

**FROM BELL'S MESSENGER, AUG. 9.**

**MISSION OF THE EARL OF ABERDEEN.**  
There is a great difference of opinion amongst persons of all parties with respect to the propriety of this Mission; and as is usual in all similar cases, in which party purposes are concerned, there appears to be on both sides more clamour than reason, and each praises or abuses in an excess which is equally distant from what is just. It is partly in the character of the times that we cannot view these questions with suitable moderation. Happily, however, there are writers, and there are even political actors, who having no immediate interest, or no immediate personal prejudice, can correct the extravagancies of both sides, and effect a real and solid service by undeceiving the public.

The simple state of the Mission appears to be this. The Allied Powers of Russia and Prussia were compelled by their numerical inferiority to require an Armistice; and the terms of this Armistice were rendered moderate by the intervention of the Emperor of Austria, who very naturally wished, and still continues to wish, to clear Germany of both parties. Under these circumstances, both of the Belligerent parties, France as well as the Allies, found it a general interest to admit the Armistice, and to send their negociators to the Congress, with the apparent purpose of endeavouring for a general peace. As England is one of the Allies, the others very naturally require her to send her Representative. They perhaps, employ such language as follows:

"It is prudent for us under all circumstances to accept of this Armistice, as we are not in sufficient numerical strength to meet the Emperor Napoleon in the field. It is equally prudent for us to evince a desire of peace, and to send Negotiators to the proposed Congress at Prague, inasmuch as the Emperor of Austria is evidently so determined upon pacification, and so inclined from family feelings towards the cause of the Emperor Napoleon, that he would infallibly declare against the Allies in the event of refusal.—We are compelled, therefore to send these Negotiators, and for the same reason we should be compelled to discuss any proposed terms, and accept such as are moderate and reasonable. Under these circumstances, it is the undoubted interest of England, and the numerical addition of her vote, will give us an advantage. If such terms are offered as we may accept, the presence of your Ambassador is equally necessary to yourselves and us. To us it gives a superior mass of power, and therefore a superior ground of claim and demand. To yourselves it is an undoubted benefit to negotiate in union, instead of singly."

Such, therefore, are the circumstances under which the Earl of Aberdeen is sent, and we confess we cannot see any material interest which can possibly be injured by his Mission.

It is clearly one thing to bear terms, and another to accept them; one thing to go to a Congress, and another to conclude a Treaty. The Spanish Patriots are not deserted till we actually conclude a Peace without them, and leave them in the lurch. But who will say that the Congress can weaken the spirit with which the war is carried on in the Peninsula, when at this very moment perhaps, our artillery are playing upon Sebastians, whilst our Armies in conjunction with the Spanish, are in the very Passes of the Pyrenees on the road into France.—This has no appearance of deserting the Spanish Cause. On the contrary, the whole force of England is upon the French and Spanish frontier, and there never has occurred any opportunity in which Spain could herself enter upon a Negotiation in a more commanding attitude.

The very circumstance of England being required to send a Negotiator, is to us a convincing proof, that the Allies neither expect, nor perhaps wish that this Congress will terminate pacifically. England has it in her power to throw in insurmountable obstacles. It is totally impossible to come to any agreement upon the questions and interests in which the British Cabinet is concerned. They are irreconcilable with what France has established as her fundamental policy. The first principle of France is, that England shall divest herself, or shall be divested by others, of her pretensions to Naval Dominion; and of those claims and exercises of rights founded upon the nature of her maritime superiority. But it is equally the principle of England, that the existence of her fleet,—that is to say, her defensive strength, requires the exercise of these rights, and that without them she would be unable to reap the advantage of this arm of defence.—This is in brief words the foundation of our claim to the rights of search, colonial blockade, and overhauling crews and goods. Our Navy is the principal arm of our strength, and our means of

defence. It is an interest, therefore, of self-defence to keep it up, and these rights are all of them essentially requisite either for such maintenance, or to reap its due effect.

What we could infer from these premises is, briefly, that England can never surrender up these claims, and that France will make no peace without such concessions; and therefore, that nothing can be expected from a Congress in which England is to have a principal voice.

With respect to the Earl of Aberdeen, personally, no one, we believe, pretends to know any thing either in favour or in disproof of his talents, and as every man of suitable education must be presumed to be fitted for ordinary and general business, to make a claim, assign its reasons, and to represent his Sovereign, it is a matter of candour, in the absence of all direct contradiction, to presume that the Earl of Aberdeen is of sufficient ability.

**BOSTON, OCTOBER 4.**

**Beware the French Privateer!**

It is with extreme regret that we announce to the public our belief that an armed schooner with a French commission as a privateer, sailed from this port on Tuesday last. It is with still deeper regret that we inform, that she was equipped and fitted for her cruise in this port and under the eye of the Collector. During the progress of her equipment, the inhabitants of the place frequently expressed their apprehensions of the object, and the Collector was informed that the laws of the United States prohibited the arming and equipping of vessels in our ports to be employed in the service of a foreign state against friendly powers—Spain and Portugal are in amity with the United States, and the fitting out of a French privateer to capture their vessels is completely within the provisions of the law. It was therefore undoubtedly the duty of the Collector to prevent such an enterprize. Whether he permitted her to proceed by directions from Administration, or on his own responsibility we know not; but certain it is she is gone.

While lying in the mouth of our harbor on Monday night last, she stopped the *Rosetta*, Capt. Gibbs, of this port coming in from New-York, fired upon him within pistol shot, and threatened to fire a broadside upon him. She probably intends cruising against American commerce as well as against the enemies of France. We understand that the men on board entered to perform a voyage to New-Orleans, and thence to France; and when about to sail on Tuesday morning, finding she was sailing only under the French flag and commission, unanimously refused to proceed. The commander was therefore compelled to proceed to Newport, where we understand she has arrived. We hope that proper measures will there be taken to investigate the business before she is permitted to proceed to sea. The inhabitants of New-Bedford would be extremely unwilling to see even an American privateer proceed from their port; much more sensibly do they feel the disgrace of seeing a French armed vessel sail from their shores, to prosecute a scheme of piracy and plunder.

**Commodore Perry's Victory.**

One of the Western paper states, that of the whole crew of the *Lawrence*, the Commodore's flag vessel, there were only nine men uninjured.

**From Lake Erie:**

Some further particulars of the late action on Lake Erie have been received. Commodore Perry did not leave the *Lawrence* till there were no more men left, than enough to work one gun; and the last gun she fired, the Commodore assisted in working. The British Commander, (Barclay) had his other hand shot off. The slaughter on board the British vessels—*Detroit* and *Charlotte*, was particularly dreadful; the former had 270 men when the action commenced;—every boat of the six captured vessels was stove or sunk. The action was about 16 miles from Malden.

**From Lake Ontario.**

A Canandigua article of Sept. 25th states, that our fleet on this Lake, passed up towards the head on Tuesday, 21st Sept. for the purpose, as it is understood, of taking on board our troops, who have evacuated Fort George, on an expedition against Kingston. Sir James Yeo escaped from the Bay, into which Commodore Chauncey had chased him, by going through a different passage, in the night, and got safe into Kingston.

An article, from the same place, assures us, that between 2 and 3000 militia are gone on to the Niagara frontier; with 2 and 300 Indians allies. This force, added to what is already on the spot, will enable Gen. Wilkinson to do something, if he is

disposed to put on the efficiency and courage of our naval Commanders.

**Northern Army.**

The Plattsburgh paper of Sept. 28th, states, that the army of Gen. Hampton, after having passed within the Canadian frontier a few miles halted for a short time; that on the 23d, they took up their line of march for the westward;—that by the last accounts they were at Chatungay, about 40 miles to the west of Plattsburgh; that their place of destination was unknown;—but that the army amounting to nearly 5000 troops, being well equipped and in fine health, some movement of importance was confidently expected. The same paper adds,

We learn that in consequence of the movement of our army in this quarter, the utmost exertions are making in Lower Canada to place that Province in a state of defence and security. It is said, that the whole mass of militia have been ordered out, comprising every individual who is capable of bearing arms, from 15 to 45 years of age. From what we have heard, it would seem that the provincial government is determined to defend its territory to the last extremity. We further learn, that on Friday last the enemy moved 6000 men from their encampment in L'Ca da Cogniwaga, an Indian village about 15 miles above Montreal. This movement was probably made in consequence of the march of our army to the westward.

**British in the Chesapeake.**

Accounts from various places on the borders of this river, state, that several British armed vessels have again ascended the river, as high as the mouth of the Potomac; and that every coaster they have met with, has been captured.

NORFOLK, SEPTEMBER 24.—On Tuesday night, a party of English landed from their shipping, on the main, and marched across to the pleasure-house, where they surprised the guard, of about 40 men, stationed there, under Capt. Lawson, and captured six of them. The rest made good their retreat. There were none killed or wounded on either side.

**MONTREAL, SEPT. 18.**

Our latest accounts from the Upper Province, although they shew that our difficulties in that quarter are increasing, encourage us to hope from the great exertions which are making to surmount them, that the enemy will not close the present Campaign with greater success than that which attended him in the last.—From Lake Erie we understand that Captain Barclay, on the 5th instant, having armed and manned the *Detroit*, was with his Squadron in front of Amherstburg, waiting the approach of the Enemy's flotilla, which was reported to be watching an opportunity of landing troops in that neighbourhood. The first division of the Officers and Seamen, destined for our Squadron on that Lake would probably reach Amherstburg, on the 6th inst. and would enable Capt. Barclay, if he thought it expedient, immediately to proceed in pursuit of the Enemy, with whom when thus reinforced, he would think himself fully equal to contend for the superiority of the Lake.—Notwithstanding the failure of the attack on Sandusky, our troops under Major General Proctor, were in excellent spirits and in no way apprehensive of the result of any movement on the part of the enemy. The greatest want experienced at the Forts of Amherstburg and *Detroit*, was that of provisions, the scarcity of which in consequence of the great numbers of Indians and their families daily fed by us, was beginning to be severely felt—measures have however been taken to forward an immediate supply from the centre division of the army.—The opening of the communication by Long-Point, to which we look forward as the consequence of our squadron being enabled to proceed on the Lake, will also afford additional means for removing the difficulties against which the right division of the army is at present contending.—From the centre division accounts have been received to the 10th instant, at which time the enemy continued to be cooped up within his entrenchments at Fort-George.—He has lately had the temerity to make an attack upon one of our advanced piquets, in which he was repulsed with a severe loss—our Indian warriors behaved in this affair with great gallantry, three of them being killed. We are concerned to state that the sickness amongst the troops of this division of the army has greatly increased within this last fortnight, so much so that we should not be surprised, if it is not soon checked, to hear of Major Gen. De Rotenburg's having taken up a position on higher ground, though further removed from Fort George—a measure which can in no degree assist the views of the enemy, at the same time

that it will materially benefit the health of our brave fellows, who are suffering from the situation of their present quarters.

The naval Squadrons contending for the superiority on Lake Ontario, after much manœuvring on the two preceding days to obtain the weather gage of each other, had a partial engagement on Saturday last off the Genesee river—during the course of that day several shots were exchanged at a distance by different vessels of the two fleets, but the enemy having the wind, Sir James Yeo could not force him to a general action. On Sunday Sir James again attempted to accomplish that object and failing in it, anchored that evening off the false Ducks near Kingston. On the following morning the enemy's fleet again appearing in sight, our Squadron got under weigh, and they were both seen standing up the Lake until twelve o'clock, when they disappeared, since which time no further accounts have been received of them. From an officer who had landed from our fleet at Kingston on Monday, it was ascertained that during the cannonading on Saturday, a petty officer (Mr. Henry) and four men had been killed, and three wounded on board the *Melville*—The loss of the enemy could not of course be known, but was supposed to be much greater, as several of our shots were seen to take effect. The officers and men of our Squadron were represented to be in the highest spirits, in consequence of the enemy's Squadron continuing to keep upon the Lake, and at the prospect it held out to them of being soon enabled to force him to a general action.—The American Squadron consists of twelve vessels, and is still commanded by Commodore Chauncey.

Notwithstanding the rumours which have reached us from different quarters, of the movements of the enemy near the Montreal frontier, and of their supposed object, we are satisfied that the advance of the small body of troops which has hitherto reached Plattsburgh, has been more for the purpose of guarding their own territory from fresh insult, than with a view to penetrate into ours—at the same time we are gratified to see the prompt measures which have been adopted to meet whatever contingency may occur.

**SEPTEMBER 25.**

The Squadron under Sir James Yeo, returned to Kingston on the 18th inst. for the purpose of taking on board a supply of provisions, and in order to convey to the head of the Lake, a valuable fleet of transports with ordnance, stores, and provisions, for the army under Major General De Rotenburg. The whole sailed on Sunday last, and are in all probability by this time off the Four mile Creek—the Head Quarters of the Centre Division of our army, where should the late prevailing sickness amongst our troops have not materially increased, some offensive operations may be expected soon to take place, to compel the enemy to retire from Fort George.—Previous to the arrival of Sir James with his squadron at Kingston, he had been for several days in sight of the enemy's fleet, which he had in vain endeavoured to bring to a general action, but Commodore Chauncey having invariably the advantage of the wind as well as that of superior sailing, Sir James could not engage except under such disadvantages, as would have exposed the Squadron to much risk without affording him the hope of being able to close with the enemy. We trust that upon his present cruise he will be more fortunate, and that our brave tars will not be again disappointed in their anxious wish of deciding the contest at close quarters.—We are sorry to hear that some unpleasant rumours are in circulation, respecting our fleet on Lake Erie. We have reason to think that an engagement did take place between our Squadron under Captain Barclay, and that of the enemy on the 10th instant, and that it lasted for several hours; but as we can confidently state that no certain accounts have been received of the result, we will still indulge the hope that it has not been unfavourable to His Majesty's Arms.

The enemy appears to be still increasing his force on our frontier,—he however thought proper to withdraw from Odeltown on Tuesday last, and has retired to the Little Chazy river—where we understand his main body is at present encamped.—Our advanced piquets have been pushed on to Odeltown—The roads by the Chatagua and in other directions, have been completely obstructed, and are well guarded, and a proportion of the militia has been called out to assist in repelling the enemy, should he venture to advance into the Province.

**CARDS:**

MERRY ANDREW and HENRY the VIIIth Playing CARDS of a good quality, for Sale at J. S. MOTT'S Office, by the dozen or single pack.