

FOREIGN.

FRENCH ACCOUNT.

BATTLE DE CHICLANA.

An army of from 16 to 18,000 men, of which 6 or 7000 were English, landed at Algeiras on the 28th of Feb. It consisted of 4000 English troops from Cadiz, 3000 from Gibraltar, 6000 Spaniards from Cadiz, and about 4000 collected from different parts of the coast. The Spaniards who sailed from Cadiz were embarked in the bay on the 21st of Feb. but they were not able to put to sea until the 26th. On the 28th they formed a junction at Algeiras with the other troops. On the 2d of March, this corps advanced to Casas Viejas.

The plan of the enemy was to raise the siege of Cadiz, and to take all the French lines in the rear, while an attack was to be made on the works before Cadiz by the garrison of that place. At the same time the ships of war and gun-boats were to threaten debarcations on every point. Ballasteros was to march upon Seville, & an insurrection was to break out in the mountains of Ronda, which town was also to be attacked. This vast project has, however, been totally defeated.

After having issued orders respecting his line the Duke of Belluno (gen. Victor) formed a reserve at Chiclana, composed of the first brigade of the division of Ruffin, and of the 2d brigade of Leval's division, and reinforced the garrison of Medina Sidonia.

The duke of Belluno marched towards them with two brigades, three squadrons of cavalry, two batteries of artillery, and about 6000 men. All who showed themselves were driven back. The enemy was forced back upon the sea, and his plan was thereby already rendered impracticable.

The enemy, sensible of the difficulties of his position, determined to return, and presented four lines, which appeared to consist of 4000 men each.

As soon as the duke of Belluno saw that the enemy's force was so considerable, and that the English formed a great part of it, he ordered gen. Villatte's brigade to leave the passage to the life of Leon, and to advance towards his right; and he also directed gen. Ruffin to evacuate the height, and to close upon his left, being no longer in expectation of surrounding the enemy, but confining his object to the establishment of a line parallel to the sea, and including within it a Spanish division, which had been cut off by a detachment of 1500 men of the main body of the corps de arme. Gen. Ruffin was already engaged with this division. He repulsed, with great vigour, two attacks of the enemy, in which they were always two to one. Being severely wounded he remained on the height with about 100 soldiers who were also wounded, and his brigade joined the duke of Belluno on his left. Successive attacks took place on the centre, but every time the enemy presented themselves, they were repulsed. Constantly disappointed in the plan of advancing to Chiclana, confined towards the sea, and convinced that all their efforts had proved abortive, and the field of battle being strewed with their dead, they considered themselves fortunate to have the opportunity of profiting of the movement which had been made by gen. Villatte, and of throwing themselves into the life of Leon, which they did without any consideration for one of the Spanish divisions, which was thus separated from Cadiz, but which, having wandered about all the following day, succeeded in entering the life of Leon during the night, as the blockade was not re-established on that point until the 7th.

Thus between 5 and 6000 imperial troops disappointed the execution of a plan long meditated by an enemy, drove them up against the sea, and compelled them to return to Cadiz whence the greater part of their force had sailed only a week before. The duke of Belluno took three standards, four field pieces, and made 720 prisoners.

The action was extremely obstinate. The French charged several times with the bayonet. We had 1300 men killed, wounded or made prisoners. Among the latter were 150 men, all wounded, who were taken on the height defended by gen. Ruffin, and about 30 sharpshooters, who were the only French made prisoners without being wounded. The first battalion of the 8th reg. was charged in a wood of olives, in which it was placed as a corps of sharpshooters. The eagle bearer being killed, his eagle could not be found. This regiment having been employed as sharpshooters by the general's order, it ought not to be blamed for the loss of the eagle.

Gen. Ruffin is among the prisoners, and his wound is severe. The gen. of brigade Chaudron Rousseau, and col. Nutier, are killed. These officers were distinguished for their bravery, and have fallen gloriously.

The number of the enemy counted dead on the field of battle is 900, including 300 English, and we are assured that a great number were carried off. The enemy's loss cannot be estimated at less than 4000 men, that is to say, the triple of ours. One half of this loss, at least, was sustained by the English.

The 4th corps, and the corps of observation under gen. Godinot that is to say, more than 25,000 men, were of no use in this important affair, [out of reach.]

General Godinot also detached nine battalions, but these reinforcements, which might have been useful, arrived too late. The enemy, after their defeat, placed themselves in a state of security within the walls of Cadiz.

DOMESTIC.

CHARLESTON, MAY 18.

Gun-Boat No. 157, commanded by Lieut. John Kerr, in attempting to go to sea yesterday morning bound to St. Mary's, got on the South breaker head, and soon after upset, when Lieut. Kerr and 14 of the crew were drowned—10 saved. Among those who were saved, were Messrs. Atwood, of Maryland, Herriot, of George-Town, and Gyles of this city, all young men who had just entered the navy as midshipmen, and who were entirely unacquainted with the sea. Mr. Foreneau, the pilot, and five of the crew were also saved; several of these persons were nearly exhausted when taken up by the fishermen. The following are the names of the persons drowned: Lieut. John Kerr, Wm. Tupper, boatwain, James Dogarty, Oliver Morry, John Card, L. Campbell, Bartholomew Fuller, Jos. Daily, John Adams, Wm. Trotter, Duboise, and Wm. Mackey, a boy.

At the same time that the above fatal accident took place, two fishing boats, having on board 8 negroes, were overet near the bar, by the violence of the sea: 4 were saved.

MAY 20.

We are happy to state, that Joseph Lucas one of the seamen supposed to have been drowned in the loss of Gun-Boat No. 157, as stated in our last, was providentially saved by swimming to the beach on the Light-House Island (three miles) which he reached in a very exhausted state, and was picked up by Mr. Cahoon, the superintendent of the Light-House, who treated him with the greatest humanity, furnished him with clothes and brought him up to town on Saturday. It is the opinion of Mr. Cahoon that he could have saved the whole crew of the gun-boat, if he had had four smart oarsmen, with a suitable boat.

PHILADELPHIA, MAY 28.

Communicated and translated for Jackson's Register.

HAVANNA, MAY 8.

The following official letter from the Viceroy of Lima, addressed to his excellency the President, Governor and Captain-General of this island, is published, in order that the public may know the true state of affairs, in that kingdom at that date.

"Most Excellent Sir,

"The proclamation which your excellency transmitted to me in your letter of the 14th of May last, is an evident proof of the patriotic zeal with which its author is animated: influenced by the same motives, I directed, throughout the district under my command, the strictest measures, in order to avoid the introduction of the emissaries of which the tyrant Napoleon has sent out to both Americas, with the perverse delign of revolutionizing them by circulating seditious and incendiary papers, the offspring of his malevolent genius; but happily, I have the satisfaction to see that peace and tranquility reigns throughout this kingdom, and its inhabitants animated with the most noble sentiments of fidelity and love to our legitimate sovereign, Don Ferdinand VII.

God preserve your excellency many years.

Lima, Dec. 22, 1810.

Signed, JOSEF ABASCAL.

To his excellency the Governor and Captain-General of the Havanna."

NEW SPAIN.

VERA CRUZ, April 17.

Don Rafael de la Garza, curate of the town of Aguayo, arrived on the 7th inst. at the plantation of Del Pretil, where he met Don Joaquin Avedondo, colonel of the regiment of this place, commander of a division of 250 men, with two pieces of artillery, who was going to restore order in the colony of New Santander—and he informed him that a corps of deserters of the troops of that province, consisting of 800 men, well armed, and who followed the party of the insurgents, had just achieved a most heroic action; these people having repented their late conduct, not only accepted the amnesty offered to them, but willing to give a proof of their repentance and attachment, attacked a body of insurgents encamped near to Aguayo, took 400 prisoners, including their ringleader, an ecclesiastic Luis Herrera (who commanded them, and who ar-

\* These 800 were a part of a division of the province of Coahuila, encamped near the frontiers of New Biscaya, and belonging to the army of the interior provinces, commanded by Cordero.

gated to himself the title of field-marshal) and 56 officers of the rank of brigadier and under; took six pieces of cannon of different calibres, some ammunition, and a considerable number of swords and fire arms.

Don Andresde Jarique, representative of this City in the Cortes, addressed the following official letter to the royal consulado: "Gentlemen, Prior and Consuls,

"I arrived in this city on the 18th Feb. and immediately began to inform myself of the state of affairs of the royal consulado which are pending before the superior government. On the 27th of the same month, I took my oath and assumed my seat in the august national congress, where I have seen with infinite satisfaction, that its members are inspired with the most ardent desires for the welfare of the Spanish dominions in both hemispheres. In a private conference which I had with the minister of finance, & the officer charged with the government of the Havanna, I am perfectly satisfied with their friendly disposition towards us—and I am persuaded that your honours will reap the fruits of your laudable exertions. I have been informed that the documents relative to the commerce of the island, have been filed; and every thing for the present wears a favourable aspect. The discernment which your honours have displayed by the late arrangement of duties, judiciously combining the interests of the fisc, with those of the public, has been universally applauded—and it is extremely flattering to me, to be the organ through which your honours are informed of such agreeable intelligence.

May God preserve your honours many years.

ANDRESDE JARIQUE.

Cadiz, March 2, 1811.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

ANNAPOLIS, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5.

Copy of a letter from Commodore Rogers to the Secretary of the Navy. United States Frigate President, off Sandy Hook, 23d May, 1811.

SIR, I regret extremely being under the necessity of representing to you an event that occurred on the night of the 16th inst. between the ship under my command and his Britannic Majesty's ship of war the Little Belt, commanded by Captain Bingham: the result of which has given me much pain, as well on account of the injury she sustained, as that I should have been compelled to the measure that produced it, by a vessel of her inferior force. The circumstances are as follows: On the 16th inst. at twenty-five minutes past Meridian, in seventeen fathom water, Cape Henry bearing S. W. distant fourteen or fifteen leagues, a sail was discovered from our mast head in the East, standing towards us under a press of sail. At 1/2 past one the symmetry of her upper sails (which were at this time distinguishable from our deck) and her making signals, shewed her to be a man of war. At forty-five minutes past one P. M. hoisted her ensign and pendant; when finding her signals not answered she wore and stood to the Southward.—Being desirous of speaking her, and of ascertaining what she was, I now made sail in chase; and by 1/2 past three, P. M. found her were coming up with her; as by this time the upper part of her stern began to show itself above the horizon. The wind now began and continued gradually to decrease, so as to prevent my being able to approach her before sunset, to discover her actual force, (which the position she preserved during the chase was calculated to conceal) or to judge even to what nation she belonged; as she appeared rudely to decline showing her colours. At fifteen or twenty minutes past seven, P. M. the chased took in her fudding sails and soon after hauled up her courses, and hauled by the wind on the starboard tack: she at the same time hoisted an ensign or flag at the mizen peak; but it was too dark for me to discover what nation it represented: now for the first time her broadside was presented to our view; but night had so far progressed, that although her appearance indicated a frigate, I was unable to determine her actual force.

At fifteen minutes before eight, P. M. being about a mile and a half from her, the wind at the time very light, I directed capt. Ludlow to take a position to windward of her and on the same tack, within short speaking distance. This however the commander of the chase appeared from his manœuvres to be anxious to prevent, as he wore and hauled by the wind on different tacks four times successively between this period and the time of our arriving at the position, which I had ordered to be taken. At fifteen or twenty minutes past eight, being a little forward of her weather beam, and distant from seventy to a hundred yards, I hailed, "what ship is that?" to this enquiry no answer was given, but I was hailed by her commander and asked, "what ship is that?"—Having asked the first question, I of course considered myself entitled by the common rules of politeness to the first answer; after a pause of fifteen or twenty seconds I re-

plied by first enquiry "what ship is that?" and before I had time to take the answer from my mouth, was answered by a shot that cut off one of our maintop-mast back stays and went into our mainmast, and instant capt. Caldwell (of marines) who was standing very near to me on the gun-deck having observed, "sir, she has fired at me" caused me to pause for a moment, just as I was in the act of giving an order to fire in return; and before I had time to resume the repetition of the intended order, a shot was actually fired from the second gun on this ship; and was scarcely put off the gun before it was answered from our mainmast by three others in quick succession, and soon after the rest of his broadside in musketry. When the first shot was fired, being under an impression, that it might probably have proceeded from accident, and without the orders of the commander, I had terminated at the moment to fire only a single shot in return, but the immediate repetition of the previous unprovoked outrage induced me to believe that the insult was meditated, and that from our adversary being at the time as ignorant of our real force as was of his, he thought this perhaps, a favourable opportunity of acquiring promotion, although at the expense of violating our neutrality and insulting our flag: I accordingly with that degree of repugnance incident to feeling, equally determined neither to be the aggressor, nor to suffer the flag of my country to be insulted with impunity, gave a general order to fire; the effect of which, as from four to six minutes, as near as I can judge, having produced a partial silence of his guns, I gave orders to cease firing, covering by the feeble opposition that it would be a ship of very inferior force to what I had supposed, or that some untoward accident had happened to her.

My orders in this instance, however, although they proceeded alone from motives of humanity and a determination not to shed a drop of blood unnecessarily, I had in less than four minutes some reason to regret, as he renewed his fire, of which two 32 pound shot cut off one of our fore-throats and injured our foremast. It was now that I found myself under the painful necessity of giving orders for a repetition of our fire against a force which my forbearance alone had enabled to do us any injury of moment; our fire was accordingly renewed & continued from 3 to 5 minutes longer, when perceiving our opponent's gaff & colours down, his maintop sail yard upon the cap and his fire silenced, although it was dark that I could not discern any other particular injury we had done or how far we were in a situation to do us farther harm—I nevertheless embraced the earliest moment to stop our fire and prevent the further effusion of blood. Here a pause of a minute or more took place, at the end of which, our adversary not shewing a further disposition to fight, I hailed and again asked "What ship is that?" I learned, for the first time, that it was a ship of his Britannic majesty's; but, owing to his blowing rather faster than it had done, I was unable to learn her name. After having informed her commander of the name of this ship, I gave orders to wear, run under his lee and haul by the wind on the starboard tack, and heave to under topsails and repair what little injury we had sustained in our rigging, which was accordingly executed, and we continued lying to on different tacks with a number of lights displayed, in order that our adversary might the better discern our position, and command our assistance, in case he found it necessary during the night. At day light on the 17th, he was discovered several miles to leeward, when I gave orders to bear up and run down to him under easy sail; after hailing him I sent a boat on board with Mr. Creighton, to learn the names of the ship and her commander, with directions to ascertain the damage she had sustained, and to inform her commander, I much regretted the necessity on my part, which had led to such an unhappy result; at the same time to offer all the assistance that the ship under my command afforded, in repairing the damages he had sustained. At 9 A. M. lieut. Creighton returned with information, that it was his Britannic majesty's ship Little Belt, commanded by capt. Bingham; who, in a polite manner declined the acceptance of any assistance; saying, at the same time, that he had on board all the necessary requisites to repair the damages sufficiently to enable him to return to Halifax.

This however was not the most unpleasant part of capt. Bingham's communication to Mr. Creighton, as he informed him, that in addition to the injury his ship had sustained, between 20 and 30 of the crew had been killed and wounded. The regret that this information caused me, was such, you may be sure, as a man might be expected to feel, whose great pride is to prove without ostentation, by every public as well as private act, that he possesses a humane and generous heart, and with these sentiments believe me, sir, that such a communication would cause me the most acute pain, and I should be proud of my life, had I not the consolation to know that there was no alternative left me between

a sacrifice, and one which would have rendered me a martyr, namely, to have remained a spectator of insults to the flag of my country, which it was confided to my protection, and I would have you to be convinced, that however much individually I may possibly have had reason to feel incensed at the repeated outrage, committed on our British ships of war, neither my passions nor prejudices had any agency in this

to my country, I am well convinced of the importance of the transaction, which has imposed upon me the necessity of making prompt communication; I must, therefore, from motives of delicacy, connected with personal considerations, solicit that you will be pleased to request the president to authorize a formal enquiry to be instituted into all the circumstances, as well as into every part of my conduct, connected with the same.

The injury sustained by the ship under my command is very trifling, excepting to the fore and main masts, which I before mentioned; no person killed, and but one (a boy) wounded.

For further particulars I refer you to capt. Caldwell, who is charged with the delivery of this communication. I have the honour to be with great respect, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JOHN ROGERS. Honourable Paul Hamilton, Secretary of the Navy.

We understand that the conduct of Commodore Rogers, in repelling and chastising the attack so causelessly and rashly made by the U. S. frigate President, by the British ship of war "Little Belt," has the approval of the President of the United States, and that the request of the Commodore for an investigation into his conduct on the occasion has not been acceded to, his known conduct and honour precluding any doubt of the correctness of his statement of the circumstances of the affair.—And we assert that you confidently be expected by our commanders, that in supporting the dignity of our flag, they will be rewarded with the applause of the American government. [Nat. Intelligencer.]

Gallantry of an American youth.

In the late conflict between the frigate President, and the British ship of war "Little Belt," a gunner's boy on board the frigate had his arm broken by a shot, while under the hands of the surgeon in the cockpit he would make haste in recovering his wound, that he might get on deck. On the surgeon's asking what he could do on deck, wounded as he was, the American replied, "If I can do no more, I am at least be shot at!" It is known that the heroism of this lad has attracted the attention of the Secretary of the Navy. [Ibid.]

The Natchez Chronicle says "It is rumored that a sale is negotiating between Capt. General of the Havanna, through the medium of Gov. Folch of Pensacola, and the government of the United States, for the purchase of the West Florida, and that Gov. Folch appointed col. McKee formerly of the United States, to complete the same. We give report to our readers as we received reaching for its authenticity."

Communicated for the Federal Gazette. Extra from a letter dated the 14th inst. from one of the most respectable houses in London.

"I hope you will not ship one hhd. more to this market until you know the market is open to us. I advise you, you do, you must make your consignments to another house, as I will not receive it accompanied by a bill of exchange, freight and charges. I see no prospect of realizing as much on the tobacco as will pay the expenses. We now have 40,000 hhd. of tobacco of all grades, not to be fed into temptation to ship to the market, under an expectation of real profit; for but a few hhd. satisfy the demand; and there are already more on hand than can be sold. The market was a time like the present, and I never will again be a demand for tobacco, to make it an object for you. Why do your planters continue to do it? It is more extraordinary that merchants continue to ship it in such circumstances. It were much for you to keep it in your warehouse most sincerely wish you had all that consigned to me back in America. It may be worth something, but here is nothing."

BYMENEAL.

MARRIED.—On Thursday evening at White Hall, the seat of Horatio Lewis, by the Rev. Mr. Broun Lewis PASCAULT, of the City of New York, to Miss ANN GOLDSBORO.