

known, during the whole of his own and Mr. Jefferson's presidency, that Great Britain was seriously and earnestly desirous to adjust all the differences between her and the United States, and to maintain a friendly and commercial intercourse with them, which the plain interests of both countries strongly require, and especially that she wished to avoid a war, he might hope that her government would now consent to make peace, though not directly offered but under the mediation of a friendly power; or if she refused that mediation, that he should be able to turn it to some account with the people of the United States, in the manner I have before intimated.— But if Great Britain should accept the mediation, then he could with the better grace make the concession which he knows to be the indispensable condition of peace— admit the British claim to take, on the high seas, her own seamen from the merchant vessels of neutral nations; and of course from ours.— Yet after the orders in council were revoked, he refused to discontinue the war because G. Britain did not abandon that claim. But it is possible, that mortified by the series of disgraces which have attended his military operations, alarmed at the enormous expenditures in carrying them on, at the increasing unpopularity of the war, at the difficulties in obtaining loans, and the certain discontents of the people under the heavy taxes which must be levied to pay only the interests of the millions and tens of millions already borrowed, and of the many additional tens of millions which the continuance of the war will render indispensable, for these reasons it is possible that Mr. Madison might have been willing to make peace, and desire to accomplish it under the mediation of Russia. He could then, as I have observed, with a better grace, yield the point relative to impressments; which he knows must be yielded, or the war never have an end. But the same concession or rather admission, 6 years ago, would have rendered practicable a settlement with G. Britain; and thus have prevented that train of evils which Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison have since wantonly and perfidiously brought upon our country; first by that gross imposture, the unlimited embargo, laid in December 1807, (which known facts and their own public documents authorize me to say was founded in falsehood, and which was intended to last as long as the French Emperor's Continental System, of which it was an efficient part,) then by its foul offspring the non-intercourse and non-importation laws; followed by the most distressing national calamity, War, which has destroyed what that political monster just mentioned had spared of our fisheries, our navigation and foreign commerce, and finally our coasting trade.

But their instructions to Mr. Monroe in 1804, and to Mr. Monroe and Mr. Pinckney in 1806 and 1807, expressly forbade their concluding any treaty with G. Britain, without a provision against impressments substantially as contemplated in those instructions; and these required, as the most favorable terms to be allowed to G. Britain, on this head, an express formal, treaty stipulation on her part not to take, on the high seas, any seamen or seafaring persons out of any vessel in the U. States.

Seeing, then, that this claim of Great Britain must be admitted to obtain peace, what apology, what excuse could Mr. Madison offer to the good people of the United States for making it one of the original causes of war, and the sole cause for continuing it, after the orders in council were repealed? The case admits of none—were peace to be obtained in a plain, direct negotiation with Great Britain. But if the claim were admitted in a negotiation conducted under the mediation of Russia, then the President might say—"Having for the sake of restoring peace to our beloved country, accepted the mediation of the Russian Emperor, our great & good friend, and he having strongly advised us to yield that long contested point, by accepting the compromise which would satisfy Great Britain, and at the same time give security to our seafaring brethren; and seeing otherwise no end to the calamities of war—it was thought expedient, while it was in a degree necessary, to adopt the Emperor's advice; and thereby peace has been obtained."—This leads me to consider the terms the President must have prescribed on this subject to his Commissioners Messrs. Adams, Bayard

and Gallatin; which will be the subject of my next letter.

TIMOTHY PICKERING,
September, 1813.

FOREIGN.

NEW-YORK, OCT. 8.—NOON.

LATEST FROM ENGLAND.

The cartel ship Robert Burns, capt Parsona, arrived within Sandy Hook yesterday afternoon in 35 days from Liverpool, with 15 passengers among whom are Mrs. Richardson and family, Mr. Williams, of Philadelphia, and two Mr. Jeffries, of do.

Capt. Parsons came up from the ship last evening, but did not bring up his letter bag nor any newspapers.

From Capt. Parsons we received the disagreeable news of the capture of the United States brig Argus, Captain Allen, by the British sloop of war Pelican, rating 18 guns, after an engagement of 20 minutes, and carried by boarding; and we lament to state, that Capt. Allen was mortally wounded, and died shortly after the Argus arrived at Plymouth.

The Argus had captured 21 British vessels, 20 of which were burnt and one manned.

Capt. P. further informed us, that Lord W. and two other Commissioners had gone to St. Petersburg, and it was reported at Liverpool, to meet Messrs. Adams and Bayard.

Capt. P. has London papers to the 27th of August inclusive, and the latest paper states, that hostilities had recommenced between France and the Russian Allied Army, and that Austria had joined the Allies with 150,000 men.

The late gallant Capt. Allen was buried at Plymouth, with the honors of war.

The Robert Burns was boarded off the Hook, by the Plantagenet, razed, and treated politely.

British defeat in Spain.

Lord Wellington had retreated to Pampulona, and on the 26th [July] a severe battle between him and the French was fought. The English occupied the heights and were covered by entrenchments. In this position they were attacked by the French and three times repulsed the assailants. At length the 50th regiment of the French forced the British works, and their general defeat ensued. The British loss is reported at 9,000 and the French 2,500.

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From the London Courier, August 27.

Austria declares against France—rupture of the Armistice—renewal of Hostilities.

At length the great question is decided. The Armistice has been broken, and hostilities have been renewed too with the accession of Austria to the great cause. This most important intelligence was brought late last night by 2 Gottenburgh Mails, & a Mail from Heligoland. On the 10th, the six days notice of the renewal of Hostilities was given, and the determination of Austria was made known. On the 13th the whole Austrian army in Bohemia was put in motion, and the Austrian head quarters were removed to Prague. Of the first operations in Silesia, or on the Bohemian frontiers we have not yet received any details; but we have the French official account of the first actions near Hambourg.—Davoust, who as we said yesterday, had quitted Hambourg, and taken a position at Bergsdorf broke up from his cantonments on the 16th, and proceeded to attack the Prussians and Russians at Laubenburg. They were not in strong force, about 1400 men; but they had thrown up entrenchments, and had some artillery. The enemy stormed it on the night of the 18th and the Allies retired across the Stecknitz. Such is the French account—their success is probably exaggerated;—but, even if it be not, it is not of much importance. We shall soon see in this quarter movements and operations of more consequence, if Davoust remain on the North of the Elbe. Meanwhile the Crown Prince is drawing near the Elbe. We have his first Bulletin, dated from Oranienberg, on the 15th, giving an account of the disposition of the army under his command. Great judgment seems to have been evinced in the choice of the positions—in less than two days 80,000 men can be bro't in line. An attempt has been made during the armistice to take away the Crown Prince's life. On the 11th, whilst he was reviewing the some troops near Custring, a shot was fired at him from one of the batteries—it fell within thirty yards of him without doing him any injury. His Royal

Highness called the French commandant before him, and consented to receive an apology for this violation of the truce, which no man will believe to be accidental.

A Harwich letter, from an intelligent correspondent, mentions a report of a severe battle having been fought on the 17th, the result of which was favorable to the allies—but the place where it was fought is not stated.

Of the amount of the force which the Allies can bring into the field, we have no precise account. One letter from Gottenburgh states Austria to have 150,000, Russia 200,000, & Sweden and Prussia 127,000—in all 477,000 men. The Russian force is exaggerated—the Austrian, and Swedish and Prussian force, is probably under rated.—Of the numbers Buonaparte can bring into the field we have no accurate information.—If we could credit the French papers they would be at least half a million. That they are large, we have no doubt, and large they ought to be to oppose the mighty hosts against him.

Nine thousand British troops reached Stralsund on the 6th, and 1200 more remained in Wingo Sound.

Two Danish flags of truce reached Heligoland before the packet sailed. One of them is reported to have brought the account of the rupture of the armistice, and the second to have brought some overtures to our Government. We doubt this second rumor.

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HARWICH, Aug. 26. ten A. M.

This morning arrived the King George packet, Captain King, and Lark packet, Captain Sherlock, both with mails and passengers from Gottenburgh, which place they left last Sunday, and they bring the gratifying intelligence of Austria having positively declared against France on which notice was given on the 10th and the armistice ceased on the 16th inst. Report further says that there was a severe battle on the 17th and that the result was favorable to the Allies.

A Russian and Spanish Messenger with the great news have already arrived, and set off for London. Sylvester, the English Messenger, sailed in the Diana, Capt. McDonough from Gottenburgh, on the same day as the packet above mentioned, but is not yet arrived.

Nine thousand British troops had reached Stralsund on the 6th inst. and about 1100 were lying in Wingo Sound.

The Auckland packet, Captain Lyne, is arrived in two days from Heligoland, with dispatches brought thither by two Danish flags of truce, which almost immediately succeeded each other. The first is imagined to relate to the rupture of the armistice and the latter to overtures on the part of Denmark to this country.

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6 P. M.—The outward bound Baltic convoy, which passed this port on Sunday last, are now bringing up in the Rolling Grounds; the Diana packet not yet in sight.

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Another letter, same date.

Arrived the King George packet, Capt. King, from Gottenburgh. Hostilities recommenced on the 17th. Austria has joined the allies.

The Auckland, Capt. Lyne, is just arrived from Heligoland, dispatched with the contents of a flag of truce, brought to that island from Denmark; but the utmost secrecy is observed from the other side.

The Lark is also arrived from Gottenburgh; and the Diana is hourly expected from the same place, with Sylvester, the messenger, who left Stralsund on the 19th, and head-quarters on the 17th inst. Austria is said to have joined the allies with 150,000 men—Russia to have in the field 200,000 men—and the Swedes and Prussians 127,000.

Since writing the above we have received a third Gottenburgh mail, and Mr. Sylvester has arrived with the important despatches.

He left Reichenbach on the 13th. On the morning of the 11th, the Austrian declaration of war was announced, and passports were at the same time sent to the French plenipotentiaries. Buonaparte having returned no answer to the Emperor of Austria's ultimatum.

The Russian army immediately passed the frontiers at different points in several columns.

The Austrian declaration of war has not been received yet.

Lord Cathcart was getting into his carriage to leave Reichenbach as our messenger came away.

The Emperor's of Russia and Austria, and the King of Prussia were at Prague, their united headquarters.

An article from Berlin of the 14th states, that the first operation in Silesia was the capture of Breslau by the French, who were afterwards driven from it by the allies, with the loss of 12 pieces of cannon. A great battle was expected in Lusatin about the 20th.

We have extracted the French account of the operations in Spain to the 27th, but not one word is said of the battles of the 28th and 30th: Soult was expected to be in Vitoria on the 21st ult. or 1st inst.!! He was on the 2d not only not in Vitoria, but not even in Spain. Suchet is said to have gained a victory at Tarragona making 1500 prisoners, and taken all our cannon. No date is assigned for this victory. Lord W. Bentick was near Tarragona on the 1st.

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THIRD GOTTENBURG MAIL.
BERLIN, AUG. 14.

It is reported though nothing official is known on the subject, that after the armistice had been denounced by Prussia, the French took Breslau, from which they were however afterwards driven with the loss of 12 cannon.

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FRANKFORT, AUG. 10.

Letters from the Spanish frontiers bring the following accounts. Lord Wellington has again returned to his army in Pampluna, and on the 25th a severe battle was fought. The English occupied three heights which they had entrenched. The French were three times repulsed. The 50th regiment at length forced the position with that coolness and intrepidity which characterize that corps. The English loss, 9000 men; the loss of the French is estimated at 2500.

After the two assaults which the English made on the town of Sebastiano, and in both of which they were repulsed, and left the breaches and ditches filled with their dead; they remained very quiet on the 26th, but on the 27th, perceiving the progress made by the Duke of Dalmatia, they made preparations for raising the siege, and transporting their artillery into the harbour to put it on board their ships.

The brave soldiers of the garrison of St. Sebastian, who had repulsed them with so much vigour called out before day, under the command of Lt. Col. Lape, commander of the Mountain Yagers, and cut down every thing they found in the trenches. We counted 500 dead bodies, and 332 prisoners, among whom were 30 officers. It is believed that the Duke of Dalmatia will have entered Vitoria on the 31st July, or 1st Aug. We may therefore estimate, that since our recommending offensive operations, the loss of the English, Portuguese, and Spanish armies amounts to 20 000 men, out of which 8 or 9000 are English.

Another letter from that country contains as follows:

"The Duke of Albuquerque evacuated Valencia on the 5th July, leaving garrisons in the Citadel & Fort Saguntum. He passed the Ebro at Tortosa and arrived at Tarragona, where he had the good fortune of falling in with an army composed of one fourth English and the other 3 fourths Spaniards, which he put to flight. He made 1500 prisoners, took all their cannon, and wounded a great number of their men.

"General Graham the second in command of the English army is dead of his wounds.

"In the actions which took place on the 24th, 25th and 26th, the English and Spaniards had covered the different hills over which the French army had to pass, with entrenchments; all these works were carried by assault.

"The columns of the Basques which had joined the French army, and gone round a mountain, did the enemy great damage. The English were in full flight on all sides.

"The head quarters of the Duke of Dalmatia are expected at Vitoria."—[Altona Mercury, Aug. 10.]

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HAMBURG, AUG. 19.

Yesterday, the 18th, the marshal Prince of Eckmuhl, broke up from his cantonments. The enemy was repulsed at all points, after having suffered a considerable loss; some prisoners were taken from him. The Danes behaved themselves extremely well. Last night the prince caused the 3 entrenchments which cover Lauenburg to be attacked. The 3d battalion of the 30th reg. of the line forced them with the bayonet, and the enemy retreated in confusion across the Stecknitz, leaving the trenches filled with his dead and wounded. The loss that he has suffered on the occasion must be considerable.

SALFORD, OCT. 1.

ADMIRAL COCKBURN'S
Expeditions make a flourish in the columns of the English prints.

His first report to Adm. Warren, April 29, states that a detachment of marines and artillery, consisting of 155 men, proceeded with the boats of the squadron, under the direction of Lt. Westphal, first of the Marlborough, to French town, on the Elk, where after a short resistance, they obliged the Americans to abandon that place, and their depots of stores, flour, cavalry equipments, &c. They likewise destroyed five vessels near that place. This service was performed with great gallantry, and only one seaman was wounded.

Adm. Cockburn's second report dated off Turkey Point, May 3, gives an account of the attack upon Havre-de-Grace, at the entrance of the Susquehanna. This place (says the account) had acquired importance from the American colours being hoisted on a lately erected battery. The attack was made in two divisions; one under the command of Lt. Westphal, and the other under Capt. Lawrence, of the Fantome. A warm fire was opened on the place at day-light by Capt. L's division, which was smartly returned from the battery for a short time, but which soon slackened, when Capt. L. effected a landing with the marines; the Americans withdrew from the battery, and took shelter in the town. Lt. W. got possession of the battery and turned the guns against the enemy, and thereby forced them to retreat with their whole force to the further extremity of the town, where they were pursued, and at length forced to take shelter in the woods. The gallant Lieutenant received a shot through the hand in the pursuit, but notwithstanding succeeded with the other in taking prisoner a captain of militia, an ensign and a few armed individuals were also taken, but the rest having penetrated the woods it was not deemed prudent to pursue farther, and therefore, adds Adm. Cockburn, "after setting fire to some of the houses, to cause the proprietors (who had deserted them, and formed part of the militia who had fled to the woods) to understand and feel what they were liable to bring upon themselves, by building batteries and acting towards us with so much useless rancor, I embarked in the boats the guns from the battery, and having also taken and destroyed about one hundred and thirty stand of small arms, I detached a small division of boats up the Susquehanna, to take and destroy whatever they might meet with in it, and proceed myself with the remaining boats under Capt. Lawrence in search of a cannon foundry which I had gained intelligence of whilst on shore in Havre, as being situated about 5 or 4 miles to the northward, where we found it accordingly, after getting possession of it without difficulty commenced instantly its destruction, and that of the guns and other materials we found there, to complete which occupied us during the remainder of the day, as there was several buildings and much complicated heavy machinery attached to it. It was known by the name of The Cæcil, or Principio Foundry, and was one of the most valuable works of the kind in America; the destruction of it, therefore, at this moment, will, I trust, prove of much national importance. We have been on shore in the heart of the enemy's country, and on the high road between Baltimore and Philadelphia. The boats sent by the Susquehanna, destroyed five vessels and a flour store. The boats taken and destroyed—50 guns and 130 stand of arms.

The third report Adm. Cockburn dates from Sassafras River, and mentions successful attacks upon George-town, Frederick-town and another town situated up that river. At the two former much resistance was made, and in consequence the whole of the towns were destroyed except the houses of those who had remained peaceably in them, and who were not part against us. The inhabitants of the other place met the Admiral at landing, to say that they had not permitted either guns or militia to be stationed there; that whilst there he should have entered the town with a guard, and ascertaining that there was no public property of any kind or stores, re-embarked, leaving the people well pleased with the wisdom of their determination in the mode of receiving him. The Admiral adds, "I also had a conversation from Charles-town, in

North East River, to assure me that that place is considered by them as your mercy, and that neither guns or militia men shall be suffered there; and I am assured that all the places in the upper part of the Chesapeake have adopted similar resolutions, and there is now neither public property, vessels nor warlike stores remaining in this neighbourhood, I purpose returning to you with the light squadron to-morrow morning."

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WASHINGTON, SEPT. 6.

TREMENDOUS BATTLE ON LAKE ONTARIO.

Extract of a letter to the Secretary of the Navy, dated

"Head-Quarters, Fort George, Sept. 29, 1813.

"I enclose you a letter from Commodore Chauncey, which he put into my hands the day before yesterday and beg leave to add the following brief but interesting detail.

"The Commodore entered this port on the 24th inst. with his squadron. On the 26th we received satisfactory information direct from York, that on the day of the Commodore's arrival here (Friday the 24th) the British squadron was on the opposite coast. This communication being made to the Com. he promptly ascertained the fact to his satisfaction, and on the 27th in the evening left port in quest of his antagonist. Yesterday morning his squadron was descried near mid channel, between this place and York, standing for the latter place, and about noon we discovered by the smoke in which his vessels were occasionally enveloped, that he was closely engaged and had the wind of the enemy, who were scarcely discernible. We could however, with the aid of our glasses distinctly perceive that the British squadron was forced to lee-ward towards the head of the lake, and the action continued without intermission until we lost sight of the sternmost of our vessels about 3 o'clock. P. M. The issue must therefore have been decisive because the breeze freshened, without any change in its direction and the narrowness of the lake made it impossible for the vanquished party to escape by any manœuvre.

"I have no doubt the victory is ours, but an apprehensive it has cost us dear; since the batteries of the enemy were superior to those of our squadron, and the British commander is an officer not only of desperate resolution but of great naval skill.

"If Commodore Chauncey has survived, which I implore heaven may be the case, we shall behold him mantled with glory, his ship was yesterday beheld wrapt in the flame and smoke of her batteries."

A postscript to the above letter, dated late in the evening, says—"A flag was sent to the British camp on the lake last evening; the receiving officer acknowledged we had the wind, and observed that a vessel had been dismantled; this was observed from the heights of Lewistown also and it is believed it was the Royal George, by the Pike. A vessel supposed to be the Wolf, bore up to the relief of the crippled ship, and engaged the Pike, & they went out of sight, covered with smoke, and apparently about to board."

"September 29th, 8 o'clock, P. M. We have not as yet heard from Commodore Chauncey; the utmost does not exceed 50 miles to the end of the Bay but the wind is still adverse, I begin to fear his victory may have cost too much—I have sent out several small craft to look for him; but the sea which is running has forced them back. It was visible the Pike bore the brunt of the engagement."

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Copy of a letter from Commodore Chauncey to the Secretary of the Navy, dated

U. S. ship General Pike, Niagara River, 25th Sept. 1813.

SIR,

After I had the honor of addressing you on the 13th, I continued to blockade the enemy until the 17th; when the wind blowing heavy from the westward, the enemy having run into Kingston, and knowing that he could not move from that place he made a change of wind, I took the opportunity of running into Sackett's Harbor.

I remained but a few hours at the Harbor, and left it at day light on the morning of the 13th, but did not arrive here until yesterday, owing to continual head winds, not having had our course during the passage. On the 19th I saw the enemy's fleet near the False Ducks, but took no notice of him as I wish him to follow me up the lake.