

POET'S CORNER.

TRIBUTE TO VALOUR.

We think we cannot pay a greater tribute of respect, to the memory of Captain LAWRENCE than by publishing the following testimonial of regard, written by his enemy, and extracted from the Halifax paper.

[Guardian.]

LINES, WRITTEN ON THE CAPTURE OF THE CHESAPEAKE.

SWEET was the sailor's midnight dream. That faded with the morning beam: And high the hopes that swelled his breast. When rising from his peaceful rest, That ere the dreary shades of night, Had once more veild the cheerful light, The flag that wav'd in graceful sweep, Should float in triumph on the deep. No friendly shore was now in view, No friendly hand now wav'd adieu. At dawn of day was seen afar, The flag that bore the stripe and star; And soon the foe, with favouring breeze, Sought the bold conflict on the seas. Brave was the heart now near at hand, To meet him on his native strand; And high Old England's ensign flew, To cheer the Shannon's hardy crew. This flag shall never—never fall; Its bloody folds shall be our pall; No common soul directs the fight; No common day* now sheds its light. If chance has hung a lowering cloud, To shade the laurels of the proud; And forc'd the vanquish'd brave to weep

Their loss of triumph on the deep, The glittering steel shall proudly tell, If yet is lost the magic spell, By which Britannia rules the waves, And guards her heroes watery graves.

Now off the shore the ship appears, And towards the Shannon proudly steers, Now all is still—'tis death's repose, The gallant ships soon boldly close, And while Old England's thundering roar

Re-echo'd from the neighbouring shore, Beneath the towering sails dark shade, The battle raged with blade to blade, 'Twas there the brave soon slept in death.

And nobly sigh'd their latest breath: 'Twas there the manly heart was tried, And Britons felt their naval pride. No chance shall now decide the day, For Broke himself now leads the way.

And soon the bloody conflict's o'er, The roaring cannon's heard no more; An awful calm succeeds the fight, And softly fall the shades of night. How still are laid the brave that fall, The cannon's roar their funeral knell; 'Tis home—the deep, is now their grave, They sink beneath the peaceful wave. The flag that vainly wav'd before, Is fallen now to vault no more; The flag that wav'd in graceful sweep, Now floats in triumph on the deep.

His midnight watch the seaman keeps, Where wrapt in death the hero sleeps; Where, in his Country's colours, bleeds Brave LAWRENCE, fam'd for other deeds.

And as he treats in silent thought, The spot where late he bravely fought, The tears of sorrow dim his eyes, That now in endless night he lies. No laurel crown thy brow shall wreath, No more thy native air shall breathe; A foreign land shall be thy grave, But foreign tears shall weep the grave. If on the deck thy form extends, Thy soul unconquered high ascends. Thy country claims no more from thee, If conquer'd—yet—thy spirit's free. The cold grave soon shall hold thee

form, That oft has brav'd the raging storm: And fame shall tell to future times, And fame shall bear to distant climes, The bloody conflict on the sea, The tale that tells of death and thee.

The minute guns are heard afar, But bear not now the sound of war. The minute stroke the sailor rows, And pity's tear drop nobly flows, And now the mournful pendant weeps, Where still in peace the hero sleeps; And slowly moves upon the wave, The barge that bears him to his grave, Now o'er his bier his colours laid, Above is placed his faithful blade. No more is heard the Victor's cheer, The brave respect the hallow'd bier; No war-like passion fills their breasts, Hush'd in repose the Warrior rests.

* The first of June. † Captain Lawrence, after he died, was wrapt in his colours, and laid on the quarter-deck of the Chesapeake.

Public Sale.

By virtue of an order from the court of Calvert county, the undersigned commissioners offer for Sale, on the premises, at public auction, on Monday the 9th of August next, a Valuable Tract of Land, lying near All-Saint's Parish Church, in said county, late the property of Richard Bond, containing about eight hundred acres. Terms of sale, the purchaser or purchasers to give bonds, payable to the heirs, according to their respective proportions, on one, two, and three years credit, bearing interest from the day of sale.

William Holland, Richard Grnhame, Daniel Kent, James Wilson, John H. Chew.

May 20th, 1813.

Loss of the ship Tonquin, near the mouth of the Columbia.

A large ship had arrived from N. York after a passage of near 7 months with merchandize and provisions for the company. It was here we learnt with sorrow that the story of the Tonquin's having been cut off was but too true. The circumstances have been related in different ways by the natives, in the environs of the establishment, but that which from their own knowledge carries with it the greatest appearance of truth is as follows: That vessel after landing the cargo intended for Astoria, departed on a trading voyage to the coast north of Columbia river, with a company of (including officers) twenty-three men, and had proceeded about 400 miles along the seaboard, when they stopped on Vancouver's Island at a place called Woody Point, inhabited by a powerful nation called Wake-a-nin-ishes. These people came on board to barter their furs for merchandize, and conducted themselves in the most decorous manner during the first day, but the same evening information was brought on board by an Indian whom the officers had as interpreter that the tribe where they then lay were ill disposed, and intended attacking the ship next day; captain Jonathan Thorne affected to disbelieve this piece of news, and even when the savages came next morning in great numbers, it was only at the pressing remonstrance of Mr. McKay, that he had ordered seven men aloft to loosen the sails. In the mean time about 50 Indians were permitted to come on board, who traded a number of sea otters for blankets and knives the former they threw into their canoes as soon as received, but secreted the knives.—Every one when armed moved from the quarter deck to a different part of the vessel, so that by the time they were ready in such manner were they distributed that at least three savages were opposite every man of the ship, and at a signal given they rushed on their prey, and notwithstanding the brave resistance of every individual of the whites, they were all butchered in a few minutes. The men above, in attempting to descend, lost two of their number, besides one mortally wounded, who, notwithstanding his weakened condition; made good his retreat with the four others to the cabin, where, finding a quantity of loaded arms they fired on their savage assailers through the sky lights and companion way, which had the effect of clearing the ship in a short time—& long before night these five intrepid sons of America were again in full possession of her. Whether from want of abilities or strength, supposing themselves unable to take the vessel back to Columbia it cannot be ascertained, this far only is known, that between the time the Indians were driven from the ship and the following morning, the four who were unhurt left her in the long boat in hopes of regaining the river, wishing to take along with them the wounded person, who refused their offer, saying, that he must die before long and was as well in the vessel as elsewhere.

Soon after sunrise she was surrounded by an immense number of Indians in canoes, come for the express purpose of unloading her, but who from the warm reception they met with the day before, did not seem to vie with each other in boarding.

The wounded man shewed himself over the railing, and made signs that he was alone and wanted their assistance, on which some embarked who finding what he said was true, spoke to their people who were not any longer slow in getting on board, so that in a few seconds the deck was considerably throng'd, and they proceeded to undo the hatches without further ceremony.

No sooner were they completely engaged in thus finishing this most diabolical of actions, than the only survivor of the crew descended into the cabin and set fire to the magazine containing nearly nine thousand pounds of gun powder, which in an instant blew the vessel and every one on board to atoms.

The nation acknowledged their having lost nearly one hundred warriors, besides a vast number wounded by the explosion who were in canoes round the ship. It is impossible to tell who the person was that so completely avenged himself, but there cannot exist a single doubt that the act will teach these villains better manners, and will eventually be of immense benefit to the coasting trade.

The four men who set off in the long boat were, two or three days after, driven ashore in a gale and massacred by the natives.

From the Federal Republican.

To the Hon. James Madison, President of the United States.

Permit me sir, with the respect due to your exalted station and eminent talents, to address you in a plain and decorous manner, on a subject of the highest concern to the people of the United States, and more particularly to those sections of the Union most exposed to the ravages and depredations of the enemy. I am one of those among hundreds, indeed thousands, placed in that situation who may in a few hours be deprived of all the comforts of life, and with a numerous family of children and grand-children be reduced to seek shelter under the hospitable roof of some kind, benevolent friend, whose doors will open to receive us until the peltings of the pitiless storm are over; but after the lapse of a few weeks or days, what is to become of us? or where are we to wander? God only knows, and in him we repose our trust. War at all times is to be deprecated as the greatest calamity which can befall a people, and in my humble judgment there are few causes which can justify an offensive one, and more especially in a country professing christianity, whose mild and benevolent precepts teach us to do unto others as we would they should do unto us—to return good for evil, to love our enemies and to forgive our enemies, as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven us. Among the many evils consequent on it, the pernicious and destructive influence on religion and morality, must be deplored by all who have an interest in the welfare and happiness of our country. These are evils which will be felt and lamented long after the war has ceased, and for which there can be no attainable object to compensate. The great and prominent cause of declaring war has been removed by the revocation of the British orders in council, and the pretext for continuing to prosecute it, brought within a small compass, indeed, almost reduced to nothing. It is a position not to be controverted, that, according to the laws of nations, all articles contraband of war, are prohibited to be carried by neutrals to either belligerent, and when found on board a neutral, are liable to seizure and confiscation. The position is equally tenable and incontrovertible, that enemies goods on board of a neutral, according to the laws of nations, are liable to seizure and confiscation. This was settled in the great case of the Silesia loan on most mature consideration in 1753. This decision has ever since been acquiesced in and sanctioned by the practice and usage of the nations of Europe, and to which America has affixed her seal of approbation, by inserting a stipulation in the treaty with France, exempting the goods of an enemy on board neutrals from seizure and confiscation. Similar exceptions are inserted in treaties between the different powers of Europe, exceptio probat regulam. I admit the disposition manifested, by inserting the exception in some of the treaties formed among many of the powers of Europe, have induced various attempts to change the rule, but such change has not yet been effected, and the law of nations remains in that respect what it has ever been deemed and acknowledged to be. The right of search is derived and flows from these two rules or principles of the laws of nations, or either of them, which renders a more minute discussion of the second rule unnecessary.—The prohibition of contraband of war would be unavailing and nugatory, unless it included in it the means or mode of carrying it into effect, and that mode is the right of search, by which alone it can be ascertained whether the prohibition has been violated, and whereby redress for such violation may be sought. It is apparent, that from the right of search thus exercised, arises incidentally the right of seizing any seaman found on board the neutral, and a subject of that belligerent, by whom the right of search is lawfully used.

The law of nations is founded on the immutable principles of justice, equity and the general convenience of nations, and on this foundation rests the right of belligerents to seize the seamen found on board neutral merchant vessels—a right which is reciprocal and appertains to every nation, and hath not been questioned until lately. Our complaints have been confined to abuses resulting from the undue and improper exercise of the right. On a declaration of war, every nation has a right to call on its subjects to return to their country, and give their aid in support and defence of its rights,

and to enforce a compliance with such demand by the adoption of such measures as are compatible with the law of nations, and particularly by seizure when found on the sea, the high way of nations, in the manner above described.

It is to be presumed, sir, it is your desire to restore peace to America, and the negotiation set on foot through the mediation of Russia inclines me to that opinion. Be assured the general voice of America is in favour of peace, and a suspension of hostilities, while the negotiation for peace is progressing, and it is believed to be in your power to effect that desirable state of things, whenever you please; and if you omit to do it, you will be accountable for all the blood that will be spilled, and for all the evils and calamities which are pressing hard on that portion of the people, who reside on the sea-board, and will terminate in their ruin. Those who are far removed from the state of war, and sleep in peace on beds of down, and are in the undisturbed enjoyment of all the luxuries of life, know not, feel not, the sufferings encountered by those exposed to the ravages of the enemy, and their anxious solicitude for the safety of their wives and children, who may in a short time be deprived of their homes, & all the comforts and necessities of life. For what are all these injuries to be inflicted on them, and why are they to submit to all these privations and sufferings? The only pretext for it is the protection of a few naturalized British seamen who have deserted their own country—men who have no fixed or permanent residence, but seek employment where the best wages can be procured, and only remain on shore long enough to spend their money. It cannot be expected the British will relinquish the right of impressing their own native seamen, on board merchant vessels (a right on which their existence as a great commercial nation depends) without the substitution by the United States of some municipal regulation, which will render the exercise of such right on board American vessels unnecessary. It is the opinion of many, and in that opinion I concur, that if the following clause to wit: "Whereas, the only cause of war now subsisting between Great Britain and the United States of America, arises from the conflicting claims of G. Britain and the U. S. of America to the allegiance of a certain description of persons, who were the natural born subjects of the King of G. Britain, and have since become the naturalized citizens of the U. S. of America, or may become such in the manner the laws of the U. S. have prescribed:—And whereas, it is desirable, and for the interest of both countries, that peace and amity should be restored between them:—Be it enacted, &c. That it shall not be lawful to employ any seaman who may come within the above description of persons, on board any public vessel of the U. S. or of any vessel owned by any of the citizens of the U. S. or sailing under their flag, and that every such person who will consent to work and labour in the Dock or Navy Yards of the U. S. or on board of their vessels while in harbour, shall receive as a compensation for his services a sum of money by the month, equal to what such person might or could receive by being employed on board any public vessel of the U. S. States," had been added to the seamen's bill, it would have been received as a satisfactory and efficient substitute by the British government, for the relinquishment of the right of impressment; and if it could now be added by way of supplement to that law, it would lead to the restoration of peace and amity with G. Britain. The clause proposed appears to me to be unexceptionable in the adoption of an expedient which does not relinquish the right of expatriation as insisted on by America, nor require an abandonment of the right of allegiance, as claimed by G. Britain. The persons thus excluded from the vessels of the U. S. are not numerous, and they will be amply remunerated for the change in the mode of procuring a livelihood: and the exclusion would operate in favour of the American sailor. The happy results from the adoption of this clause, or one so modified as to retain the substance, will be peace, commerce unrestricted, a revenue more than equal to all the demands of government, without the aid of loans, taxes, or treasury bills, the rendering of calls on the

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