

inch howitzers, which immediately commenced firing, and continued until it was dark. The enemy's light troops advanced close to the walls we had hastily thrown up; but from the cool and steady conduct of the 51st regiment, Col. Stewart; 71st regiment, the Honorable Col. Cadogan; the 92d, Col. Cameron; General Howard's brigade, the enemy dared not attempt the town.

About eight o'clock in the evening I was repeatedly informed that the enemy's infantry was considerably increasing, which induced me to order three battalions of Brigadier Da Costa's brigade into town, leaving his other battalion for the protection of the fords. The enemy during the night withdrew their artillery, and I have left a small force of cavalry and infantry, who keep up a smart fire. I have to regret the loss of a considerable number of men, but which I trust you will not deem great, when you consider the heavy and incessant fire of artillery for so many hours. The loss of the Portuguese was while on duty this morning, and I have real pleasure in reporting their steady and animated conduct.

I feel much indebted to Major-General Howard, who rendered me every possible assistance, as also to every officer and soldier of his excellent brigade, for their steady, zealous, and soldier-like conduct.

To Capt. Pinto Saverda, my Assistant Adjutant-General; to Capt. Watson, light dragoons, Assistant Quarter-Master-General; and to Capt. Baubury, my Aid-de-Camp, I consider myself obliged, for their prompt execution of my orders.

I enclose a return of the killed and wounded, and trust we shall not have many more casualties.

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed) JOHN HAMILTON, Lt.-Gen.
Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill.

PROCLAMATION.

ISSUED BY THE EMPEROR ALEXANDER, DATED ST. PETERSBURGH, NOVEMBER 15.

We, ALEXANDER the First, by the Grace of God, Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias, &c.

It is well known to the whole world in what manner the enemy has entered the boundaries of our empire.—No step or means that have so frequently been resorted to by the punctual fulfilment of the peaceable stipulations, nor our steady endeavours by all possible means to avert the effects of a bloody and destructive war, have been able to check his obstinate design, in which he has shewn himself entirely immovable. With peaceful promises on his tongue, he never ceased to think on war. At length having collected a large army, and strengthened it with Austrian, Prussian, Bavarian, Wurtemberg, Westphalian, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Polish regiments, who were constrained through disgrace and fear, he put himself in motion with this immense force, supplied with vast quantities of artillery, and penetrated into the interior of our country.—Murder, fire, and destruction, were his attendants on the march. The plundered property, the towns and villages set on fire, the smoking ruins of Moscow, the Kremlin blown up into the air, the temples and altars of the Lord destroyed; in one word, all kinds of cruelty and barbarity, hitherto unheard of, at length prove by his own actions, that they have long been lying concealed in the depth of his mind. The mighty and happy Russian Empire, which possesses every thing in abundance, awakened in the heart of the enemy envy and dread. The possession of the whole world could not satisfy him, so long as the fertile fields of Russia still were happy. Full of this envy and internal hatred, he resolved, turned, and arranged in his mind, all manner of evil means by which he might give a dreadful blow to her power, a total confusion to her riches, and bring general destruction on her prosperity. He likewise thought by cunning and flattery, to shake the fidelity of our subjects; by the defilement of the sanctuaries, and of God's temples, to make religion unsteady, and to strike the national sight with follies and extravagancies. On these hopes he built his destructive plans, and with them he forced himself, like a pestilential and murderous tempest, into the heart of Russia.

The whole world has fixed its attention on our suffering country, and inwardly moved, thought they saw in the reflection of the flame, of Moscow the last day of the existence of our freedom and independence. But great and mighty is the God of Justice! The triumph of the enemy was of short duration; pressed on all sides by our valiant armies and levies, he soon discovered that by his temerity he had ventured too far, and that he could not, either by his vaunted army his seducements, or his cruelties, inspire fear into the loyal and valiant Russians, nor save himself from destruction. After many fruitless endeavors, and now that he sees his numerous troops every where beaten and destroyed, he now, with the small remains of them, seeks his personal safety in the rapidity of his flight; he flies from Moscow with as much fear and depression as he advanced against it with pride and insolence; he flies, leaving his cannon behind him, throwing away his baggage, and sacrificing every thing that can retard the swiftness of his flight. Thousands of the fugitives daily fall to the earth and expire. In such manner does the just vengeance of God punish those who insult his temples. Whilst we, with paternal tenderness and joyful heart, observe the great and praise-worthy actions of our faithful subjects, we carry our most warm and lively gratitude to the first cause of all good,—the Almighty God; and in the next place we have to express our thanks in the name of our common country, to all our loyal subjects, as the true sons of Russia. By their general energy and zeal, the force of the enemy is brought down to the lowest degree of decline, for the greater part has either been annihilated or made prisoners. All have unanimously joined in the work.

Our valiant armies have every where defeated the enemy. The higher nobility have spared nothing by which it could contribute to the increase of the strength of the State. The merchants have distinguished themselves by sacrifices of all kinds. The loyal people, burghers, and peasantry, have given such proofs of fidelity and love for their country, as can only be expected of the Russian nation. They have zealously and voluntarily entered into the hastily raised levies, and have shewn a courage and resolution equal to veteran warriors. They have with the same force and intrepidity penetrated the enemy's regiments, with the same implements with which they only a few weeks before turned up their fields. In this manner the troops of levies sent from St. Petersburg and Novogorod, for the strengthening of the forces under Count Wittgenstein, have behaved themselves especially at Polotzk, and other places. We have besides, and with heartfelt satisfaction, perceived by the reports of the Commander in Chief of the armies, and from other Generals, that in several Governments, and particularly in those of Moscow and Kalouga, the country people have armed themselves, chosen their own leaders, and not only resisted all attempts at seducing them, but also sustained all the calamities that have befallen them with the perseverance of martyrs. Often have they united themselves with our detachments, and assisted them in making their enterprises and attacks against the enemy. Many villages have secreted their families and tender infants in the woods; and the inhabitants, with armed hand and inconceivable courage, under engagements on the Holy Gospel not to leave each other in danger, defended themselves, and whenever the enemy shewed himself, have fallen upon him, so that many thousands of them have been cut to pieces, and dispersed by the peasants, and even by their women, and numbers taken prisoners, who were indebted for their lives to the humanity of those very people whom they came to plunder and destroy.

So high a purpose, and such invincible perseverance in the whole nation, does it immortal honor, worthy of being preserved in the minds of posterity. With the courage of such a nation, we entertain the most well-founded hopes. Whilst we jointly with the true church, and the holy synod and clergy, supplicate God's assistance, that if our inveterate enemy, and the mocker of God's temple and holiness, should not be entirely and totally destroyed in Russia, yet that his deep wounds, and the blood it has cost him, will bring him to acknowledge her might and strength.

Meanwhile, we hold it to be our bounden duty, by this general publication before the whole world, to express our gratitude to the valiant, loyal, and religious Russian nation, and thereby render it due justice.

Given at St. Petersburg, the 15th day of November, in the year 1812 after the birth of Christ, and in the twelfth year of our reign.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER.

BOSTON, JANUARY 29.

After the peace of Tilsit, it was doubtless believed by our Cabinet, that Russia had been so much reduced, as to be incapable, or from the influence of French intrigues, unwilling, to hazard any further resistance to the demands of France. Alexander had apparently submitted to the continental system, and under the impression, that in future he would co-operate in the war against British commerce, in all good faith; Mr. Adams was sent minister to the Court of St. Petersburg. Pursuant to his instructions, he was for some time zealous in detecting all sorts of commercial contrivances, evasions and forgeries—following them into the very shop of the famous Van Sander himself, and calling upon his own and the Russian Court, to behold and punish the audacious traders, who had violated the integrity of the continental system. Mr. Madison fully believed, that Alexander was as faithful a friend of Napoleon as himself—that he was as sincere a hater of England, and would execute all his anti-commercial edicts, with equal zeal and fidelity. Under this conviction, the faithful representative of our Cabinet acted—but it was soon signified to him, in a manner which he fully understood, that such was not the interest or policy of the Russian Government; nor such its loyalty to the French Emperor. Commerce with England, therefore, was permitted by Alexander, though Madison, true to his allegiance, prohibited it. This failure to execute the continental system, this contempt of French requisitions, by the Emperor of Russia this enlightened regard to the welfare of his own subjects, this display before the world of the feelings of honor and independence, awakened the resentment of Napoleon. He determined to punish so dangerous an example, and by inflicting the most signal chastisement upon Russia, to teach the world the folly and madness of resisting his demands.

In the mean time Russia in expectation of the blow, was preparing to meet it. Wisdom presided in her councils, and the most consummate military skill in the field. The power of her adversary was measured, and her own resources and means of defence were marshalled to meet it at every point. In no instance do the Russians appear to have been surprised, or outgeneralled:—in no instance to have been called upon to make unexpected sacrifices; but every emergency seems to have been foreseen and provided for; their resolution and constancy seem never to have been shaken—but at the moment when Bonaparte was entering Moscow, in the vain hope of ending his campaign, and dictating his own terms there, the Russian army under Kutsoff, after beating him at Borodino, gave up the city, in order to take a position, that has, in its consequences already proved fatal to his ambitious hopes. From that moment he was little better than a prisoner in Moscow. His intercepted letter to the Duke of Bassano of the 16th of October, sufficiently shows the im-

pression he then had of his own situation, and whether that letter be genuine or not, subsequent events have proved all its dismal anticipations to be true. He was according to the last accounts a fugitive, seeking his own personal safety, in a country, that a few months before, he had invaded with more than two hundred thousand men. His own grand army reduced to probably less than fifty thousand men, exhausted by famine and cold, and beset on his flank, if not surrounded, by a Russian army of more than double the force—with a powerful army in his front, whose bayonets have not yet been used—with no hope of relief from his reserve—his fate is certain—his doom is sealed.—By this we mean, that his objects are all defeated, his ambitious hopes blasted, his armies destroyed, and his power so much reduced, as to be no longer dangerous to the liberties of Europe.

Whether, or no, he will by great good fortune escape from the Russian territory, if he is alive we consider of little importance. It is the annihilation of one half of his military strength—it is the change that this will work in public opinion, the hopes it will excite, and the hatred it will reanimate in his vassal states, that promise liberty and repose to the world:—All these combined with the murmurs and discontents, that await the reception of a disgraced and beaten General, constitute the basis of a new and better order of things.

Can it be supposed that Prussia, that has been compelled to submit to every species of suffering and humiliation, would not readily embrace the first opportunity, the first great reverse in the affairs of Bonaparte, to throw off his yoke? Would not the House of Austria, notwithstanding its feeble connexion with France, make an effort to restore its ancient authority over Westphalia, Saxony, Bavaria, and the Tyrolese country? Twice within seven years has Austria contended for her independence, and the integrity of her dominions against the power of France. Twice has her capital been in possession of her enemy, and she compelled to take a peace and put on the continental yoke. Intimations of a concert between Austria and Russia are already given, and the ability of the latter to afford efficient aid, in driving the upstart tyrant of France within its ancient limits, and of restoring something like a balance of power, cannot be doubted.

Great-Britain and Russia are now one by treaty—one in interest and design. The whole commerce of Russia will be open to her ally. The commerce of Sweden, Denmark, Prussia, and the whole of the North of Europe will not long remain under French interdiction. Their want of British manufactures will prove too strong for Bonaparte in his present reduced state. When is added to this, the trade to Spain, Portugal, Sicily, South America, all the Islands in the East and West Indies, how dreadful to England our non-importation must appear!

Where are now the boasting, babbling predictions uttered by those oracles Jefferson, Madison and Tom Paine, of the speedy downfall of England—all entitled to equal respect—and all gone to the same "limbo of vanity."

England was never more united in a war against France than she now is against Madison. The "American party in the British Parliament" the able advocates of the American cause in Great-Britain, have all declared, that they will never surrender the maritime rights of the country;—and it so happens, that they will consider the right to take their own native seamen, from our vessels on the high seas as one of them. The war has now got upon a footing, that will endure as long as the British Navy;—the very thing so ardently sought by Madison and his Back-woods-men, who openly avow, that the freedom of the seas must be conquered through Canada. Such is our cause, and such our prospects.

FEBRUARY 3.

THE WAR IN RUSSIA.

The late events in the North of Europe, form a crisis highly interesting to the whole civilized world. What will be their effects on Europe and on our own country, cannot be foreseen. The public mind filled with astonishment, hardly knows what to think of these things. An important and very difficult duty in consequence, devolves on those whose office it is through the medium of the press, to give direction to the public opinion.

I was led to make these remarks from reading the following reflections of a European editor, at the close of the details of the intelligence which we have lately received; "We shall," he says, "wait with the greatest impatience, for the next arrival from the North. If it should turn out, as we trust it will, that Bonaparte has failed in his attempts to make his escape, and that he has either fallen by the hands of the Russians, or is in their possession as a prisoner, we may look for the almost immediate cessation of that destructive contest, which has so long exhausted Europe;—an honorable, and in all human probability, a durable peace would be the result."

Should events verify these rational and probable conjectures, and a Grand Congress of nations restore peace to Europe, will this country be included? Shall we be represented in such a Congress? Or, will our Administration, madly persist in an unnecessary and iniquitous war, declared, and hitherto continued, against the will of a very large and increasing minority, a war, whose operations on land have been an uninterrupted series of disasters, in which many valuable lives have been sacrificed; millions of property worse than wasted; and our national character loaded with disgrace;—a war, which from the nature of things can have but little effect to injure Great-Britain; but certainly for a time, perhaps forever ruin our commerce and fisheries; endanger the destruction of our seaports; involve us in an immense debt, while it will deprive us of the means of paying it; corrupt extensively the mo-