

pitiless his invasions must be, and might dispose him to a speedy, just & honorable peace. Of the very important services already rendered by the militia, even under the present organization, too much cannot be said.

If the United States make the exertion which is proposed, it is probable that the contest will soon be at an end. It cannot be doubted that it is in their power to expel the British forces from this continent, should the British government, by persevering in its unjust demands, make that an object with the American people. Against our united and vigorous efforts, the resistance of the enemy will soon become light and feeble. Success in every fair and honorable claim, is within our grasp.— And surely the United States have every possible inducement to make the effort necessary to secure it. I should insult the understanding and wound the feelings of the committee, if I touched the calamities incident to defeat. Dangers which are remote and can never be realized, excite no alarm with a gallant and generous people. But the advantages of success have a fair claim to their deliberate consideration. The effort we have already made has attracted the attention and extorted the praise of other nations. Already have most of the absurd theories and idle speculations on our system of government been refuted, and put down. We are now felt and respected as a power, and it is the dread which the enemy entertain of our resources and growing importance, that has induced him to push the war against us, after its professed objects had ceased. Success, by discomfiture of his schemes, and the attainment of an honorable peace, will place the U. States on higher ground, in the opinion of the world, than they have held at any former period. In future wars, their commerce will be permitted to take its lawful range unobscured.— Their remonstrances to foreign governments will not again be put aside, unheeded. Few will be presented, because there will seldom be occasion for them. Our union, founded on interest and affection, will have acquired new strength by the proof it will have afforded, of the important advantages attending it. Respected abroad and happy at home, the United States will have accomplished the great objects for which they have so long contended. As a nation, they will have little to dread, as a people, little to desire.

Extract from Marshall's life of Washington. Vol. 4th, Page 241.

In general the assemblies (of the states) followed the example of Congress, and apportioned on the several counties within the state, the quota to be furnished by each. This division of the state was again to be subdivided into classes, and each class was to furnish a man by contribution, or taxes imposed on itself. In some instances a draft was to be used in the last resort; in others, the man was to be recruited by persons appointed for that purpose, and the class to be taxed with the sum given for his bounty."

Extract from Ramsay's life of Washington, 2d Vol. Page 246.

"When voluntary enlistments fell short of the proposed numbers, the deficiencies were, by the laws of several states, to be made up by drafts or lots from the militia. The towns in New England and the counties in the middle states, were respectively called on for a specified number of men. Such was the zeal of the people of New England, that neighbors would often club together to engage one of their number to go into the army. Maryland directed her lieutenants of counties to class all the property in their respective counties into as many equal classes as there were men wanted, and each class was by law obliged, within ten days thereafter, to furnish an able bodied recruit during the war; and in case of their neglecting or refusing to do so, the county lieutenants were authorized to procure men at their expense, at any rate not exceeding 15 pounds in every 100 pounds worth of property classed agreeably to law.— Virginia likewise classed her citizens, and called upon the respective classes, for every fifteenth man for public service. Pennsylvania concentrated the requisite power in the President, Mr. Reed, and authorized him to draw forth the resources of the state, under certain limitations, and if necessary to declare martial law over the state.— The execution of these arrangements, although uncommonly vigorous lagged far behind."

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, NOV. 1. The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a report of the papers lost or destroyed from the Treasury in consequence of the incursion of the enemy on the 24th day of August last; whereby it appears that no papers essential to the adjustment of pending accounts, or of material nature, were lost or destroyed.

THE FLOTILLA-MEN.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill for allowing compensa-

tion to Com. Barney's officers and men, for the loss of their clothing, &c. Mr. Pleasants of Va. took occasion to read the following letter he had received from Com. Barney since this subject was last under consideration: Baltimore, Oct. 30, 1814.

Hon. M. Pleasants, SIR—It was not until this morning that I saw a short sketch of the debate on the "Flotilla Bill." I was much surprised at what was said on that occasion; for it is well known when orders were given to blow up the flotilla, that the enemy were firing upon them from 40 barges with cannon and rockets, and had landed a body of marines at Pig Point, within a mile of the flotilla. The orders from the Secretary of the Navy to me, were to keep the flotilla above the enemy, and if they attempted to march for Washington to land my men, leaving enough to destroy the flotilla if attacked. On Sunday 21st of August, finding the enemy on the road to Wood Yard direct for Washington, I landed upwards of four hundred men, leaving only 8 men in each barge to take care of them or destroy them as the case might be, but by no means to suffer them to fall into the hands of the enemy; most of the baggage and all the bedding of the men which were landed was left on board, not wishing to encumber my men with much baggage. On Monday morning the 22d, we joined the army at the Wood Yard, where I found the marine corps and five pieces of heavy artillery, which the Secretary of the Navy had the precaution to send forward from Washington and place under my command. I need not relate our services afterwards—but when the flotilla was blown up, we, and not the enemy "were a day's march from it," of course could not save the baggage. So far from being able to get "farther up the river," as was said, the vessels were aground and blown up in that situation; and as to having time to save the baggage, so contrary is the truth, that several of the men were taken prisoners in the act of destroying the flotilla, and still remain so.— Much more might be said on this subject, but winter coming on imperiously calls for some assistance to these unfortunate men.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant.

JOSHUA BARNEY.

The amendment pending when this subject was last before the House, was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. J. G. Jackson, the word "officers," was stricken out of the bill, 53 to 47. His reason was, that it would set a bad precedent for remuneration of officers in other cases where they should lose baggage, which frequently occurred.

The bill thus amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on to-morrow.

The resolution "requesting the President of the United States to recommend a day of public humiliation, fasting and prayer," was read a third time and passed.

LATEST FROM ENGLAND AND HALIFAX.

Boston, October 26.

Ship Alexander and Mary, from Portsmouth, E. arrived at Halifax 14th inst.—She sailed Sept. 1, in a fleet of 38 sail, (including 8 transports, with troops for Quebec,) under convoy of a frigate and store ship, and separated on the 22d, lat. 42, long. 43, when the fleet was dispersed in a severe gale. The fleet was bound to Nova Scotia and Quebec, but only the above ship had arrived at Halifax 16th inst.— There were about 2000 troops, mostly Grenadiers. [The James, captured by the Portsmouth, was one of the convoy.]

A passenger in the Alexander and Mary informs that Lord Hill's expedition was expected to include 15 or 20,000 troops, and to sail about the middle of Sept. He heard the British Envoys were expected from Ghent.

The above passenger brought a few London papers to the 24th of August, from which the following are extracts: LONDON, AUG. 19.

Omnium has been on the decline these two days. Yesterday it was a half per cent. discount. The failure of two mercantile houses who were extensive holders of Omnium, is assigned as the cause of the depression.

The Prince Regent of Portugal, it is said, does not return to Europe till spring.

The merchants of Bordeaux are fitting out vessels for the French Colonies.

The Adventure, Bugdale, of Liverpool, sailed from Galoon on the 15th May, and was taken 21st, by the SYREN, American sloop of war.

LONDON, AUGUST 24.

The predictions of the opposers of a free trade to India we understand are verified. European manufactures are selling there under prime cost; and indigo, now almost the only article of import from India; is so reduced here that officers who have neither freight nor commissions to pay are fortunate not to come off with heavy loss.

Some of the transports at Portsmouth are for Medeira, to take to A-

merica the British troops which garrison that Island. The remainder will proceed to Cork, and take on board the troops collected there, where this whole will rendezvous, and sail under the Valiant and other men of war, in one of which Lord Hill will go. Col. Dickson, it is said, will command the artillery.

A detachment of the 29th under Col. Wade, viz. 11 officers and 250 men, have marched to Portsmouth to embark for America with detachments of the following regts. 41st, 37th, 62d, 76th, 98th, 99th, and 100th.

August 25. Detachments of the following regiments embarked last week for America—4th, 9th, 39th, 44th, 49th, 58th, 81st and 89th. Detachments of the following corps will also embark—1st, 3d, 6th, 21st, 39th, 41st, 57th, 70th, 76th, 82d, 85th, and 100th. The transports will proceed to Cork to be joined by the others. The whole will rendezvous at Bermuda.

August 29th. The Duke of Wellington has had his first audience at Paris.

An order from Lord Bathurst's office, prohibits all Americans from returning to that country in British packets, without permission.

In consequence of the interruption of the American Negotiations at Ghent, stocks have sustained a considerable depression.

The Valiant, 74, expected to take out Lord Hill to America, has been fitted on her main deck with Congreve guns. No time is yet fixed for his Lordship's departure.

Present feeling of the French People

By the following article from a London paper, it will be seen that the usual hostility of the French and English was far from being suppressed, by the march of the Allies to Paris.

LONDON, July 25.—The crew of the Reindeer, lately captured by the Wasp, and returned to Plymouth from L'Orient, were liberated on the arrival of the Wasp, and permitted to go on shore. They were but indifferently treated by the French; while the American crew were hailed as victors, tapped on the back, shaken by the hands, and complimented for their superior prowess.

Previous to the Wap's getting into L'Orient, she burnt a brig from Oporto to London, with wine, and scuttled a schooner from Leghorn to London, laden with oil. A deputy American Consul (a Frenchman) struck the masters of an English schooner, for merely asking him a question! Our blood glows with indignation at narrating the shameful conduct of the French, and we feel confident that it will not escape notice in the proper quarter. The most ample apology should be required and made for it, with promises to avoid such conduct in future.

July 27.—A terrible pestilential sickness has broken out at Hamburg, insomuch that almost every person who has not left the city has been afflicted with it.—The horrid filth which abounds in the city, in some places, is several yards in height, and many in circumference, and so shocking that the inhabitants are afraid to pass near it. Trade at a stand—markets overstocked—goods selling at 35 per cent. loss.

ARRIVAL OF THE PEACOCK.

NEW-YORK, Oct. 31.

Arrived on Saturday evening, the U. States' Sloop of War Peacock, Capt. Warrington, from a cruise of nearly five months on the coast of England, Ireland, the Western Islands, Surinam, &c. having made 14 prizes, 12 of which were burnt and sunk; the other two being of little value, were made cartels of. Property captured at from 6 to 700,000 dollars. Capt. Warrington has lost but one man (and him by sickness) during his cruise.— He has brought in 14 prisoners. Oct. 22d, lat. 23, 50, lon. 62, 15, spoke the private armed schooner Hollins, of Baltimore, from this port, on a cruise, having lost in a gale his fore top-gallant yard, and thrown over two guns; supplied him with a spare spar. Saw no cruisers off Sandy Hook; [Capt. Warrington has seen during his cruise the Majestic Razez, and several other line of battle ships and frigates, but did not see the Pelican, or any other British sloop of war.]

Capt. Warrington politely favored us with a file of London papers to the 26th of August, which he got from a prize; their contents have however been anticipated, via Boston.

Arrived, on Saturday evening, the elegant and very fast sailing private armed brig Chasseur, of Baltimore, Thomas Boyle, Esq. commander, of 16 guns (long 12's) and 130 men, from a successful cruise of three months on the coast of England, Ireland, the Western Islands, Bermuda, and Halifax, in which she has made 18 prizes, manned nine of them, burnt four, and made cartels for the prisoners of the remainder, and has on board a cargo of indigo, &c. taken out of one of her prizes, valued at 70,000 dollars.— Capt. Boyle has paroled 150 prisoners, and brought in 46—consignees, Ste-

venson and Goodwin. The Chasseur captured a vessel from Bermuda for the Chesapeake, and got from her a file of Bermuda papers to the 12th Oct. which he gave to an officer at Sandy Hook. Capt. B. informs us, that the papers do not contain any late European news. Admiral Cockburn had arrived at Bermuda from the Chesapeake. Lord Hill had not arrived at Bermuda on the 19th October.

Extract from the Journal of the Chasseur's cruise.

Sailed from Sandy Hook July 29 Aug. 16, on the banks of Newfoundland, fell in with the British brig Eclipse, of Greenock, from Buenos Ayres for Liverpool, mounting 14 guns, laden with hides, furs, and a little specie, and after an action of one hour she struck; took out the specie and manned her—[arrived at this port.] Aug. 19th, captured English brig Commerce, of Poole, from Newfoundland to Spain, laden with cod fish, a fine new copper fastened brig; manned & ordered her in. Aug. 21, captured the English brig Antelope, from Guernsey, mounting eight 18 pound carronades and a long tom, from Havana, laden with 900 boxes of sugar—struck without firing a gun; manned and ordered her in. Aug. 22, captured the schooner Fox, of Poole, from Newfoundland for Spain, with fish; manned and ordered her in. Aug. 24, captured the sloop Christian, of Kilkadee, (Scotland,) from the island of Lauzarote for Cork, with barilla; gave her up to the captain and prisoners on board the Chasseur, who were paroled and supplied with provisions. Aug. 25, at 7 A. M. discovered ten sail to the leeward; blowing very fresh made sail in chase, and soon discovered one to be a frigate and another a man of war brig; hauled upon a wind immediately, and they in their turn gave chase; outsailed them with ease.— August 26, captured the brig Prudence of Aberdeen, and the sloop Favorite of Faresburg, (Scotland,) both from the island of Lauzarote to London, with barilla and wine; burnt them. Aug. 27th, abreast of Scilly, in the English Channel captured the English brig Marquis of Cornwallis, of Dundee, from Lauzarote, with barilla alone, of no value, having been several times boarded by American cruisers and suffered to pass; gave her up to the captain and put on board all our prisoners. Aug. 29, took the English brig Atlantic, of London, of 12 guns, both in co. from the River Plate, laden with hides, tallow, bark, &c. and manned them. Aug. 30, boarded again the sloop Christian that we had made a cartel of, and supplied them with more provisions; and at the same time informed them that England, Scotland and Ireland were by me declared in a state of strict and rigorous blockade, and that my proclamation* to that effect had been duly published and forwarded to Lloyd's for the government of all persons interested. Aug. 31, spoke our prizes, the Atlantic and James, and ordered them to keep the wind and make all sail under cover of the night from a man of war ship then in sight, disguised with his ports shut. On coming up with him, prepared for action, and found him to be a frigate of the second class. I immediately hauled upon a wind; he hauled up his lower deck ports and began a fire from his quarter deck and lower battery. I hoisted the American flag, gave him two broadsides, and made sail to be off; outsailed him fast to windward; many of his shot went through our sails near the masts.— One 24 pounder struck the fore-mast about 12 feet from deck, and cut it nearly one third off; another struck the gunway of port No. 5, tore away all the sail and plank-sheer, dismounted the gun, went through the deck, and wounded three men, one of whom, Henry Watson, was compelled to have his thigh amputated, and is maimed for life. Next day at day-light, saw the frigate again, a convoy of 22 sail in sight ahead, the frigate off the lee bow about 3 miles, two men of war brigs off the weather bow about three miles; and another frigate to the leeward upon a wind; tacked ship and stood to the southward; the four men tacked also and made sail in chase.— At 3 P. M. discovered our prize, the Atlantic; gave her a signal that the enemy were chasing us. At 6 P. M. lost sight of one of the men of war, whom I was apprehensive had have about after our prize the Atlantic. At 8 P. M. lost sight of the other three men of war. Sept. 3, came close up with two sail; found one to be the frigate we had engaged and the other our late prize the Atlantic; endeavored by various manœuvres to entice the frigate away from the prize, but without success. Sept. 4, saw two men of war brigs, which had separated for the purpose of decoying us; edged down upon one of them, which was of the largest class. He up courses, and made ready for action; fired a gun to windward and hoisted English colors. We fired a shot to him, displayed the Yankee flag, hauled upon a wind and outsailed them both with ease. Sept. 5, boarded the Haytian brig Dromeday from Port au Prince to London, and put on board Charles Gordon, late mate of the James, without parole, in

consequence of his former acts of humanity towards American prisoners. Sept. 6, got among three men of war, and narrowly escaped capture, owing to the calmness of the weather. Sept. 7, boarded a Danish barque from Galraiter for Spitsbergen, in ballast. Same day, about ten leagues west of Scilly Islands, was chased by four men of war, but outsailed them with ease. Sept. 9, captured the Theodore of Liverpool, with 1600 bales of cotton; ordered her for the United States. Sept. 10, after a chase, came up with a disguised vessel which proved to be H. M. brig Fly, of the largest class sent out from Plymouth with 5 other of the same class in pursuit of us, on sailed her Sept. 13, captured the brig Speculator, from Lauzarote for London, with barilla; she had previously been taken by the Grampus of Baltimore. Put some prisoners on board and let her proceed. Same day boarded a Portuguese ship, originally from Lisbon for Boston with salt, wines and some opium, a prize to the Calypso and Thais, for the breach of blockade. Took out the opium & prize crew, and gave her up, Sept. 15, was chased by two men of war brigs, which we discovered at day-light about three miles off our weather quarter; outsailed them with ease. Sept. 19, captured the brig Harmony of Aberdeen, from Newfoundland for London, with tin; took out all the Englishmen except the Captain; put on board fourteen foreign seamen, and gave her up to the Captain. Sept. 20, captured the brig Alert, of and for Poole, from Newfoundland, with timber—burnt her. At sun-set a convoy of thirty three sail, standing eastward, took sight. Sept. 21, (the convoy in sight and blowing a perfect gale) captured the ship Carlbury of London, from Jamaica, (originally from Curacoa) with cotton, tobacco, hides, indigo, &c.; took out 237 scoons of indigo, and ordered her in. Sept. 25, boarded the Russian brig St. Nicholas, from Amel the Island, with cotton, and put on board some of our prisoners. Sept. 29, lat. long. 13, 15 passed close to a convoy of 15 sail without being noticed; & a few hours afterwards captured the brig Amicus, of and for Liverpool from Lisbon, with wool, fruit, and a few bales of woollens, took out the woolens and ordered her in.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE PROCLAMATION OF BLOCKADE. By Thomas Boyle, Esq. Commander of the private armed brig Chasseur

PROCLAMATION. Whereas it has become customary with the Admirals of Great Britain commanding the small forces on the coast of the United States, particularly with Sir John Borlase Warren, and Sir Alexander Cochrane, to declare all the coast of the said United States in a state of strict and rigorous blockade, and to station an adequate force to maintain said blockade:

I do, therefore, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested (possessing sufficient force) declare all the ports, harbors, bays, creeks, rivers, inlets, outlets, islands and sea coast of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in a state of strict and rigorous blockade. And I do further declare, that I consider the force under my command, adequate to maintain strictly, rigorously and effectually the said blockade. And I hereby require the respective officers, whether captains, commanders or commanding officers under my command, employed on or to be employed on the coast of England, Ireland and Scotland, to pay strict attention to the execution of the my Proclamation. And I do hereby caution and forbid the ships and vessels of all and every nation in amity and peace with the United States from entering or attempting to enter, or from coming or attempting to come out of any of the said ports, harbors, bays, creeks, rivers, inlets, outlets, islands, or sea coast, under any pretence whatsoever. And that no person may plead ignorance of this my Proclamation, I have ordered the same to be made public in England.

Given under my hand on board the Chasseur, day and date as above. THOMAS BOYLE, Comdr.

By order of the commanding officer: THOMAS STANSBURY, Secy.

BOSTON, Oct. 29. AMERICAN BLOCKADE.

It was reported a few days since that several of the neutral nations of Europe had complained to the British government of the extent of the blockade of the ports of the United States. And on Thursday it was reported that an order had been received at Halifax permitting the neutral vessels which have been sent in there and not adjudicated, to sail for their original ports of destination in the United States, not known to them to be blockaded at the time they commenced their voyages, and to return with cargoes. No doubt there has been a negotiation in England on the subject of neutral vessels turned off from ports not known by them to be blockaded, which they sailed; and the above is possibly the result. To take a return cargo under such circumstances, would be among their rights,