

AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

BOSTON, JUNE 4.

The anxiety of the public mind which had been excited to a high degree by the account of the mysterious capture of the Chesapeake, has been still further awakened for the fate of Commodore Decatur. The situation of our frigates at New-London is imminently dangerous, and though they will make a gallant, we fear it will prove an unavailing effort to defend themselves, if attacked by a force so superior. We have, however, established a naval character which cannot be wrested from us. We may be unfortunate, but we shall not be disgraced. To what cause, indeed, the fatal explosion on board the Chesapeake is to be ascribed, we pretend not to determine; whether it resulted from accident or design, is a question which will not mitigate its effects. It undoubtedly decided the engagement. The character which Commodore Broke had deservedly acquired by his gentleman-like deportment, whilst on this station, forbids our imputing to him so base and unworthy a conduct as a violation of the usages of honorable warfare. If he should, however, be convicted of having resorted to artifice, to effect what he could not achieve by valour, we shall neither be slow nor equivocal in the expression of our indignation and contempt.

JUNE 5.

The Answer of the House of Representatives to the Governor's Speech breathes a spirit worthy of New-England men. It is high time for us to consider how long we are to submit to the aristocracy which has usurped the prerogatives of the people. In vain may we boast the beauty of our Constitution when its principles are violated. It is idle to dwell upon the excellency of forms, when the animating soul is fled. Our confederacy was a compromise. We allowed to the Southern States the privilege of being represented for their black population, on condition that taxation and representation should bear the same ratio. We have never received our equivalent. But one direct tax has been levied, and of that they have never paid their proportion. On the contrary we have borne all the burthens, whilst they have dictated all the measures of Government. Let us not talk of the rotten boroughs of Great-Britain, whilst we wink at such flagrant abuses at home. Nor let us reproach England with her house of peers, when we permit our own servants to purchase with our money "antres vast and deserts idle," to lay out into States to perpetuate their own power, and destroy the equipoise of the Union.

LOSS OF CHESAPEAKE FRIGATE.

In the last CENTINEL we noticed the agitation of the public mind, excited by the expectation of a naval combat off our harbour between the United States frigate Chesapeake, of 36 guns, and the British frigate Shannon, of 38 guns. We then gave our readers some of the numerous and contradictory reports in circulation relating to the event, as they reached us at various hours of the night; and in the morning Postscript announced the capture of the Chesapeake by the Shannon as communicated by many gentlemen who were spectators of the action, and event. The particulars of the early movements of the frigates were inserted in all our impressions, and we now give the report of the Branch Pilot who carried down the Chesapeake:—

THE REPORT.

At 5 P. M. I left the Chesapeake, Boston Lighthouse bearing about W. 6 leagues distance—the Shannon then in sight—the Chesapeake prepared for action, standing for her—at 6 P. M. the action commenced, and in 12 minutes after both vessels were yard-arm and yard-arm along side each other, as if in the act of boarding; at that moment an immense explosion took place on board the Chesapeake, which spread a fire from the foremast to the mizen-mast, and apparently as high as the tops, on which both vessels were enveloped in smoke, and on the smoke clearing away, the English colors were seen flying on board the Chesapeake over the American, and both vessels were standing to the eastward. From every appearance, it was evident to me, that the loss of the Chesapeake was owing to the unfortunate explosion that took place on board of her.

ROBERT KNOX.

The above does not essentially vary from the accounts furnished us by the other spectators, though the time of action is shorter than most of them. Persons who were nearest to the scene did not hear any explosion, but only saw a large column of smoke arise from the deck of the Chesapeake, which enveloped both vessels, and on its clearing away the English ensign was seen floating from the mizen peak over the Ame-

rican, which had its union down; and that soon after, both vessels apparently uninjured in any essential degree, were under way standing to the eastward—in the direct course for Halifax.

This event is not the more distressing to the real friends of the Navy, than the cause is mysterious;—and high and honorable minds will wait until they learn the particulars officially, before they form a judgment on the subject.

MORE PARTICULARS.

Two fishermen (one from Cape-Ann, the other from Marblehead) were near the scene of action; one having been spoken by the Chesapeake and the other by the Shannon when very near each other; and the one which spoke the Shannon had been advised to remove further out of danger. One of the skippers says, a constant fire from musquetry was kept up for about the same length of time that the cannonading had continued; that he observed the explosion on the Chesapeake's deck, which appeared to him to be near the mainmast, sending up a smoke (as he described it) as big as a hog's head; and immediately saw the American flag lowered and the English one run up over it, and boats passing and re-passing between the ships, which lay too a considerable time, and between 8 and 9 o'clock, stood to the eastward. Previous to the battle he picked up fifteen cases which the Chesapeake had emptied of canister shot, and thrown over; they are all marked 4th division.

Much has been reported of a challenge having been sent by Capt. Broke to Capt. LAWRENCE, which we believe has not any foundation in truth; and the Salem Register has asserted that a Capt. Slocum which had arrived there from the Shannon, by whom he had been captured, "was the bearer of a written challenge from Commodore Broke to the commander of the Chesapeake"—This we also discredited. It appears that Capt. S. was the bearer of a letter from Capt. Broke, with the superscription:—

"On service. To the Captain of the United States frigate Chesapeake. Shannon."

It was sealed with Commodore Broke's arms, and under the seal was written:—

"We have thirteen American prisoners on board, which I will give you for as many British sailors, if you will send them out—otherwise being privateersmen, they must be detained."

This letter was received in the mail from Salem, and now lies in the post office in this town. There is nothing on the outside which looks like a challenge, whatever the inside may contain.

BOSTON, JUNE 7.

LATEST FROM FRANCE.

The brig Ida, Capt. Manter, which arrived on Wednesday night at Portland, has brought dates to the 27th of April.

The Emperor left Paris on the 16th. According to the Gazette de France, of April 27th, Dantzic, Thorn, and Moscow were "in the same state."—Stettin, Custrin, Glogan, and Spandau were feebly blockaded—Magdeburgh was the point of reserve of the Vice Roy—Wittenburgh and Torgau were "in a good state"—Gen. Vandamme was in advance of Bremen—Sebastian between Zell and the Weser—the left wing of the Vice Roy was on the Elbe, at the mouth of the Sable, and his right at Hartz—The Prince of Moscow was at Erfurth—the Duke of Ragusa at Gotha, and occupied Langen Saltza—the Duke of Istria at Eisenach—Count Bertrand at Coburg—and Gen. Souham at Weimar.

Capt. Manter, on the 24th ult. fell in with and went on board the ship Neptune. Messrs. Bayard, Gallatin, and the other passengers, were all well.

British Attack on Sacket's Harbor.

UTICA, MAY 30.
Extract of a letter dated Sacket's Harbor, May 29.

"The British fleet of 5 or 6 sail, were discovered off our harbor early yesterday morning.—By 9 o'clock it was reduced to a certainty that it was their intention to land. Alarm guns were immediately fired, and every preparation made to give them a warm reception. A light wind and some other causes prevented their landing until 4 o'clock this morning, when they effected it, with considerable loss. The action continued warm and general until 6 o'clock, when it terminated in the retreat of the enemy to their fleet.

I am not able to give you the number of killed or wounded, on either side, but it is considerable on both. Lieut. Col. Mills, in the volunteers, is among the slain. Col. Backus, of the 1st regt. Light Dragoons, is said to be mortally wounded. Two Gene-

ral Officers of the enemy were found dead in the field. It is understood that Governor Prevost commanded the enemy. Gen. Brown commanded our forces, and fought bravely.—The enemy are now making out of the Harbor. You must wait for particulars. In haste, &c.

ANOTHER LETTER.

Albany June 1, 1813.

"From democratic war sources we have accounts of an attack on Sacket's Harbor by the British from Kingston, on the 29th ult. It probably was a feint to attract our attention from some other object, as they had but five or six lake vessels with them. They made good their landing, and continued on shore some hours; when after some hard fighting, they re-embarked, and fell down to the mouth of the harbor. It is not ascertained what was the object of the excursion, but it is supposed, that like ours against Little-York it was to destroy property.—I am happy they have not succeeded; though in consequence of their landing our naval and other stores were hastily set fire to, and were destroyed. Every event which occurs, tends to shew the abominable folly of this War—which produces nothing but reciprocal carnage and enormous expense. Would to God the War makers in Washington had to bear the brunt and expense of it."

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

A letter from an Officer received this morning, dated at 4 o'clock, P. M. on the 29th, says:—

"One Colonel, one or two Majors we know to have been killed—Several of their officers (wounded) we have prisoners. Col. Mills is killed—No other officer of note on our part. Gen. B. though in the thickest fire is untouched."

We also learn from the letter above quoted, that the squadron still lay off the bar; that the result of a second attack was not feared, as Lt. Col. Tuttle had that moment arrived with his regt. 700 strong. We regret to say, that the naval officer who had command of part of the naval stores, apprehensive that the enemy would carry the place, ordered them to be set on fire the early part of the engagement.—Argus.

A note in the Albany Gazette, attached to the above letter, states, "that later accounts mention, that some of the naval stores were destroyed part of the barracks burnt and the cannon spiked; but that the loss was not great; and that the 30 gun frigate building at that place, was not injured." The same note, mentions the loss of Col. Backus, who died of his wound.

CAPTURE OF FORT GEORGE.

Repository Office, Canandaigua, May 29, 7 o'clock, P. M.

About sunrise 28th inst. our troops commanded by Gen. Dearborn, embarked in boats under the immediate command of Gen. Lewis, and landed under cover of the cannon of Com. Chauncey's squadron on the opposite shore about 2 miles west of Newark; they were met on the margin of the lake by all the enemy's force at that post; a brisk engagement ensued which lasted about 30 minutes, when the British retreated in great disorder, being pursued by our troops in every direction—they immediately blew up their magazines in fort George, and evacuated the works leaving the British colours flying, which were soon supplanted by the American standard. Every battery below the heights of Queenston was silenced, and our light artillery and light dragoons crossed at the five-mile meadows about noon. When our informant left Niagara, (6 o'clock, P. M.) all was silent except the pursuing of straggling parties up the river towards Fort Erie, some prisoners had been brought over. Our loss is not known, but report states that we had only 12 men killed, and one officer, Major King, wounded.

By a gentleman from Buffalo we learn, that early this morning the British blew up their batteries opposite Black Rock, and fled to Fort Erie.

Another account of this affair, after stating the army to have been under the command of Generals Lewis, Boyd and Winder, and confirming the blowing up of the magazines, with the loss of some of their own men, says:—"The enemy then pushed for Queenston; but at two o'clock, they were seen retreating from the scene of Gen. Van Rensselaer's action, and our troops in full pursuit; that it was said the enemy had destroyed all the batteries from fort George to fort Erie; and that the whole British it was expected would surrender in a few days.

Latest from Lower Canada.

A Burlington paper of June 3, has the following Postscript, dated 10 o'clock, A. M.

"We stop the press to announce that a heavy cannonading is now heard, and understand that the sloop of war President of 8 12 pounders and 4 6's, the Growler of 10 12 pound carronades, and the Eagle of 10 guns, under the command of Commodore M'Donough, sailed from Plattsburgh for the lines yesterday, for the purpose of attacking the enemies force there. A few hours will give us the result.

"Major Upham's battalion, of 500 strong, has left this place for Sacket's harbour.

"From a source which is entitled to credit, we learn that Gov. Prevost has ordered Gen. Sheafe to England, and has taken command in person of the forces in Upper Canada."

Commodore Decatur's Squadron

LATEST FROM NEW-LONDON.

A gentleman, who arrived in town on Saturday last, from New-London, which he left the day previous at 10 o'clock, states—That the most active preparations were making for the defence of that place; that our ships of war, which were at anchor, with springs on their cables fore and aft, were to be retained in that position as long as possible;—that the militia, accompanied by cannon, and equipped with every thing necessary for a vigorous resistance, were coming in from every direction; that several breast works, and furnaces for heating hot shot, were forming, under the immediate direction of Cm. Decatur, particularly one on the high land on the Groton side of the harbor; this battery, it was expected would annoy the enemy much, in case of their approach towards the town. As a step of prudence and precaution, the valuable property of the city had been principally removed; and the women and children sent into the country.—The British force, then off the harbor, was two 74's and one frigate. The Orpheus, it was reported had gone out for the purpose of bringing forward reinforcements. The inhabitants did not apprehend an immediate attack from the present force. The Macedonian had not been aground as reported;—it was the Hornet, which touched while attempting to pass up at some distance nearer the shore, than the other ships; she was however got off without damage. During the business of lightening the Hornet, Commodore Decatur, who was ahead, backed his sails; which to the enemy, who were but a few miles distant, being viewed as a disposition for battle, the latter began to take in sail; and by this manoeuvre of Com. Decatur, time was allowed for the Hornet to get off, and proceed in safety up the bay.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

Charlotte ss.

MAKEN by Execution and will be sold at Public Auction on Monday the twenty-eighth of June, at the Court House in the Town of Saint Andrews, at eleven A. M.—All that Tract or Parcel of Land the property of Daniel Davis Woodbury, on the Island of Grand Manan, described as follows; bounded southerly on lands belonging to Wm. Gadeomb, westerly on lands granted to Bingham & Quigley, northerly on lands granted to John Moss, and easterly on Long Island Bay, containing 800 acres more or less; on the Premises is a dwelling house, a Grist and Saw Mill, a large and valuable Marsh, which with a little improvement may be made to cut 100 tons of Hay, with the buildings thereon, and all the rights, privileges and appurtenances thereunto belonging.

E. ANDREWS, Sheriff of Charlotte. St. Andrews, 3d December, 1812.

For Sale on Reasonable Terms,

THREE hundred acres of good Land, 18 acres of which has been improved; it is situate on the River Kennebeckasis, 16 miles from this City, and has an excellent growth of hard wood of nearly 120 acres. Any person wishing to purchase the above Land, may know the particulars by applying to Mr. ROBERT LAIDLAY, at York Point, St. John, 19th April, 1813.

WHEREAS my Wife ELIZABETH has left my bed and board without any just cause, I hereby forbid all persons from trusting her on my account, as I will not pay one shilling of debt of her contracting after this date. JAMES BROWN. St. Andrews, May 24, 1813. 35p.

ALL Persons having any demands against the Estate of the late WILLIAM GARDEN, Esq. of Fredericton, deceased, are requested to present the same duly attested within twelve calendar months from the date hereof; and all those indebted to said estate are desired to make immediate payment to

JANE GARDEN, Administratrix. JAMES FRASER, Administrator. Fredericton, 14th November, 1812.