opinion of any particular member of the court-martial, unless required by a due course of law." And the president of the said court-martial is hereby authorised and required thereupon to administer an oath to the judge advocate, which he is hereby enjoined to take before he proceeds farther on business, to the following effect: "You do swear that you will not on any account, at any time whatsoever, disclose or discover the vote or opinion of any particular member of the court-martial, unless required in a due course of law; and that you will not divulge the sentence of this court, until the same shall be approved or disapproved according to law; and that you will well and truly do the duty of a judge advocate in this court impartially and uprightly, according to the best of your abilities."

And be it further enacted, That every non-commissioned officer or private, not necessarily absent from the county or town, who shall neglect to appear, when warned pursuant to law, at a company meeting or rendezvous, not having a sufficient excuse, shall forfeit and pay the sum of fifty cents; and for appearing at such meeting or rendezvous without his arms, ammunition or accoutrements, as directed by this act, shall pay the sum of twenty-five cents; and for the like offences at a regimental or battalion meeting or rendezvous, for the first offence aforesaid he shall forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred cents, and for the last offence the sum of fifty cents: And in case of any disobedience of orders or neglect of duty while under arms or in actual service, he shall forfeit and pay such sum as shall be directed by the major voice of the officers of the company, battalion or regiment, provided the same shall not in any case amount to more than :—and that all fines arising from offences in company only, shall be adjudged or and imposed by the commissioned officers of the company, or the major part of them, and all fines to arise from offences in battalion or regiment with respect to the non-commissioned officers and privates, shall be adjudged and imposed by the field officers of the battalion or regiment, all which fines shall be levied with costs, not exceeding cents, by warrant from the colonel or commanding officer of the regiment, battalion or company, as the case may be, directed to one or more sergeants, by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattles: And in case any defaulter shall be under age, and live with his father or mother, or shall be an apprentice or hired servant, the father or mother, master or mistress, as the case may be, shall be liable to pay the said fines with costs, and in default of payment when demanded, the said sergeant or sergeants, shall levy the same upon the goods and chattles of such father or mother, master or mistress, such fines when recovered to be paid over by the sergeant or sergeants to the officer granting such warrant.

And be it further enacted, That all fines herein before mentioned, shall be paid by the officer issuing said warrant to and for the purpose, in the first instance of providing colours and music to and for the use of the companies of light infantry, rifle men, artillery and troops of horse; and the surplus that may remain, to be applied to the like use, for the residue of the militia aforesaid; and when the said fines shall arise to a larger sum than is necessary for the said uses, the remainder shall be applied to the purchasing of arms and accoutrements for the light infantry and rifle companies.

And be it further enacted, That all commissioned officers shall take rank according to the date of their commissions; and when two of the same grade, bear an equal date, then their rank shall be determined by lots, to be drawn by them before the commanding officer of the brigade, regiment, battalion, company or detachment.

And be it further enacted, That the commander in chief of the state, shall, on the requisition of the president of the United States, authorised thereto by the express acts of congress, order out any proportion of the militia of the state so required as aforesaid, to march to any part of the United States for the protection or defence of the same, provided that they be not compelled to continue on duty out of the state without their consent, for a longer time than months at any one time —That while in actual service, in consequence of being so called out they shall receive the same pay and rations, and be subject to the same rules and regulations as the troops of the United States of America.

And be it further enacted, That if any person belonging to the militia of any state, and called out into service as aforesaid, be wounded or disabled while in actual service in opposing or suppressing any invasion or insurrection, or in fighting against the enemies of the United States, he shall be taken care of and provided for at the public expence, without having regard to the rank such person may hold.

And be it further enacted, That every person of the age of eighteen years and under fifty years, who are exempted from personal service in the militia as aforesaid, by the second section of this act, (except all ministers of religion actually having the charge of a church or congregation; all principals, professors and other teachers of, together with the students in, universities, colleges and academies; all school-masters actually having the charge of a school, and all mariners employed in the sea service of any citizen or merchant within the United States as aforesaid) shall pay an annual tax of two dollars into the public treasury of the United States, to be applied towards the support of the civil government thereof, and to be collected in the following manner: The commissioner of the treasury in each state, shall appoint a responsible person in every county or township in the state, as collector of the said tax, to whom the commanding officer of each battalion shall cause returns to be made of the names of all the exempts by virtue of the said second section of this act, within the bounds of his battalion, except as before excepted. That thereupon each of said exempts being notified thereof by the said collector shall on the month of May in every year, pay to the said collector the said two dollars; and in case of failure therein, the collector shall, within two weeks thereafter, return the names of the defaulters to the commanding officer of the battalion, who shall thereupon cause them to be enrolled, and they shall thereafter be liable to do militia duty in like manner as other citizens not exempted by this act, until the full arrears of the said tax shall be paid into the treasury of the United States. And the said collector shall, within one month after the receipt of the said tax, pay the same to the said commissioner, who shall account therefor, with the treasury of the United States in like manner and under the same penalties and forfeitures as he accounts for other public monies by him received; for all which services the said collector shall be entitled to retain the compensation of two and an half per centum on all the monies collected by him as aforesaid. And in case the said collector should neglect or refuse to pay over the said monies received by him as aforesaid, or any part thereof, to the said commissioner, within the time limited as aforesaid, the said collector shall forfeit and pay to the use of the United States, a sum of money equal to double the amount of the said taxes, or so much of them as shall remain unpaid; to be recovered by the said collector in his own name, with costs of suit, by action of debt or otherwise, in any court wherein the same shall be cognizable. And the secretary of the treasury shall cause an annual return of all the monies received on the said tax, to be laid before congress, at their first session in every year.

And be it further enacted, That each state shall be formed into a district or districts in such a manner as the legislature thereof shall by law direct. And that there shall be appointed by the president of the United States, an inspector for each district, who shall be a citizen of the state to which such district belongs; provided their number shall not exceed one for New-Hampshire, two for Massachusetts, one for Rhode-Island, one for Connecticut, one for New-York, one for New-Jersey, two for Pennsylvania, one for Delaware, one for Maryland, three for Virginia, two for North-Carolina, one for South Carolina, and one for Georgia. And the duty of such inspector shall be to attend the regimental or battalion meetings of the militia on their several parades, during the time of their being under arms pursuant to this act, at least once in every year, to inspect their arms, ammunition and accoutrements; superintend their exercise and manœuvres, and introduce a system of military discipline throughout the district, agreeably to law, and such orders as he shall from time to time receive from the commander in chief of the state; to furnish the forms of the returns that may be required, and explain the principles on which they shall be made; to make returns to the president of the United States, at least once in every year, of the militia of the state, reporting therein the actual situation of the arms, accoutrements and ammunition of the several corps, and every other thing which in his judgment may relate to their government and the general advancement of good order and military discipline; a duplicate of such return and report he shall also transmit to the commander in chief of the state. And the said inspectors shall have the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and shall respectively receive from the treasury of the United States, as a full compensation for all their services, the sum of dollars per annum.

LONDON, *May* 15.

ALMOST degrading circumstance respecting the insult upon the British flag, at St. George's Sound, has not been yet communicated to the public—A capt. Kendricks, commanding an American ship, had been trading a considerable time on the coast, and the Spaniards treated him with the greatest civility, so that Spain has the temerity to dare the maritime power of Britain, and yet truckles to the American stripes.

On Friday morning an order was sent to Woolwich for fifty thousand shells, and other ammunition in proportion, to be sent immediately for Gibraltar.

Letters from Sweden advise, that the Swedish navy has lost nearly one third of its men, in consequence of the newness of the ships, the green wood having been found fatal even to their oldest seamen.

Every thing announces a very turbulent diet in Hungary. The nobility of the country have resumed their native spirit—they not only protest in general against the enfranchisement of the peasants, but claim, in many counties, some ancient privileges which the nation enjoyed before the succession of the house of Austria to the crown.

A violent earthquake has again done considerable damage at Messina, and also destroyed whole provinces adjacent, leaving a large volcano open.

So much had the small-pox raged in Surinam at the end of the last and beginning of the present year, that no less than two thousand five hundred persons died of that disorder in the space of two months.

A young man in a fever, who had been ill several days, apparently died last week at Chester. The apothecary, upon examining the body, found a little warmth about the *regio cathiaca*: on which strict orders were given for the body not to be laid out, and proper means were advised to be employed. The next day he remained nearly in the same situation; as the warmth of the breath still continued, similar means were pursued, and on the third day signs of life appeared. This instance of the return of life should awaken caution, and prevent inconsistent hurry in laying out the dead, and precipitating the funeral ceremonies.

When the press broke out on Saturday last at Greenock, the inhabitants were much irritated by the conduct of that gang, in breaking open houses and carrying off persons who had never been at sea. Some hours after, a boat from the Savage sloop going towards shore, a mob of about 400 people, mostly women, assembled, attacked them with stones, dangerously wounded one, and obliged the others to take shelter on board a vessel along side the pier. The crew of an American vessel were also taken by the Savage, but were afterwards given up.

We learn from Breslaw, that the passages in the mountains, through which the Prussian forces used formerly to enter Bohemia, have been fortified on the Austrian side in such a manner as to leave the Prussians but little chance of penetrating through them.

Distressing and fatal as duels must be to the connections of those who unhappily fall, yet, whenever they happen, their fatality ought to be rejoiced in by the people at large; as the only chance of abolishing this absurd custom, is the certainty of danger that attends the prosecution of it.

Lord George Gordon, in consequence of an altercation with the gaoler of Newgate, has been removed from his apartment into the ground cell, and there confined without bed or furniture!—Without deciding on the propriety or impropriety of the gaoler's conduct, every man of feeling must lament that his lordship is reduced to so deplorable a situation.

May 25. Government have received certain intelligence from admiral Peyton, of the exact state of the marine armaments in the ports of Spain; and, what is of material consequence, they have learned, that six ships of the line, and some frigates with troops on board, have sailed for the West-Indies.

Letters received in town last night announce the utmost activity of warlike preparation in the ports of Portugal.

When the last letters came from Cadiz, the Spaniards had a fleet of 24 sail of the line, and 14 frigates nearly ready to put to sea. They were arming with the utmost dispatch in every quarter.

By advices received yesterday from Gibraltar, we learn, that as soon as the equipment of the Spanish fleet at Cadiz was known at that place, admiral Peyton, with the squadron under his command, sailed to cruise off the harbour to watch their motions.

LIMERICK, *May* 31.

Letters from Oporto advise, that her Portuguese majesty has unequivocally declared her intention to assist her kinsman, the king of Spain, if he is under the necessity of entering into a war with England; and that, in consequence thereof, the Portuguese navy was preparing for sea with all diligence, so as to have a strong squadron ready to join the Spanish fleet in June.

June 7. It will be ten days before the final determination of the court of Spain is known in London, and even then it may prove of a mere temporizing nature.

Levies and pressing have taken place to a very great degree in Ireland, and captain Brabazon is just landed from England with orders, it is said, to raise without delay two thousand landmen for the sea service.

Twelve sail of the line sailed from Cadiz, on the 19th of May; twenty more were put in commission, and preparations far more vigorous were making for war in the ports of Spain, than ever yet heard of in that kingdom.

ST. JOHN'S, *(Antigua) June* 21.

A gentleman of this town received this morning, a letter from his correspondent at Guadaloupe, mentioning, that an American brig just arrived at that island, had been boarded on the 10th instant in latitude 19. 10, near Barbuda, by a Spanish frigate; that the captain of the brig was very critically examined with respect to the property of the vessel and cargo, and the ship's papers were also carefully inspected; and upon finding that she was American property, she was immediately suffered to proceed on her voyage; and the frigate continued her course for the Havanna.

From the above circumstance, it is highly probable that hostilities have commenced between the two powers, and that had the brig been British property, she would have been captured; and we think it equally probable that the Spanish West-India colonies will have the first information of the war; for as the courier who had been dispatched with the last requisition from the British court, would be at least seven days in returning to England, the Spanish court would certainly avail itself of the advantage of that time to apprise its colonies of the result of this important business; besides that advantage from the situation of Cadiz, a passage to the West-Indies might be performed in one half the time in which it could be done from any part in England: So that upon the whole, we think, we may fairly conclude that a war has actually taken place.

ST. EUSTATIUS, *July* 3.

A letter from Surinam says, "The troops of this colony have driven away all the run-away negroes, burnt 32 of their villages, taken a great number of prisoners, and brought home many hands of those that were killed. They providentially relieved a white person who had been for eight years in the hands of those ruffians, and was in the moment of being butchered and eaten.—A ship from Holland just arrived here, reports, that war was declared between the king of Prussia and the king of Hungary.—Governor Wickers is gone home on leave of absence,—the command has devolved on colonel Frederici till his return.—Some men of war are momently expected in the river."

BOSTON, *July* 15.

AUTHENTIC INFORMATION.

(We are happy to lay before the public the following authentic intelligence.

MR. RUSSELL,

SIR,

YOU will receive, enclosed, some papers, which the right honourable the viscount de Pontieves Gien wishes you to insert in your useful and well written Centinel; and you will see by them how diffident you ought to be of all the reports too easily propagated by indiscretion, or by the rivals of your commerce, and ours.