the Halifax papers.—It appears that the Act taking off the Embargo on the 4th inst. had passed both Houses of Congress, and to have no intercourse with Great-Britain or France.

**From HALIFAX, February 24.**

**CAPTURE OF A FRENCH FRIGATE.**

We have much pleasure in giving the following particulars, politely sent us last evening from an authentic source:—"The Topaze, French frigate of 44 guns, with 400 men, and 1500 barrels of flour on board, for Guadaloupe, was taken, under the batteries of that Island, by H. M. ships Jason, Cleopatra, Hazard and Cherub, on the 22d ult. The Cleopatra was closely engaged with her for half an hour, before the other vessels came up. The Topaze is the frigate that sunk the Blanche.—The Cleopatra had only two men wounded."

**FEBRUARY 27.**—We have received an account at this office this morning of the capture, on the 16th of January by His Majesty's ship Melampus, the French national brig Calibry, of 16 guns, 14 twenty-four pound coronades, and 2 long nines—the had 3 men killed, and 11 severely wounded, and had but a short time previous captured and sunk 2 English brigs from Newfoundland to Lisbon, and took her men prisoners: this was her first voyage, bound from Bourdeaux to Guadaloupe, with a cargo of Flour—she was 3 months off the stocks and is one of the finest vessels of her class—no doubt but she might have done our trade a great deal of injury.

**GLASGOW, DECEMBER 17.**

The vessel which carried over the French and Russian messengers is returned, and has brought with her Moniteurs to the 11th inst. They contain a series of Bulletins from the 5th to the 12th inclusive. The last of them is published in the paper of the 6th. The following Moniteurs down to the 11th, it is remarkable, do not contain a single article of intelligence from the seat of war. The Bulletins, though they present a disastrous picture of the Spanish armies, yet afforded a well grounded hope that Castanos's army is far from being dispersed; and the French were nearly 100 miles distant from Madrid, at the date of the last Bulletin. No mention is made of the British army.

**SAINT JOHN THEATRE, DRURY-LANE.**

TO-MORROW EVENING the 7th instant, Will be Performed

(By His MAJESTY'S SERVANTS.)  
The COMEDY of the

**POOR GENTLEMAN.**

**MEN.**  
Lieut. Worthington, Farmer Harrowby,  
Corporal Foss, Stephen Harrowby,  
Sir Charles Cropland, Ollapod,  
Warner, Frederick,  
Sir Robert Bramble, Valet to Sir Charles,  
Humphrey Dobbins, Servant to ditto.

**WOMEN.**  
Emily Worthington, Dame Harrowby,  
Miss Lucretia M'Tab, Mary.

To which will be added,  
The FARCE of the

**BRAVE IRISHMAN.**

**MEN.**  
Capt. O'Blunder, Serjeant,  
Tradewell, a Merchant, Doctor Clyffer,  
Cheatwell, Doctor Gallipot,  
Sconce, Monsieur Ragout.

**WOMEN.**  
Lucy, daughter to Trade-well, Betty,  
Mob and Keepers, &c.

Doors to be opened at 6 o'Clock and Performance to begin precisely at 7.—BOXES 5s. GALLERY 2s. 6d.

N. B. TICKETS to be had at the Green Room this Day and To-Morrow, and no Money taken at the Doors, except for the Gallery. **March 6, 1809.**

And on FRIDAY next the 10th instant, (BY PARTICULAR DESIRE.)

Will be presented—The PLAY of

**ZORINSKI,**

And the FARCE of  
**Doctor LAST in his Chariot.**

TICKETS to be had as above on THURSDAY and FRIDAY next. **GOD SAVE THE KING.**  
Saint John, 6th March, 1809.

**WEEKLY ALMANACK.**

MARCH—1809.	Sun Rises & Sets.	High Water
	H. M.	H. M.
6 MONDAY,	6 23	6 2 33
7 TUESDAY,	6 22	6 3 24
8 WEDNESDAY,	6 20	6 4 20
9 THURSDAY,	6 18	6 5 52
10 FRIDAY,	6 17	6 6 38
11 SATURDAY,	6 15	6 7 20
12 SUNDAY,	6 14	6 8 0

Last Quarter, 8th Day, 7h. 24m. Evening.