

FROM THE BOSTON CENTINEL.
We pledge ourselves to our readers that the following is the production of a native seaman of Boston. The writer lays no claim to a garland from Parnassus; but no one will refuse to allow him Good Sense, Just Conceptions, Correct Statements, and strong sense of Fellow-feeling.

THE SAILOR'S LAMENTATION.

COME all brother Seamen, that live far and near,
I pray you give attention to what you'll now hear;
How we've been distress'd you very well know,
This twelve month and more by this d— Embargo:

The Embargo was laid for to keep us, they say,
But rather I think 'twas to drive us away;
As many poor sailors, in these wretched times,
Are obliged, for bread, to travel foreign climes:

If our great men in Congress this thing long debate,
Woe be to us sailors—pray pity our fate—
The same road we must travel, as they've done before,
To seek for employment upon a foreign shore.

May good luck attend them wherever they go,
And God be their guardian through this vale of woe;
But believe me this system causes us to deride—
Tho' it be Jefferson's glory, and Madison's pride.

Farmers, merchants, and tradesmen, they all feel the sting,
Of this d—d Embargo—this troublesome thing—
They all do complain, and have some time look'd down,
The farmers cry pork is but four cents per pound.

Our ships will be rotten, they'll not swim the sea,
Our seamen are gone to a foreign country—
Our fishermen's toils are all laid up in store,
And there they must rot 'till the Embargo is o'er.

God send that debate may be soon at an end,
And unto brave QUINCY I hope they'll attend,
Ere all our complaints, of every degree,
Shake off the Embargo, and plant Liberty.

Jan. 2, 1809.

A SAILOR.

LOCKED JAW.

The *Newport Mercury* a few days since furnished the following article, for the benefit of mankind:—

Several years ago, during a conversation, in *Newport*, upon that dreadful malady the Locked Jaw, an intelligent master of a vessel observed, that when he was at the Island *St. Eustatia* he heard an eminent physician remark, that he had had many cases of the Locked Jaw, and never lost a patient.—On inquiry of him as to the particular mode of treatment, in which he had been so successful, the Physician replied, that he directed an application of warm Lye, made of Ashes as strong as possible; if the foot or hand was wounded the same was dipped repeatedly into the Lye; and if a part of the body, which could not be immersed in it, then in that case the part affected to be bathed with flannels wrung out from the warm Lye.—In July last, Capt. *Charles Gordon* of *Newport*, unfortunately jumped upon a scraggy pointed spike which perforated his boot and foot, and he was taken home in the most excruciating torture—the attending physician could afford him no relief.—Providentially a lady, who heard the above conversation, recommended the warm Lye bath, into which his foot was placed—within 15 minutes the anguish was taken out; he went to bed and slept quietly.—The application of Lye was made for ten succeeding days; no pain, no uneasy sensation returned, but what is incident to a common sore, and on the eleventh day Capt. *Gordon* walked abroad.

HALIFAX, JANUARY 27.

Yesterday, the Speaker and House of Assembly having been summoned to attend in the Council Chamber, his HONOR the PRESIDENT of the Province, delivered the following Speech to both branches of the Legislature:—

Mr. PRESIDENT, and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council:

Mr. SPEAKER, and Gentlemen of the Assembly:

THE Assembly having informed me by their Committee, that they have no business whatever before them, at the end of a Session which has been protracted to a longer duration than the subjects proposed to be considered might have seemed to require, it remains only for me to dismiss you from the fatigues of public exertion, to the more tranquil happiness of your domestic relations.—In your private stations you will no doubt continue to exercise the same zeal for the prosperity of the country, which has influenced your conduct in your collective capacity, by the encouragement of industry, and promotion of peace, and a due submission to the laws.

THE inactivity of the season of the year, and the interruption of intercourse during the winter months, have precluded the information of any material change in public affairs, since I last had the honor of addressing you.—The situation of Spain, though not yet arrived at its crisis, from the invincible ardor of patriotism which animates the whole of that interesting country, continues to hold out a promise of relief to the subjugated nations of Europe, and to augur, though remotely, the happy return of Peace which has been so long banished from the world; but the unhappy state of a neighbouring country, distracted by party violence, and occasionally instigated by the suggestions of passion, rather than by the sound dictates of reason, and of a beneficial policy, suggests the precaution of providing against the most unfavorable alternatives, and amongst other means, more particularly by a diligent and spirited execution of the laws for exercising and disciplining the Militia.

Gentlemen of the ASSEMBLY:

I have to acknowledge with the sincerest thanks, the liberal and ample supplies which you have granted to His Majesty, for the exigencies of his Government. The continuance and amendment of those Revenue Laws, whose utility has been demonstrated by experience, require little observation, but I must congratulate you, with the warmest sentiments of approbation upon the honorable manner in

which you have fulfilled your engagement to His Majesty by your provision towards defraying the expences of providing arms for the Militia, by a tax extremely unexceptionable.

Gentlemen of His Majesty's COUNCIL,
and of the ASSEMBLY:

IT is matter of deep concern to me, that I have been under the necessity of refusing my assent to a Bill which had received your joint approbation.—Disposed as I am to consult the wishes of such respectable bodies of Men, and inclined as I should feel even to sacrifice my own opinions to yours, upon affairs of lesser consequence, I should be guilty of a breach of the important trust which has been confided in me by His Majesty, if I should give my assent to Laws which I conceived to be highly exceptionable, in relation either to His Majesty's rights, or to the welfare of the Province.

I HAVE already communicated my reasons for this dissent, and shall again proceed to state them to you.—One of my objections to this Bill is from the large amount of the sums appropriated by it, in conjunction with the Bounty Bills, far beyond the expenditure of any former years; without any peculiar emergencies to require, or any probability of a material increase of Revenue to justify the extension.—The approbation for expenditures to take place within the Year, exceed so far every calculation of Revenue expected to be received within that period; and the payment of considerable sums will therefore be so much protracted, that it has been thought necessary to introduce into the Bill a clause for the payment of interest upon the Warrants after they become due.—By these great appropriations, the expences of this year would exhaust not only the unpaid duties of the last, but the greater part of the funds necessary for the supply of the ensuing year, even under the supposition that the present taxes will be continued.—The consequence of this absorption of the past, and anticipation of the future Revenue, will be an exhausted state of the Treasury, not only during the present, but likewise during the succeeding year; and what every man who wished well to the country would strongly deprecate, the new measure of the commencement of a debt upon interests.—If such a profuse lavishness of the Revenue, which within the ordinary restrictions is amply sufficient for every useful purpose, consistent with the actual state of the Country, would be scarcely advisable in any common situation of affairs, how much more improvident must it be considered, when a few weeks may render it necessary to place the Province in a state of defence, at which important conjuncture, by the operation of this Bill, not a shilling would be found in the public chest to pay and furnish the Militia, to defray the expence of any military preparations, or for other necessary service of Government.

THE next objection to the Approbation Bill is founded upon a clause which enacts, that it shall be lawful for the Lt. Governor, or the Commander in Chief, to draw out of the Treasury of the Province, by Warrant, in favor of the Commissioners appointed to correspond with the Agent of the Province, any sum or sums of Money, not exceeding 200 guineas, to be remitted by them to the special Agent of the Province, to enable him to defray any expences which may be incurred, for promoting the general interests of the Commerce and Fisheries of the Province.

FOR the object there stated, that of promoting the commerce and fisheries of the Province, I can assure you with the greatest sincerity, that I possess as much zeal, and earnestness as your warmest advocate, and I am truly sorry that the clause introduced into the Bill for that purpose is such as cannot receive my approbation.—That any Agents of the Province, distinct from the two general accredited Agents, have been constituted by a lawful authority, I am perfectly unformed. Of the existence of the Commissioners there mentioned, by whom, by what authority, or for what purpose, they have been appointed, I am equally ignorant.—It is impossible therefore for me to recognize persons under either of those descriptions.—If, as I have been given to understand, for no communication upon the subject has been made to me from either branch of the Legislature, the Council and the Assembly have concurred in appointing a special Agent, and have each nominated Commissioners for the purpose of corresponding with him; to say no more of it, it is a measure novel and unprecedented, and I think that the circumstance would require me, particularly during a temporary exercise of the Government, to employ a considerable degree of caution and deliberation before I could be induced to give a consent to such material innovations upon the usual mode of transacting Colonial affairs.—But my objection is not founded merely upon the novelty of the proceeding.—For the Council and the Assembly to appoint persons, and to invest them with authority to act, when their own power and existence is suspended, or determined, without any Bill, or Law for that purpose, without the knowledge, consent, or concurrence of the Executive Branch of the Government, does appear to me to be an unusual and unwarrantable assumption of power, and a dangerous encroachment upon the prerogative of the Crown.

UNPLEASANT as it is to be driven to the exercise of this right of dissenting from Acts which have been agreed to by His Majesty's Council and the Assembly, and approving as I do, of the greater part of the Provisions of this Bill, it is much to be lamented that it should have passed both Branches of the Legislature with such exceptionable matter, as to occasion its final rejection.—I trust, however, that the Province will suffer no injury from the loss of this Bill, and that the Revenue will be applied by Government in a manner more economical, but equally conducive to the prosperity of the Country; but whatever may be the consequences in the part which I have acted, I have done what I conceive to be my duty, and I shall resign the Government at the appointed time, with the consolation of reflecting that my short administration will not have been marked with the imputation of having opened a road for encroachments upon the Constitution, of having left the Province destitute of the means of defence in the hour of danger, or of having entailed upon it, an empty Treasury and an incipient debt.

ALEXANDER CROKE.

Council Chamber, January 26, 1809.

The Speaker then offered to address his HONOR; but the President of H. M. Council, by his HONOR's command, declared the Assembly prorogued unto Thursday, 21th day of May next.

NEW-YORK, JANUARY 12.

Spanish official account of the defeat of the French in St. Domingo.

The following official account of the defeat of General Ferrand, by the Spanish patriots in St. Domingo, is copied from a late Jamaica paper. It makes no mention of the desertion of the Spanish troops, as related in the French accounts.—The expedition came from Porto Rico.

Head-Quarters, Seybo, November 8, 1808.

On the 6th inst. I arrived with the last supply of arms and ammunition at the rivulet of Magarin, within the jurisdiction of Seybo, where my troops were badly situated, and moreover in a desert, with continual rain, so as to wet all our arms, without a remedy to dry them on account of the inclemency of the weather. Gen. Ferrand with his troops were encamped at Corralero, about two leagues distant from Magarin. Observing the danger which appeared to threaten us, owing to our disadvantageous position, and the bad state of our arms, not having even sufficient time to draw up my troops, I retreated to Palo-Hincado, the peculiar position of which offered great advantages; but I could not effect my arrival at that place before the 7th, in the morning, on account of the overflowing of the river. From the time of my arrival at Palo-Hincado, which was at nine o'clock, I was solely occupied in forming my troops in order to await the enemy; who on the same night, (being apprized of the bad state of our arms by a Frenchman of colour, who was attached to my troops, but went over to those of Ferrand,) availed himself of the favorable opportunity.—I immediately ordered the arms to be dried and put in a serviceable state with the greatest dispatch, and drew up my infantry on the most elevated spot of the camp; on the right wing I placed part of my cavalry, and on the left another, and between the infantry and the cavalry of the right, in a gully which separated them, I put in ambush two hundred men with cutlasses. At the spot where the enemy had to pass I ambushed thirty men, in order that on our attacking his vanguard they might at the same time fire upon his rear. Every thing being thus disposed I gave orders to advance upon the enemy at the first fire without waiting the second, and proclaimed pain of death to the drummer who should beat the retreat, to the General who should order the same, were it even myself, and to all others who should abandon their post. At this time the enemy was in sight, and his column facing us; without allowing him time to form a line, our fire commenced, and he was pressed on all sides with such intrepidity that in less than ten minutes the victory was decided in our favor.

On our part the two commanding officers of the cavalry, and adjutant of the same, and three privates of the infantry were killed, and 45 wounded, but on the enemy's side more than three hundred were left dead on the field of battle, and upwards of one hundred were made prisoners, General Ferrand, who made his escape with the others, (for all were routed) either from disgrace, fury, or despairing of escaping my cavalry which pursued him very closely, put an end to his existence with a pistol.

JUAN SANCHES RAMIRES.

BOSTON, JANUARY 14.

In a late paper mention was made that the schooner *Liberty*, of Brewster, which had been stolen out of Weymouth harbour, had been met with at sea, by the *Wasp* sloop of war and manned by an officer and crew from that vessel. Stretches of weather compelled them to go into Provincetown harbour; where on Monday night the schooner was boarded by a number of men from the shore, the *Wasp's* officer and crew taken out and landed, and she sent again to sea. The persons found by the *Wasp* on board the schooner were taken out, and kept prisoners until Thursday, when they were removed by a writ of Habeas Corpus, and examined on a charge of piracy; and released.

Commercially important.

From Havana.—The *Baltimore "North American,"* of 7th inst. says, "A letter is in town, written by an official American gentleman in Havana, dated 15th December last, which states, that the port had been closed to American supplies; that a vessel then there was refused permission to unload;—and that the prohibition was laid at the instance of the people of *Vera Cruz*, who propose to supply the Island themselves."—The Editors of the *Baltimore "Federal Gazette"* remark that the "*Havana Aurora*" of the 14th December which they have received, is silent on the above subject.

From New-York, January 10.—The British schooner *Caroline*, bound to the West-Indies, was driven from her anchors yesterday morning by a cake of ice, went ashore on the Point of Governor's Island, and became leaky.—At high water, however, she was got off by the Revenue-officers and brought into the Whitehall-ship (where is exhibited a pretty group of vessels belonging to the "most worthless part of the community") in company with the *Larkinsburgh* sloop *Beaver*—the former on suspicion of an intention to receive, and the latter on suspicion of an intention to deliver her cargo of flour on board the *Caroline*.

From Providence, January 10.—A sloop partly laden with flour, was seized at Pawtucket, on Thursday last.—The cause of seizure was a suspicion of an intention to violate our glorious Embargo; notwithstanding the said vessel had not left the district to which she belonged. She left this place in the morning with 60 bbls of flour for Pawtucket where she was instantly seized. The flag on the fort was, we understand, during the day displayed at half mast, and the informer burnt.—Stop reader, not in reality, but in effigy.

CASH or BOOKS given for Clean LINEN and COTTON RAGS at this OFFICE.