

AMERICAN NEWS.

NEW-YORK.

BUFFALO, JULY 27.

Attacks are frequently made on our foraging parties and pickets; in repelling one of which the enemy are said to have had 60 or 70 killed. The pickets of the British are within sight of ours, near the light-house.

Three of our armed schooners have arrived at Fort Niagara, from Sacket's Harbor, with between 2 and 300 sailors, destined to reinforce Com. PERRY's flotilla at Erie. These hardy tars passed this village on Friday.

The British squadron, under Com. YEO, are said to be in Kingston, repairing. Our squadron are now said to be out.

The British detachment which was at Fort Erie last week, and caused so much alarm here, have gone up lake Erie, either to join PROCTOR, or to man the enemy's flotilla in Lake Erie. Letters from Erie (called in many maps *Presque-Isle*.) dated the 13th, state, that the British had five vessels within one mile of the town, and appeared to be full of men; and that Com. PERRY had not then men enough to man one brig.

GENEVA, JULY 28. An officer from Fort Niagara, states, that in the affair of out-posts near Lake George, the American riflemen burnt Butler's house, barn, and out-houses.

EXPEDITION FROM CANADA.

BURLINGTON, (Vermont) AUGUST 1.

On Friday the 30th July, we received information by express, that a British force, embarked on board two armed sloops (those taken from the U. S.) four galleys and 100 batteaux, had left the Isle-aux-Noix (an Island of Lower Canada, on the river which connects Lake Champlain with the St. Lawrence, about ten miles from the American boundary,) and had progressed within a mile of the lines. In the course of the day we learnt that they were near Plattsburg; and yesterday we received correct information, that they had landed a force at that place, and immediately proceeded to burn the arsenal belonging to the State, PIKE's encampment, the barracks, block-houses and every other building belonging to the United States; but that at the dates of the latest accounts, no article of private property had been intentionally injured. The landing of the enemy was not opposed, nor was there any firing from the houses; the militia of the town and vicinity, did not consider themselves in force to withstand the numbers which were landed. It is not ascertained what those numbers were;—two sloops, two galleys, and forty batteaux, were seen there.

The British are said to have been commanded by Col. MURRAY, and his force estimated at from 1200 to 1400 men. They left Plattsburg this day; and it is expected they are proceeding this way. As two of their boats have been seen near an island about ten miles from this place, it is conjectured they have landed thereon.

It is not improbable the British will attempt to destroy our flotilla; but it cannot be supposed that they intend to attack the army in this vicinity, which consists of about 4000 effective men, and commanded by the best Generals in the United States—HAMPTON, PARKER, &c.

The fire of the buildings at Plattsburgh was distinctly seen from the Court-House and College in this place. There were no public stores there.

It is unnecessary to add, that our troops are prepared for action. Some of the people have removed from town, and others are apprehensive of an attack, as the quantity of public stores there is very large. The British have an intire command of the Lake.

MEMORANDUM. Plattsburg, in the State of New-York, is on the north-western side of Lake Champlain, about 28 miles from the Lower Canada border. Burlington, in Vermont, is about 25 miles from Plattsburg, and about 35 or 40 from the Canada line. From Plattsburg to Ogdensburg, on the river St. Lawrence, is nearly a western course, is about an hundred geographical miles; and to Sacket's Harbor about 140.

MISSISSIPPI FRESHET.

NEW-YORK, AUGUST 3.

A letter from an officer of the U. S. army, dated at Natchez, the 28th June, 1813, states, that the 3d regt. had been ordered to ascend the Mississippi, and join Gen. HARRISON; and that the river had not been so high as it then was for 25 or 30 years.—He then gives the following melancholy description

of the effect of the rise of the river:—"The water has broken over the levees and inundated the country on the west side, to the high ground more than 40 miles. The beautiful and highly cultivated country contiguous to Red River, is now an ocean.—The crops are destroyed, and there is great destruction by drowning of horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, and deer. Winthrop Sargent, Esq. (a gentleman whom you know) has lost 400 head of cattle—others 2 or 300. The loss of neat cattle is estimated at 20,000 head. Every little spot of bare ground is crowded with animals of every description. It is common to find 15 or 20 deer intermixed with cattle; and they have become as domesticated as the cattle themselves. The water has been falling for several days but has not yet lowered more than two feet.—The waters of the Mississippi are already sensibly affected both in taste and smell, by the dead animals, and the putrefaction of vegetable substances. I hope it will not be the hard fate of our regiment to perform a 90 days voyage in these waters; I should much prefer a march through the wilderness."

TROY, JULY 17.

We understand by a gentleman from Sackets Harbor, that two soldiers of the American army were hung at that place the last week for desertion. He says also that our troops are very sickly—that two or three die daily.

BURLINGTON, JULY 30.

David Lord of the 4th regiment, was shot on public parade, on Wednesday last. He formerly belonged to Thetford, Vt. and has left a wife and three children. His crime was desertion, which he effected on Monday the 12th inst. the day that John Cummings was executed.

BOSTON, AUGUST 7.

THE WAR ON THE SEABOARD.

In the *Chesapeake*.—An Alexandria paper of the 31st July, states, that the reported cannonade at Annapolis, &c. had evaporated in the usual effect of Virginia staple—smoke.

Letters from Washington say, the British have embarked their forces, and left the Potomac, carrying off much black cattle; and the *National Intelligencer* of the 31st, states, that on the 28th they had gone into the Bay, and were five miles above Point Look-Out. On Friday the 30th July, the squadron was off the Patuxent [a small river about 18 miles above the Potomac, and which also empties into the Bay.] It is ascertained that the British are ascending the Bay towards Annapolis and Baltimore.

The British force in the Chesapeake is said to consist of three 74s, eight frigates, five brigs, and nine smaller vessels.

WASHINGTON, JULY 31.—The news from Annapolis this day, is, that the British squadron is off there; and has cut off the communication between the head of Elk and Baltimore. Advices from below say, the the British squadron has been reinforced."

FORT MEIGS.—A letter from Quarter-Master-Gen. BARTLETT, dated at Upper Sandusky, informs, that Gen. CLAY had announced that the British and Indians had again besieged Fort Meigs.

Gen. ARMSTRONG, the Secretary of War, is now probably at Niagara.—Gen. WILKINSON has reached Washington, on his way to take command of the Northern Army.—Gen. Thunderbolt WILLIAMS has been at Fort George some time.

PORTLAND, AUGUST 9.

LATEST FROM SPAIN.

Cadiz dates to June 28th have been received. In all the recent operations between the combined army under Lord Wellington and the French under the patent King Jo, the former has been uniformly successful, and the latter are rapidly retreating towards the Pyrennees, and will shortly be compelled to leave Spain, unless they are powerfully reinforced. On the 16th of June Lord Wellington's H. Q. were at Medinadal Pomar—on the same day he crossed the Ebro—on the 17th they were transferred to Quencouses; on the 18th to Berberana, five leagues from Vittoria; on this day the van guard of the British army encountered the rear guards of the French, 6000 strong. After a severe action the French retreated, leaving the field covered with slain and the loss of 300 made prisoners. On the same day another division of the French army was attacked, and beaten and driven into the mountains of Biscay with the loss of their military chest containing 6 millions of reals. The French force is estimated at 60,000. The allied force is computed at nearly 100,000 well supplied.

AMERICAN CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

TUESDAY, JULY 27.

EMBARGO!!

The injunction of secrecy having been removed from the late closed doors proceedings of the House of Representatives; we are enabled to develop the subject which arrested their attention.

On Tuesday the 20th, the following message was received from the President of the United States:—

CONFIDENTIAL.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

There being sufficient ground to infer that it is the purpose of the enemy to combine with their blockade of our ports special licences to neutral vessels or to British vessels in neutral disguises, whereby they may draw from our country the precise kind and quantity of exports essential to their wants, whilst its general commerce remains obstructed, keeping in view also the insidious discrimination between different ports of the United States: and as such a system, if not counteracted, will have the effect of diminishing very materially the purpose of the war on the enemy, and encouraging a perseverance in it, at the same time that it will leave the general commerce of the United States under all the pressure the enemy can impose, thus subjecting the whole to British regulation, in subserviency to British monopoly—I recommend to the consideration of Congress the expediency of an immediate and effectual prohibition of exports, limited to a convenient day in their next session, and removable in the mean time, in the event of a cessation of the blockade of our ports.

JAMES MADISON.

Washington, July 20, 1813.

The message was referred to the committee of Foreign Relations, who reported the next day that it was *inexpedient* to act upon the message of the President. This report was referred to a committee of the whole House, who attended the report by striking out "*inexpedient*," and inserting *expedient*. This amendment, in committee with the whole was strenuously advocated by the Speaker and others, and as strenuously opposed by others. The amendment was reported and agreed to by the House, and referred to a select committee, Mr. Grundy chairman, who on the next day reported a bill laying an embargo consisting, of twenty odd sections being substantially copies from the old embargo acts, and containing all the obnoxious provisions of the old enforcing act. The bill was immediately committed to a committee of the whole House, forced through the committee, reported to the House without amendment, all amendments being rejected, and then forced through the House, engrossed, and passed the same day it was reported at about 7 o'clock at night.—Ayes 80.—Noes 50.

A committee was appointed to carry the bill to the Senate, and ask their concurrence. On Saturday the 24th, the Senate ordered the bill to be printed (*confidentially*) and postponed the consideration of it until Monday the 26th; and on Wednesday rejected it as follows:—

On the question shall the bill be read a third time?—Ayes 16.—Noes 18.

Thursday, July 29.

LICENCES.—The Bill from the Senate, to prohibit the use of Licences or passes granted by the government to Great-Britain, was passed—ayes 78—nays 33.

Several attempts were made to amend the bill, as so to include France; and that not succeeding, Mr. Pickering moved to strike out "Great-Britain," and insert "all nations," lost, ayes 78, nays 33. Mr. Pitkin moved to tax privateers with damages when they shall seize and detain a vessel for a breach of this law, if upon trial it shall appear that the seizure was without probable cause. Negatived.

BOSTON, AUGUST 11.

THE NATIONAL LEGISLATURE

Terminated their extra session of ten weeks, on the 2d inst. and adjourned to the first Monday in Dec. next. This session was specially called for the purpose of adopting measures for the prosecution of an unnecessary and unjust WAR;—and by reference to the list of acts passed, it will readily be seen that a broad foundation for the further Poverty and Ruin of The People is laid, through Direct Taxes, and other Internal Taxes, and through Loans and other Ways and Means to carry on this wicked War. The House has been as subservient as even BONAPARTE could wish;—but the SENATE have, in several instances, during the present session, acted that independent part which might have been calculated upon, from the very respectable accession of superior talents and worth to that branch of the

Legislature. Among the instances which might be adduced, was their non-compliance with the nomination of GALLATIN and RUSSELL, and at the same time confirming that of ADAMS and BAYARD—and the *sans-ceremonie* death-blow they gave to the Embargo bill from the House. Some of the very arbitrary and oppressive provisions in this bill are as follows—A Collector is authorized to secure and take into his possession and detain, any vessel, boat, water-craft or waggon, with their cargoes and contents, if he believes there is an intention to go with the same, to any foreign port or country. He has a power to seize and detain any waggon or other carriage, when they are APPARENTLY going to a foreign country.—He has power also, to order the owner or owners, consignees, or factors of any vessel, loaded in whole, or in part, to unload the same within 10 days, and on failure thereof, the vessel and cargo shall be forfeited. The prohibition is universal: Not only of the foreign, but also of the coasting trade. The latter is, however to be permitted by the Collectors, in certain cases under certain regulations, under instructions from the President of the U. S. And by permission of the President, the Collectors may allow the navigation of vessels upon lakes, rivers and bays, &c. to carry certain articles, upon the owner's giving bonds at the rate of 300 dolls. per ton, conditioned not to transgress the terms of such permission. And if any person shall prosecute any Collector for any grievance he shall suffer, in consequence of any conduct of such Collector, the latter may plead the general issue, and give in evidence the instructions of the President as his justification!!—The Senate, to their honor, postponed this bill (after it had passed in the House) indefinitely. A summary of the proceedings of this special Congress might be useful (however unpleasant), but we have not room to give it. From a careful calculation and revision, it appears, that 58,779,491 dollars is the least sum which the WAR will cost to the end of the year 1814. Let the good People of this country seriously reflect upon this subject.—Although it may not be possible, for those now living to discharge this monstrous debt, yet they ought to remember that it must remain a mortgage upon themselves and their posterity. Let them also consider whether the intemperate and inconsiderate course pursued by our Rulers and their abettors, is worth the hazarding all that is valuable and dear to Freemen, for the purpose (as is *professed*) of securing against impressment, but in reality, of protecting British native subjects from their own Sovereign, who claims their services in time of War. Our barque of State is driven before the blast, and tost on the raging waves—surrounded by quicksands and rocks. May heaven enable us to brave and calm the tempest—and may every Freeman use his best, Constitutional efforts, to bring back the good old days of WASHINGTON, PEACE, and PROSPERITY.

THE FRONTIER WAR.

FORT MEIGS—[near the rapids of the Miami, where it discharges itself into Erie, at some distance below the River Raisin]—At the last dates, this Fort is said to have been again besieged by about 1500 or 2000 British and Indians;—that Gen. CLAY, the commandant, had about 400 men in the fort; that Major-General HARRISON was at Lower Sandusky with a considerable force; and that Major-Gen. M'ARTHUR had called out his whole division, about 10,000 of the Ohio militia; that the intention of Harrison was to garrison all the posts with militia, and embark all the other troops on board vessels, and by a "rapid descent" cut off the retreat of the besieging army!—Some thing "great" was expected.

PLATTSBURG—[N. Y. on the N. W. side of Lake Champlain]—The British landed at this place on Saturday, 31st ult. from two sloops of war, three gun-boats, and several row-galleys, with about 1200 men, under (it is said) Gen. MURRAY—and burnt the following public buildings, valued at about 32,000 dollars, viz. the barracks at Serenac cantonment, arsenal, blockhouse, armoury, and hospital. They also destroyed two stores (valued at 1300 dollars) belonging to private citizens, and took off many articles, supposing them to be public property.—The public property had, however, been removed previous to their landing. The British left the place next day, Sunday, (1st inst.) and stood out of the bay. General Moores commanded the militia at Plattsburg (about 300,) and has since ordered out two regiments.

BURLINGTON, (Vt. about 25 miles from Plattsburg.) After leaving Plattsburg the British force divided; a part (2 sloops of war and a gunboat) proceeded to Burling-