

they have built two large vessels, the last of which was launched three days since; so that they will soon be able to come upon the Lake.— This information was received here the evening before last, by our look out scho. the Lady of the Lake, the commander of which, lieut. Gregor, in his report to the commodore says that he entered the harbor of Kingston, within a mile of their fleet, and after having reconnoitered, gave them a gun. This produced a general alarm in the town; they beat to quarters on board the fleet, and the whole military force (which consists of about 5000) turned out expecting an attack from our fleet. He then wore ship and stood out of the Harbor.

"We have, for several days past expected an attack here, in consequence of having learned that the enemy had embarked 2000 men; but find since that he had a spy among us (who by the by, came very near being taken.) This fellow informed that our fleet, which they supposed had gone to the head of the lake, was still in the Harbor; they then disembarked and gave up the project—and well for them, for had they ventured, they would most assuredly have been completely cut up, as the Harbor is not only well fortified, but strongly garrisoned."

Demo. Press.

BOSTON, MAY 2.

CONSTITUTION FRIGATE.

The report that the frigate Constitution has been ordered to Europe with a flag of truce and a messenger is incorrect. She is under orders to prepare immediately for sea only.— It is stated that a court of inquiry on the subject of her late cruise, is ordered to convene in Charleston, and that Com. Perry will be a member of it. This inquiry is a matter of form, in conformity with the regulations of the navy, which require that every accident or loss should be examined into by a court and reported by them to the navy department.

We have been politely favoured with a Montreal paper of April 15, containing the following article:

Convention for the Exchange of Prisoners.

Head Quarters, Montreal, }
Adjutant General's office, }
April 16th, 1814. }

GENERAL ORDER.

His Excellency the Governor in Chief and Commander of the forces, announces to the troops under his command, that he was pleased to sanction and confirm, on the 15th inst. articles of a convention entered into by Col. Baynes, Adjutant General to the forces, and Brigadier General Winder, of the army of the U. S. of America, for the mutual release of all prisoners of war, hostages, or others, with the exception of the forty six American officers, and non-commissioned officers, placed in close confinement, as hostages, in conformity to the General Order of the 27th October last, in retaliation for 23 British born subjects, taken from the ranks of the enemy, and sent to England for legal trial.

By this agreement it is stipulated—that all prisoners of war, (the above mentioned alone excepted) shall be mutually exchanged and delivered at such places as shall be agreed on, with all convenient expedition; and shall be declared respectively, all and severally, to be released, and free to carry arms, and serve on the 15th of May next, the same as if they had never been prisoners of war: And it has been further provided, That whatever balance shall appear on the returns of prisoners of war, respectively exchanged, or given up on parole, by either party since the commencement of hostilities, that the number of prisoners for which an equivalent has not been returned, shall be withheld from all military service, until duly exchanged.

It is with a proud satisfaction that the Commander of the forces feels confident, that this provisional clause can never apply to the army in Canada, from the immense disparity in the number and rank of the prisoners it has restored to the enemy.

All officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, being prisoners of war, who are not prevented in consequence of their wounds, are commanded to join their respective corps and stations, on the 15th day of May next, and to resume military duties.

EDWARD BAYNES,
Adjutant General.

From the Boston Daily Advertiser.

The editors of the Patriot, with an industry which, on a more honourable occasion, would have done them credit, have translated and published in their paper of Saturday, a very long address of a number of French partizans in Spain, charging the British and Portuguese troops with having burnt the city of St. Sebastian, and committing the most extravagant excesses against the inhabitants, at the time of the taking that city by assault in August last. The object of publishing this piece in Spain, after the charges it contains had been amply refuted, was to excite the indignation of the Spanish people against their deliverers. The motive for republishing this false statement in this country is no better.

If we recollect right, this story has appeared before in the Patriot. Had the editor been disposed to view both sides of a question, he might have met with the refutation of this calumny against the British and Portuguese army, and might thus have saved himself the trouble of translating so long an article, so manifestly proved to be false.

We had noticed both the charge and the reply some months ago. But as we conceived the former to have been dictated by the most wicked passions, and the denial here to be unnecessary, we omitted to publish them. But as the story has been repeated in a different form in Spain, and again republished here, we have now given a place to the report of the Spanish Regency, which the editor of the Patriot may find in the original, in the Madrid Gazette of the 4th of November last. [Translated from the Madrid Gazette, the original paper of the Spanish government.]

LONDON, OCT. 20.

When the regency of the kingdom was informed of the reports circulated relative to the disorder committed in the fortress of St. Sebastian by the English and Portuguese troops, after the assault given on the 31st of August last, they made an earnest representation to the Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo, by the minister at war, requesting that he would inform himself of every particular. This mode of proceeding by the Regency does credit to their frankness, and the confidence they have in the illustrious chief who has gained victories so illustrious and signal—for his known prudence his love for strict discipline, and his affection for the Spanish people, will not permit us to doubt that he has not taken the most effectual means, to punish the authors of the mischiefs and atrocities which are ascribed to have been committed.

The Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo, considering himself in this affair not so much as a general of his Catholic Majesty, as a subject of Great-Britain, since they were the troops of that country which entered St. Sebastian, replied to the minister at war requesting that he might communicate, relative to those events, with the ambassador of his Britannic majesty, to whom he accordingly transmitted an answer, in the most satisfactory terms to the complaints against the conduct of the British and Portuguese troops, having received the periodical papers which contained similar charges against the army. He says then, that he could wish to be able to adopt other means to vindicate the officers implicated, but as he has them not, he must make use of those in his power. He begins then, by the charge in which it is imputed to Lt. Gen. Sir Thomas Graham, that he intended to burn the city. The charge is reduced to this, that the city of St. Sebastian was ill treated on account of its inferior and exclusive commerce with the French nation, to the disadvantage of Great-Britain; a charge which cannot be made against the soldiers, who cannot be supposed to have had any idea, or at least to have reflected much on what happened before the attack of the place, and therefore, that infamous imputation must fall exclusively on the principal officers, who from motives not of commercial policy, but of commercial vengeance, are supposed to have so far forgotten their duty as to have given orders for, or permitted the sacking of that unfortunate city, thus risking the loss of all they acquired by their fatigue and gallantry. It is not necessary, therefore to say, that this charge is evidently false. He proceeds with just indignation to vindicate the general and officers of the army against the accusation, which attributes to them the design of plundering and burning the city.

"Every thing possible," says he, "was done to preserve the city, tho' many pressed me to bombard it, as the most certain means of forcing the enemy to abandon it. I constantly refused for the same reasons I did so at Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz; and if I had entertained the infamous desire of destroying St. Sebastian, from mercantile vengeance, or any other similar motive, I certainly could not have taken a more effectual method than to have permitted it to be bombarded. It is not certain that the city was set on fire by either the English or Portuguese troops, but to have done so was a part of the defence of the enemy. They set it on fire on the 22d of July, before the first attack for the assault, and it is certain the fire was so violent on the 26th, that it was necessary to suspend the assault intended for that day, and that it afterwards failed. I was at the siege of St. Sebastian, on the 30th of Aug. and I assert that the city was then on fire, and it was certain that it had been set on fire by the enemy; for I repeat that our batteries by express orders had thrown no bombs into the places which I saw burning on the morning of the 31st before the assault. It is likewise known that the enemy had prepared for a serious resistance, not only on the ramparts, but in the streets of the city, filling them in various places with combustibles, ready to be set fire to and explode. It is also known that the fighting in the streets between the besiegers and the enemy was terrible, and that the combustibles in them being set fire to, killed a great number on both sides, when they exploded, and set many buildings in flames. He adds, that the fire was the greatest misfortune that could happen to the assailants, and that they did every thing in their power to extinguish it, and from the difficulty and danger of the communication through the fire with the advanced posts in the city, it was found necessary to call them all in."

With respect to the sacking of the city by the soldiers, he says, "I am the first to confess it, because I know that it is true, and I must add, that it has fallen to my lot to take many cities by assault, and I never saw or heard of any taken in that manner, by any troops whatever, without being sacked; it is one of the pernicious consequences which attend the necessity of an assault; a necessity which every officer laments, not only from the mischiefs which it occasions to the unfortunate inhabitants, but from the relaxation of discipline and the risk which is run of losing all the advantages of victory in the very moment in which it is gained." He then complains that it is hard that his officers should be treated in the manner they have been by the author of this ground less evil, only because an unavoidable liability had happened in the discharge of a great service, and the acquisition of a great advantage, since, notwithstanding he is convinced that it was impossible to hinder the sacking of a city in such circumstances, he can prove that the utmost care was taken to prevent it, had it been possible. The most positive orders were given to that effect, and had it not been for the fire, which certainly increased the confusion, and the number of officers, who, in the assault of the breach were killed, or wounded, amounting to 170 out of 250, it could, in a great measure, tho' not entirely, have been prevented.

One of the grounds of the complaint, which is, that centinels were placed in all the houses, shews the wish of the officers to maintain order, for their centinels must have been placed there by order of the officers, and unless it is supposed that the officers intended that the city should be sacked and burnt, & placed the centinels there for that purpose, the propriety of placing them must necessarily be admitted. Unfortunately it happened that the troops which made the assault on the city, could not be relieved till the 2d, instead of its being done immediately that they had obtained possession of the place. It is to be observed, that the authors of the complaints forget, that on the 31st Aug. the day on which the assault was made, the whole left of the army was attacked, and they would have received no thanks for having successfully performed their duty on this occasion if they risked the blockade of Pamplona, and the loss of the battle of the 31st, as would have been requisite, had troops been kept in readiness to relieve those that assaulted St. Sebastian, in order that its inhabitants

might have suffered less from their disorders.

With respect to the injuries done to the inhabitants by the soldiers with their fire arms and bayonets in return for the plaudits and vivats, it appears very extraordinary that it should not occur to those complainants that these injuries, if they were real, happened rather from accident during the contest in the streets, than deliberately. As to the charge of lenity to the enemy's garrison, he admits, that it is well founded, but observes, notwithstanding the French Decree, against all the troops of the enemy found in a town taken by assault, it would be difficult to prevent British officers & soldiers from treating with lenity an enemy who had surrendered. The Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo adds, that he could have wished that a person so respectable, and of so high a character as Sir T. Graham, should not have been charged with not having applied for assistance to extinguish the flames till the city was entirely consumed, giving occasion to infer that he desired its destruction. Every thing was certainly done by the British troops to extinguish the fire, and the Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo himself applied for every assistance, not only to extinguish the flames, but to bury the dead around the city and on its ramparts, which had not been done before, because the necessity of it had not been so well known. "I (says he) certainly lament the evils suffered by the inhabitants of this unfortunate city, who, with reason, complain of their fate, and deserve to be assisted by the government." He concludes by saying, that many of the offending soldiers have been punished, but he cannot say at present how many. In a postscript he adds, that he had forgotten to say, that in the relation of the French government of the assault on St. Sebastian, General Rey states, that when the assault on the city began it was on fire in six different places. I therefore believe that as it is well known that many houses took fire by the different explosions, and during the contest in the city, it will be admitted that it was not set on fire by the British soldiers.

The Regency of the Kingdom hastens to publish this explanation of the Duke de Ciudad Rodrigo, to remove the unfavorable impressions which may have been made by the false or exaggerated relations published by the indiscreet zeal, the ignorance, or the malignity of some periodical writers, who unjustly endeavour to censure the noble and generous conduct of the distinguished Chief of the Allied Army.

FOREIGN.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE,
Copied from a Bermuda paper of the 13th April.

FOREIGN OFFICE, LONDON,
February 24, 1814.

BULLETIN.

The hon. F. Robinson arrived this morning at this office, with despatches, of which the following is an abstract:

Sir Charles Stewart, in a dispatch dated at Chastillon, the 12th instant, incloses reports from Col. Lowe, of the preceding operations of the army under Marshal Blucher up to the 12th inst. inclusive.

Gen. D'Yorcke attacked Chalons on the 5th of February, which surrendered by capitulation; Marshal Macdonald retiring over the Marne in the direction of Meaux: he had with him the corps of Sebastiani and Arrighi, besides his own.

On the 6th, Marshal Blucher's head quarters were at Sandron. On the 8th they were moved from Vertus to Stoges. Gen. Sacken being then at Montmiral, gen. D'Yorcke at Chateau Thierry, and gen. Kleist at Chalons, the whole advancing upon the army of Macdonald, who was retiring with one hundred pieces of artillery. On the evening of the 8th Marshal Blucher's head quarters were again removed to Vertus, on the report of a Russian regiment having been attacked at Baye. The advanced posts of D'Yorcke from Dormont, and of Sacken from Montmiral, now reached at Chateau Thierry and La Ferte sous Soarre.

In the afternoon of the 10th, the Russian corps of Asulief being at Champaubert, was attacked by a very superior force of the enemy from Sezanne, and after an obstinate resistance, was compelled to retire after considerable loss. On the 11th, Marshal Soult's head quarters were at Bergeres. On that day the corps of Sacken and D'Yorcke marched upon Montmiral against the enemy. A severe engagement ensued for several hours, both armies remaining

in their positions; General Sacken lost four guns; the hottest part of the action was in the village of Marchais, which was taken and retaken three times.

The enemy was 30,000 strong under Buonaparte. On the 12th Sacken was at Chateau Thierry, and D'Yorcke at Biffert; Marmont with the 6th corps, at Etoges. On the same day Marshal Blucher, with the corps of Kleist and Kossiewitz were in position at Bergeres.

Duplicates of subsequent dispatches from Col. Lowe, to Sir C. Stewart, have been brought by Mr. Robinson, from the 13th to the 17th inclusive.

On the 13th, Marshal Blucher's head quarters at Champaubert. He had advanced from Bergeres to attack Marshal Marmont at Etoges, who had about nine or ten thousand men. The enemy gradually retired, and several brisk attacks were made upon his rear, particularly by the Cassacks. The pursuit continued from Etoges to beyond Champaubert.

The enemy bivouacked in front of Fromentiers. In the mean time Buonaparte marched from Chateau Thierry, from whence Generals D'Yorcke and Sacken had retired behind the Marne. The 14th, Marmont retired from Fromentiers to Janvilliers, where he was joined by Buonaparte, who had made a forced march in the night from Chateau Thierry with the whole of his guards and a large body of cavalry. A very severe action now took place, Marshal Blucher's force being very inferior in numbers, and particularly cavalry, his infantry were formed into squares and he determined on a retreat. The enemy made the most desperate attacks of cavalry upon these squares, but were received with such undaunted firmness, that not one of them was broken. After a very severe and unequal contest, carried on during a retreat of nearly four leagues, Marshal Blucher observed a large corps of cavalry posted on the chaussee, in his rear, near Etoges. He resolved to force his way through this obstacle, and by opening a heavy fire of artillery and musketry upon the cavalry, posted in a solid mass on this chaussee, he succeeded in his object. Upon reaching Etoges towards night, he was assailed by a body of infantry which had penetrated through the roads upon his flank and rear, but Generals Kleist and Kossiewitz forced their way through this obstacle also, and took a position for the night at Bergeres.

General Blucher's whole loss on these days is estimated at 3,500 men, killed, wounded and prisoners, that of the enemy is stated to have been very great, as he was exposed to a tremendous fire of artillery, in which Blucher was superior. Gen. Blucher subsequently retired to Chalons, where he was joined on the 16th by Generals Sacken and Von Yorck. Part of General Winzingerode's corps had carried Soissons by assault, taking two generals and about 3000 men; Gen. Winzingerode was himself at Rheims. Counts Langensron and St. Priest were rapidly advancing to join Marshal Blucher whose whole army would speedily be united at Chalons, ready to resume the offensive.

Lord Burghersh writes fr. Troyes, on the 13th and 16th of February. The town of Sens was taken by assault on 11th by the Prince Royal of Wurtemberg who immediately marched on Bray by Pont-sur-Yonne. On the 9th, Count Hardegg attacked the rear of the enemy at Romilly and attacked them near St. Aubin and Marnay, and drove them upon Nogent, part of which was occupied by Count Hardegg on the 10th.

Count Wittgenstein having advanced towards Point-sur-Seine, Gen. Wrede towards Bray, the enemy abandoned the left of the Seine, destroyed the bridges, which were re-established by the allies; and Gen. Wrede advanced towards Provins. Gen. Wittgenstein crossing at Point-sur-Seine, Gens. Bianchi and Guilay were at the same time marching on Montereau, and measures were taken to place the grand army on the left of the Seine with the right at Mery, and the left at Montereau, with the corps of gen. Wrede and Wittgenstein, and of the Prince Royal of Wurtemberg, at Provins and Villeneuve.

On the 16th, dispositions were made (on receiving intelligence that Marshal Blucher had repulsed the corps opposed to him, and was advanced beyond Etoges) to remove the head quarters to Bray, and the corps of Wrede and Wittgenstein by Nangis towards Melun, that of Gen. Bianchi pressing upon Fontainebleau.

Letters were received from Paris and the coast, the former to the 24th, the latter to the 24th inst. the coast mention, that great had been occasioned through the intelligence that I had obtained a decision over the allies, on this month prior to the 1st of Blucher with the Austrians of the allies, and that the sisted of 18,000 men, and of 100 pieces artillery.

We should suppose that such general conflict, St. berg would have had the in chief, and there certain no firing at Boulogne, or in the neighborhood to celebrate such achievement. The letter is mention, with some of the triumphs of the French Nangis and Montereau; admitted that the fears of the allies for the security of are far from being removed asserted that Angereau has obtained reinforcements Suchet's army to the 18,000 men, that he had disperse the light troops and to operate offensive rear of the allies. All national treasure, and works of art, deposited have been put in cases, in the caverns of Mont

Mr. Robinson was acquainted, on his road at Troyes on the 17th instant Fontainebleau was taken by Counts Hardegg, Thurn, and Gen. Platoff; my lost some guns and powder and the allied advanced pushed on towards Paris. 11th Buonaparte attacked large corps of cavalry, at the advanced corps, under Pahlen, and drove it back with considerable loss both of men and artillery. Prince Schwartzemberg withdrew his army behind Troyes.

On the 19th, the enemy three desperate attacks upon the corps of the Prince Royal of Wurtemberg, posted at Fontainebleau. He was repulsed with the prince of Wurtemberg took cannon. Late, however, evening, the attack was made and the enemy succeeded in getting possession of the bridge. It was understood that he had over a considerable part of my. The head quarters of Schwartzemberg were to Troyes on the night of the 20th.

On the morning of the 21st Robinson passed through Blucher's whole army, from 60,000 strong, in admirably. It was marching from Chateau Thierry with the grand army. The columns was near Aube, and about 18 or 20 miles from Troyes.

(Thus for the Official Bulletin.)

LONDON, FEBRUARY 24, 1814.

We are concerned to see the grand allied army has defeated with considerable loss. Buonaparte proceeded to lay to Troyes, where the army collected in great force.

He attacked them in the early in the morning of the 21st, and defeated them with great loss.

Government were in possession of the substance of this intelligence last night, but a Calais received in town this morning the following particulars: Fifteen thousand killed, and prisoners, some general quantity of cannon.

"Boulogne, 16th. Dutch papers have arrived 24th. They bring some account of the storming of Soissons. They assist upon the loss of the mounting at least to 10,000. The Swedish, and Danish, and Saxon, and Prussian, and Russian, and English are all in a march southward, not the semblance of an oppose them, until they crossed the northern frontiers deep into Old France. On the 13th inst. Gen. Count a Scotch regiment, reached and on the same day Count zow arrived at Liege. Gen. Von Bulow quitted and on the 25th the Cro was to be in Old France.

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The city is described state of bustle and a public fair during the winter from the anxiety and the inhabitants, who are couriers every hour for news. It is mentioned communication, that since