

One quarter, been less favorable than was expected, but in addition to the importance of our naval success the progress of the campaign has been filled with incidents highly honorable to the American arms.

The attacks of the enemy on Craney Island, on Fort Meigs, on Sackett's Harbor, and on Sandusky, have been vigorously and successfully repulsed; nor have they in any case succeeded on either frontier, excepting when directed against the peaceable dwellings of individuals, or villages unprepared or undefended.

On the other hand the movements of the American army have been followed by the reduction of York, and of Forts George, Erie, and Malden; by the recovery of Detroit and the extinction of the Indian war in the West; and by the occupancy or command of a large portion of Upper Canada. Battles have also been fought on the borders of the St. Lawrence, which, though not accomplishing their entire objects, reflects honor on the discipline and prowess of our soldiery, the best auguries of eventual victory. In the same scale are to be placed the late successes in the south, over one of the most powerful, which had become one of the most hostile also, of the Indian tribes.

It would be improper to close this communication without expressing a thankfulness, in which all ought to unite for the numerous blessings with which our beloved country continues to be favored; for the abundance which overspreads our land, and the prevailing health of its inhabitants; for the preservation of our internal tranquillity, and the stability of our free institutions; and above all for the light of divine truth, and the protection of every man's conscience in the enjoyment of it. And although among our blessings we cannot number an exemption from the evils of war; yet these will never be regarded as the greatest of evils, by the friends of liberty, and of the rights of nations. Our country has before preferred them to the degrading condition which was the alternative, when the sword was drawn in the cause which gave birth to our national Independence; and none who contemplate the magnitude, and feel the value of that glorious event, will shrink from a struggle to maintain the high and happy ground on which it placed the American people.

With all good citizens, the justice and necessity of resisting wrongs and usurpations no longer to be borne, will sufficiently outweigh the privations and sacrifices, inseparable from a state of war. But it is a reflection, moreover, peculiarly consoling, that whilst wars are generally aggravated by their baneful effects on the internal improvements and permanent prosperity of the nations engaged in them, such is the favored situation of the United States, that the calamities of the contest into which they have been compelled to enter, are mitigated by improvements and advantages of which the contest itself is the source.

If the war has increased the interruptions of our commerce, it has at the same time cherished and multiplied our manufactures, so as to make us independent of all other countries for the more essential branches, for which we ought to be dependant on none; and is even rapidly giving them an extent which will create additional staples in our future intercourse with foreign markets.

If much treasure has been expended, no inconsiderable portion of it has been applied to objects durable in their value, and necessary to our permanent safety.

If the war has exposed us to increased spoliations on the ocean, and to predatory incursions on the land, it has developed the national means of retaliating the former, and of providing protection against the latter; demonstrating to all, that every blow aimed at our maritime independence is an impulse accelerating the growth of our maritime power.

By diffusing through the mass of the nation the elements of military discipline and instruction, by augmenting and distributing warlike preparations, applicable to future use, by evincing the zeal and valor with which they will be employed, and the cheerfulness with which every necessary burden will be borne, a greater respect for our rights and a longer duration of our future peace are promised, than could be expected without these proofs of the national character and resources.

The war has proved, moreover, that our free government, like other free governments, though slow in its early movements, acquire in its progress a force proportioned to its freedom; and that the union of these states, the guardian of the freedom and safety of all and of each, is strengthened by every occasion that puts it to the test.

In fine, the war, with all its vicissitudes, is illustrating the capacity and the destiny

of the United States to be a great, a flourishing and a powerful nation; worthy of the friendship which it is disposed to cultivate with all others; and authorized, by its own example, to require from all an observance of the law's of justice and reciprocity. Beyond these their claims have never extended; and, in contending for these, we behold a subject for our congratulations, in the daily testimonies of increasing harmony throughout the nation, and may humbly repose our trust in the smiles of Heaven on so righteous a cause.

JAMES MADISON.

BOSTON, DECEMBER 13.

LATEST FROM PORTUGAL.

On Sunday last, arrived at the Port of Plymouth, ship *Mercurius*, Capt. Brandom, 33 days from Lisbon. A gentleman who came passenger in the above vessel, informs us, that OFFICIAL accounts had been received in Lisbon, that Lord WELLINGTON, and his army had entered Bayonne, and that it was his intention to Winter the other side of the Pyrennees.—The above verbal account may be depended upon. No papers were received by the *Mercurius*, that we have as yet heard of. The *Tybee*, Read, from Lisbon, which arrived at Newport, on the 4th inst. sailed on the morning of the 30th of Oct.—The *Mercurius*, sailed on the Evening of the 31st Oct. of course she is 2 days the latest, and from this circumstance, we think the above News may be correct.

BOSTON, DECEMBER 16.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, DEC. 9.

"No business of importance has yet been transacted in either branch of Congress.—The usual Standing Committees have been appointed and this day the various subjects embraced by the President's Message, have been committed to special committees. Private petitions from various quarters of the Union have also been committed and several days will probably elapse before any public business will be called up.

The Secretary at War has not yet arrived in this city, and it was made a question in the Senate, whether a Military Committee ought to be chosen before some further communication on the subject of the army, than was contained in the Message, should be made by the Executive. Such a Committee was however appointed. A confidential communication from the President was sent to both Houses at half past 12, this day.—The galleries were cleared, and after remaining a short time in secret session, both Houses adjourned.

"It is the general opinion an Embargo will be laid, that the army will be augmented and vigorous preparations made for prosecuting the war.

"Generals Hampton and Harrison are momentarily expected here.

"No business of moment has yet publicly made its appearance in either Houses of Congress; and it will probably be some days before it does. A message of a confidential nature was yesterday transmitted by the President to both Houses, on which they sat with closed doors not much longer than it would take to read a message of twice the length of this paragraph. Conjectures are various: the general conjecture, whether correctly or not we have no means of judging, favors the belief that the President has recommended to Congress to lay an Embargo on all vessels in our waters."

National Intelligencer Dec. 10.

LONDON, OCTOBER 14.

COPY OF A LETTER

From His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, to His Majesty the Emperor Napoleon.

"As long as your Imperial Majesty acted, or caused others to act, against me only, directly, I deemed it proper to oppose to you nothing but calmness or silence; but now, when the note of the Duke of Bassano to Mr. D'Obson endeavors to throw between the King and me the same firebrand of discord which facilitated to your Majesty the entrance into Spain, all ministerial relations having been broken, I address myself directly to you, for the purpose of reminding you of the faithful and open conduct of Sweden, even in the most difficult times.

"To the communications which M. Signeul was charged to make by order of your Imperial Majesty, the King caused it to be replied, that Sweden, convinced that it was only to you, Sire, that she owed the loss of Finland, could never believe in your friendship for her, unless you procured Norway to be given to her, to indemnify her for the mischief which your policy had caused her.

"With regard to all that is contained in the Note of the Duke of Bassano, respecting the invasion of Pomerania, and the conduct of the French privateers, facts speak for themselves, and, on comparing the dates, it will be seen

whether your Majesty or the Swedish Government are correct.

"A hundred Swedish ships had been captured, and more than 200 seamen put in irons, when this Government saw itself compelled to cause a pirate to be seized, who, under the French flag, entered our very ports, to carry off our ships, and to insult our confidence in Treaties.

"The Duke of Bassano says, that, your Majesty did not provoke the war with Russia; and yet, Sire, your Majesty passed the Niemen, with 400,000 men.

"From the moment when your Majesty plunged into the interior of that Empire, the issue was no longer doubtful. The Emperor Alexander and the King, already in the month of August, foresaw the termination of the campaign, and its prodigious results; all military combinations seemed to guarantee that your Majesty would be a prisoner.—You escaped that danger, Sire, but your army, the elite of France, of Germany, and of Italy, exists no more! There lies unburied the brave men who served France at Fleurus: Frenchmen who conquered in Italy, who survived the burning clime of Egypt, and who fixed victory under your colors at Marengo, at Austerlitz, Jena and Friedland!

"May your soul be softened, Sire, at this heart-rending picture; but should it be necessary to complete the effect, recollect also the death of some more than a million of Frenchmen, lying on the field of Honor, victims of the wars which your Majesty has undertaken.

"Your Majesty invokes your rights to the friendship of the King! Permit me to remind you, Sire, of the little value your Majesty attached to it, at times when a reciprocity of sentiment would have been very useful to Sweden. When the King, after having lost Finland, wrote to your Majesty to beg you to preserve for Sweden the isles of Aland, you replied to him, 'apply to the Emperor Alexander: he is great and generous;' and, to fill up the measure of your indifference, you caused it to be inserted in the official journal (*Moniteur* of the 21st of Sept. 1810) at the moment of my departure for Sweden, that there had been an *interregnum* in that kingdom, during which the English were carrying on their commerce with impunity.

"The King broke off from the coalition of 1792, because it was the object of that coalition to partition France, and he would have no hand in the dismemberment of that fine Monarchy; he was led to that measure a monument of his political wisdom, as much by his attachment to the French people, as by a wish to heal the wounds of the kingdom.

"That wise and virtuous policy, founded on the principle, that every nation has a right to govern itself by its own laws, its usages and its own will, is the very same, which regulates him at the present moment.

"Your system, Sire, would interdict to nations the exercise of that right which they have received from nature that of trading with each other, of mutually assisting each other, of corresponding and living in peace; and yet the very existence of Sweden depends upon an extension of commercial relations without which she would be insufficient for her own subsistence.

"Far from perceiving in the conduct of the King any charge of system, every enlightened and impartial man will find in it nothing but the continuation of a just and steady policy, which was manifested at a period when the Sovereigns coalesced against the liberty of France; and which is now pursued with energy, at a time when the French Government continues to conspire against the liberty of nations, and of sovereigns.

"I know the good dispositions of the Emperor Alexander, and the cabinet of St. James's, towards peace—the calamities of the continent demand it, and your Majesty ought not to spurn it.—Possessed of the finest Monarchy upon earth, would you be always extending its limits, and transmit to an armless powerful than yours, the wretched inheritance of interminable war? Will not your Majesty apply yourself to the healing of the wounds inflicted by a revolution, of which there is nothing left to France but the recollections of its military glory, and real calamities within its interior? Sire, the lessons of history repel the idea of an universal monarchy; and the sentiment of independence may be deadened, but cannot be effaced from the heart of nations. May your Majesty weigh all these considerations and at last really think of that general peace the profaned name of which has caused so much blood to flow.

"I was born, Sire, in that fine France which you govern; its glory and prosperity can never be indifferent to me; but without ceasing to form wishes for its happiness, I will defend, with all the powers of my soul, both the rights of the people who invited me, and the honor of the sovereign who has condescended to call me his son. In this contest between the liberty of the world and oppression, I will say to the Swedes—'I fight for you, and with you; and the good wishes of all free nations will accompany our efforts.'

"In politics, Sire, neither friendship nor hatred has place—they are only duties to fulfil towards the nations whom Providence has summoned us to govern; their laws and their privileges are the blessings which are dear to them; and if, in order to preserve them, one is compelled to renounce old connections and family affections, the Prince who wishes to perform his duty can never hesitate which course to adopt.

"The Duke of Bassano announces, that your Majesty will avoid the éclat of a rupture; but, Sire, was it not your Majesty who interrupted our commercial relations by ordering the capture of Swedish vessels in the bosom of peace? Was it not the rigor of your orders which forbid us every kind of communication with the Continent for three years, and which, since that period, caused more than 50 Swedish vessels to be detained at Wismar, Roslock, and other ports of the Baltic?

"The Duke of Bassano adds, that your Majesty will never change your system, and will consider this as a civil war; which indicates that your Majesty means to retain forever, Swedish Pomerania, and will not renounce the hope of giving law to Sweden, and thus degrading, without running any risk, the Swedish name and character. By the phrase, 'civil war,' you doubtless mean a war between the Allies but we know the fate to which you destine them.

"If the events which have occurred for these four months past have induced you to throw upon your Generals the disarming and the sending of the Swedish troops of Pomerania as prisoners of war into France, and it will not be so easy to find a pretext to show that your Majesty never wished to confirm the judgment of the Council of Prizes; and that you did not make particular exceptions against Sweden, even when that tribunal decided in our favor. Besides, Sire, no one in Europe will misunderstand the blame which you throw upon your Generals.

"The Note of the King's Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the answer which M. de Cabre returned on the 4th of Jan. 1812, will prove to you, Sire, that his Majesty had even anticipated your wishes by setting at liberty all the crews of the privateers. The Government afterwards carried its consideration so far as to send back Portuguese, Algerines, and Negroes, who, taken on board the same privateers, called themselves the subjects of your Majesty. There could not be the slightest reason, therefore, why your Majesty should not have ordered the return of the Swedish officers and soldiers, and yet they still groan under confinement.

"With regard to the threats contained in the Note of the Duke of Bassano, and the 40,000 men whom your Majesty intends giving to Denmark, I do not think it becomes me to enter into discussions on these subjects, and the rather because I doubt very much whether the King of Denmark can avail himself of that success.

"With regard to my personal ambition—it is lofty, I acknowledge: it has for its object to serve the cause of humanity, and to secure the independence of the Scandinavian Peninsula; to attain that end, I confide in the justice of that cause which the King has commanded me to defend, upon the perseverance of this nation, and the fidelity of its Allies.

(Signed) CHARLES JEAN.

MONTREAL, NOVEMBER 30.

On Sunday last arrived here 83 American prisoners, taken on the 11th instant, in the brilliant achievement at Chrystler's Farm.

We have transcribed into our columns of this day, a General Order published here on the 24th instant,—the comments made on the conduct of General Proctor and his little force, in their retreat from Detroit and in the action of the 5th Oct. last, are conveyed in terms of censure which we are extremely sorry to find a portion of the army once justly claiming the admiration and applause of their country, have now attracted. On this painful subject we forbear at present to enlarge, as a serious investigation will, no doubt soon take place, when the causes of this melancholy disaster will be made known to the world.

GENERAL ORDER.

HEAD-QUARTERS,

MONTREAL, November 24, 1813.

His Excellency the Commander of the Forces has received an official report from Major-General Proctor of the affair which took place on the 5th Oct. near the Moravian village, and he has in vain sought in it, for grounds to palliate the report made to his Excellency by Staff Adjutant Reiffenstein upon which the general order of the 18th October was founded—on the contrary, that statement remains confirmed in all the principal events which marked that disgraceful day; the precipitancy with which the Staff Adjutant retreated from the field of action, prevented his ascertaining the loss sustained by the division on that occasion;