

# MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, J U L Y 9, 1807.

Maryland Gazette.

ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY, July 9, 1807.

It comes, the Herald of a noisy world,  
News from all nations tumb'ring at his back.

FROM THE WASHINGTON FEDERALIST.

### THE OUTRAGE.

WE have never, on any occasion, witnessed the spirit of the people excited to so great a degree of indignation, or such a thirst for revenge, as bearing of the late unexampled outrage upon the Chesapeake. All parties, ranks and professions, were unanimous in their detestation of the dastardly deed, and all cried aloud for vengeance. The accounts which we receive from every quarter tend to shew, that these sentiments universally prevail. The administration may implicitly rely on the cordial support every American citizen in whatever manly and dignified steps they may take to resent the insult, and obtain reparation for the injury.

On the arrival of the intelligence, the ferment was great, and rumors were so busy, that we were unable to ascertain the circumstances of the case as they actually occurred. Unwilling to lead our readers into any small minute errors in a matter so well calculated to interest national feeling, we had recourse to the national Intelligencer, the official print, for the particulars of that barbarous act of savage warfare. We learn that some of the circumstances in that account are incorrecly detailed. We are much afraid that we make the statement under deep mortification (national pride) that the very little or no resistance which the Leopard met with, did not arise from a want of notice, on the part of commodore Barron, of the designs of the British, or from the unpreparedness of the Chesapeake. We are told, and in such a way as to leave but little room to doubt its correctness, that commodore Barron had notice of the designs on the part of the English, to take, by force, the men whom they claimed as deserters, and in consequence of this, the Chesapeake's guns were loaded with double headed shot, and the vessel otherwise prepared for action. Capt. Gordon, and the other officers of the Chesapeake, were anxious to defend themselves and protect, to the full extent of their means, the honour of their flag; but the commodore, from some strange infatuation, or something worse, refused to permit them, and tamely and unresistingly struck the flag with his own hands. One gun was indeed fired from the Chesapeake; but it was after she had struck, and had no other effect than to draw another side from the Leopard.

We forbear at present to make any comments on the subject, as the conduct of the commodore is immediately to be scrutinized by a court of inquiry. We have no wish to injure him in the public estimation, and none will more sincerely rejoice at his being shewn that he has done his duty, and that the national reputation has not been tarnished in his hands. If we have committed any error, we will take pleasure in being immediately able to correct it.

We understand that immediately on receiving intimation of the issue of the outrage offered to the Chesapeake, the Secretary of the Navy ordered captain Decatur to take command of her, and prepare her without delay for service; and likewise ordered an inquiry to be instituted into the conduct of commodore James Barron on the occasion. The court of inquiry is composed of commodore Preble, and captains Hull and Chauncy, and is to convene on board the Chesapeake.

The following is a copy of the letter addressed by the officers of the wardroom of the Chesapeake, to the Secretary of the Navy.

Late U. S. ship Chesapeake, Hampton Roads, June 23, 1807.

Sir,

The undersigned, officers of the late U. S. ship Chesapeake, feeling deeply sensible of the disgrace which must be attached to the late (in their opinion) premature surrender of the U. S. ship Chesapeake of 50 guns, to the English ship of war Leopard of 50 guns, without their previous knowledge, or consent, and desirous of proving to their country and the world, that it was the wish of all the undersigned, to have rendered themselves worthy of the flag under which they had the honour to serve, by a determined resistance to an unjust demand; to request the hon. the Secretary of the Navy to order a court of inquiry into their conduct. At the same time they are compelled by imperious duty, by the honour of their flag, and the honour of their countrymen, and by all that is due to themselves, to request that an order may be

issued for the arrest of Commodore James Barron on the charges herewith exhibited, which the undersigned pledge themselves to prove true; viz.

- 1st. On the probability of an engagement, for neglecting to clear his ship for action.
- 2dly. For not doing his utmost to take or destroy a vessel which we conceive it his duty to have done.

With the highest respect,  
We subscribe ourselves,  
Your most obedient servants,

(Signed)  
Ben. Smith, 1st Lt.  
Wm. Crane, 2d Lt.  
W. H. Allen, 3d Lt.  
S. Orde Creighton, 4th Lt.  
Sidney Smith, 5th Lt.  
Sam. Brooks, S. M.

The hon. Robert Smith, Secretary of the U. S. navy, Washington.

From a Norfolk paper of June 29.

On Friday afternoon, one of the schooners which have heretofore attended the British ships of war, cast anchor near the fort, and immediately an officer left her in a boat and proceeded up the river to the British consul's. This information was soon spread through the town, and the effect produced may be easily conjectured. A number of boats put off from the wharfs; after two of them had reached the boat, another officer who had remained on board the schooner, hoisted a white flag, the signal for a flag of truce, for the first time, for certainly (and we can say so from our own knowledge) she did not come up as a flag of truce.

Before the officer reached the British consul's, he was met with by a number of citizens, who offered no personal violence; but apprehending it, or that the officer might be detained, the consul claimed the protection of the civil authority, and the sanctity of the character in which the officer had come. The latter ground was not tenable, as war does not exist, and again the vessel had not come up as a flag of truce ought. Respect, however, for the civil power, and sentiments of generosity, prevailed, and in about an hour after his arrival, the officer was put on board his vessel, without receiving the smallest violence or injury, and immediately departed.

May this spirit of moderation produce effect where it ought; if it does not, it will command respect even from those who will not be influenced by the example.

Yesterday evening the committee received information from Hampton, that an attempt to land at that place would be made from the British ships below. Nearly 300 citizens immediately volunteered their services to man the gun-boats, and proceed instantly to Hampton, and they will go off this afternoon, four in number. No place can be better defended by gun-boats than Hampton, on account of the bars, which prevents the access of large vessels. There may be no real foundation in this belief, but the unprepared state in which the Chesapeake was attacked inspires an uncommon vigilance and suspicion.

Proceedings of the committee at the Exchange Coffee-House, on Saturday, 28th June—Present, Thomas Mathews, Seth Foster, Moses Myers, Francis S. Taylor, J. W. Murdaugh, Thomas Blanchard, Luke Wheeler, Theodore Armistead, Richard Blow, Thomas Newton.

The committee of correspondence submitted to the meeting a letter from sundry gentlemen (as a committee of correspondence of Williamsburg) whereupon they were instructed to transmit the resolutions entered into on Friday last.

Resolved, That the letter from the committee of correspondence at Williamsburg be published in the papers of this borough.

Whereas the committee have received information from various sources, that the commanders of the British ships have menaced the inhabitants of Hampton with an invasion for the purpose of procuring a supply of water; it is Resolved, that application be made to captain Stephen Decatur, commander of the United States' naval force at this place, to equip the gun-boats, in availing himself of the services of the captains and seamen who have proffered them, to proceed to Hampton, or as near it as he may judge proper, to co-operate with the people in their defence, in any manner he may judge most expedient, or to act as circumstances may dictate in preventing the execution of the said threat.

Resolved, That Thomas Blanchard, Seth Foster, and J. W. Murdaugh, be a committee appointed to wait upon captain Decatur with this application.

Resolved, That the thanks of this committee be given to the Revd. Mr. Davis, for the appropriate, eloquent and patriotic discourse delivered by him this day.

### COLONEL BURR.

We have conversed with several gentlemen of respectability, who left Richmond on Sunday last. The court rose on Saturday, after fixing the 3d of August for the trial of Aaron Burr; and after giving an opinion, overruling the motion for an attachment against gen. Wilkinson.

From the most respectable source we learn that the article from the Virginia Gazette, inserted in our last number, relative to an equal division of the grand jury on presenting gen. Wilkinson, is totally false. One of our informants expressly declares, on the authority of a member of the grand jury, that no such motion was made. A slight inquiry was instituted, which produced the request for the letter of gen. Wilkinson to Mr. Burr; but this inquiry was totally superfluous by the offer of gen. Wilkinson to absolve Mr. Burr from any obligation not to disclose any papers in his possession. The general opinion at Richmond was that gen. Wilkinson had come off with flying colours. It is said that the bills against Burr and Blannerhasset were found unanimously.

[Nat. Intel.]

We have received an account of the proceedings in this case, had on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday. On Saturday, chief justice delivered an opinion on the motion of an attachment against gen. Wilkinson, which is too long for this evening's paper. It concludes with this paragraph:

"The attachment will not be awarded because general Wilkinson cannot be considered as having controlled or influenced the conduct of the civil magistrate, and because in this transaction his intention appears to have been not to violate the laws. In such a case where an attachment does not seem to be absolutely required by the justice due to the particular individual against whom the prosecution is depending, the court is more inclined to leave the parties to the ordinary course of law, than to employ the extraordinary powers, which are given for the purpose of preserving the administration of justice, in that purity which ought to be so universally desired."

On Tuesday the court received a communication from the governor of Virginia, offering the use of a part of the penitentiary, or state prison, to the U. States. On which an argument of some length took place; after which the court made the following order:

"In consequence of the offer made by the executive of apartments in the third story of the penitentiary and state prison for persons who may be confined therein under the authority of the United States, and of the foregoing letter from the governor of this commonwealth, it is ordered on the motion of the attorney for the United States, that so soon as the apartments in the second story of the public gaol and penitentiary shall be fit for the reception and safe keeping of Aaron Burr, he be removed there, and safely kept therein by the marshal, until the second day of August next, when he shall be brought back to the prison where he is now placed, there to be guarded in like manner as at present, until the further order of the court."

[Federal Gazette.]

The President of the United States has appointed the Secretary of War, the Vice-President, and col. Williams of the corps of artillery and engineers, commissioners to carry into effect the act of congress appropriating a certain sum of money for the protection of the port and harbour of New-York.

Capt. Clemmons, of the brig Friendship, which arrived from Cadiz at Charleston, on Thursday the 18th ult. brought dispatches for our government from Gen. W. Irvine, Esq; Charge des Affairs at the court of Madrid. They were forwarded by the mail on the same evening.

The ship Royalist, arrived at Kingston, (Jama.) left the Cape of Good Hope on the 14th March, arrived at St. Helena on the 30th, and sailed from thence on the 2d of April.

Rear-admiral Murray, in the Polyphemus, of 64 guns, capt. Heywood, from England, anchored in Table Bay on the 10th March, together with the Africa, of 64 guns, capt. Baynton, the Camel store-ship, of 44 guns, capt. Joyce, the Fly brig, of 18 guns, capt. Thompson, and the Flying-Fish schooner, of 12 guns, lieut. Godwin. The admiral was momentarily expecting the arrival of the expedition, under the hon. commodore Stopford and gen. Crauford, when they were to proceed against the Mauritius.

### MR. MONROE.

We are informed, that Mr. Monroe would have come home in the ship Julia, arrived at Norfolk; if he had not been prevented by advice of the reception which the treaty met with in this country.