

At a meeting of the Connecticut Legislature, His Excellency Gov. Smith, delivered the following

SPEECH:

Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives—

Since the last session of the general assembly, it appears that negotiations for peace have commenced between the United States, and the United Kingdom of Great-Britain and Ireland. To the people & government of this state, whose sentiments respecting the origin and progress of the war are well known, any sincere and honourable endeavours to bring it to a close could not fail to be acceptable. Negotiations, however, in the midst of active hostilities, are as unpromising as they are unusual. If there existed no intrinsic difficulties in settling the terms of accommodation, this circumstance alone should induce us to admit with caution the expectation of a favourable result.

I am not informed that any effectual arrangements are made by the national government to put our sea-coast into a more respectable state of defence. Should the plan of the last campaign be revived, & especially should the war retain the desolating character it has been made to assume, the states on the Atlantic border cannot be insensible to the dangers which await them. "To provide for the common defence," was an avowed, and it may with truth be said, the chief purpose for which the present constitution was formed. How far this object is promoted by aiming at foreign conquests, and resigning our most wealthy and populous frontier to pillage and devastation, becomes a momentous inquiry. Whatever measures, gentlemen, you may think proper to adopt on the occasion, I feel assured they will flow from an equal regard to your own rights and to the interests of the union. In any event I am persuaded that we shall place no reliance on the forbearance of an avowed and declared enemy, and that if the aid to which we are entitled is withheld, the means which God has given us, will be faithfully employed for our safety.

It is with concern I lay before you an official account of the destruction of a very considerable number of private vessels at Saybrook, by a detachment from the British squadron. The misfortune is embittered by the reflection, that it would probably have been prevented by a small force stationed at Fort Fenwick at the entrance of Connecticut river. It will be recollected that a guard authorized by the United States, was kept at that post nearly the whole of the last season. It was dismissed early in December. Information of the exposed condition of these vessels, and of the consequent apprehensions of the town for its own safety, was duly transmitted to the war department, and the attention of government to these important objects was earnestly solicited. It was presumed, as there were regular troops in the vicinity, either that the request would be promptly complied with, or, if such an arrangement was inconvenient, that this government would be frankly and seasonably apprised of it. In the latter event the force of the state would have been applied not less readily to the protection of the persons and property of our citizens, than it had been to the defence of the national squadron. Under the circumstances then existing, the council, whom I particularly consulted, could not think it advisable for the state government to interfere.

The facility with which this enterprise was effected having emboldened the enemy to approach other harbours on the sound, I have felt it my duty, at the urgent request of the inhabitants, to direct troops to be stationed at various points, and to adopt other measures of precaution suited to the occasion. I rejoice that so soon after these occurrences I am permitted to avail myself of the assistance and direction of the general assembly.

In reviewing our means of defence, gentlemen, you will perceive a deficiency of field artillery.—The particular description of guns which were ordered by a former resolution of the assembly, it has been found impracticable to obtain; and yet such additions are made to the corps of artillery by the organization of the state troops, and the patriotic military attempts, that we are bro't to the alternative of disbanding some of the companies,

of supplying them with ordnance. These additions to our military strength are indeed temporary, and will cease with the causes that produced them, but the guns you may now procure must be an acquisition of permanent value, especially if it should be thought expedient to convert a portion of the cavalry into flying artillery—a change which it is believed would be highly acceptable to them, and which it is obvious must add greatly to our effective force.

Whilst bestowing your usual attention upon the militia, you will not lose sight of the importance of establishing a system of regulations for their government, when in actual service, under the authority of the state. A plan for that purpose was devised but not matured at the last session. On this subject I will barely remark, that militia composed principally of substantial citizens, with whom war is not a profession, and whose love of civil order is habitual, must be presumed not to require those rigid rules enforced by sanguinary punishments, which have been deemed indispensable in a regular army.

Although our navigation will be necessarily embarrassed by a continuance of the war, we have the consolation of beholding it at length freed from the restraints of our own government. As the principal reason assigned for imposing the last restrictions existed in full force at the time of their removal, we have grounds to conclude that the whole system is relinquished from a persuasion that it is unauthorized by any provision of the constitution, as well as from a conviction of its injurious effects upon the best interests of the country. In this view of the subject we may indulge the hope that individual industry and commercial enterprise will not in future be subdued nor discouraged by novel and hazardous experiments, and that the benefit of a stable and correct policy will be seen and appreciated.

The encouragement already extended by the legislature to the manufacturing interests of the state has been amply rewarded. I trust establishments for these objects are not multiplied beyond what the probable condition of the country, upon the return of active commerce will be found to justify, and that we may therefore congratulate ourselves on an important increase of productive capital with the prospect of its being permanently and advantageously employed. Should the general assembly also lend a fostering hand to agriculture and domestic manufactures, the effect could not be otherwise than eminently beneficial. The cultivators of the soil have a just claim to the patronage of every well regulated government, whilst no principle in political economy is more evident than an improved state of husbandry, and of the arts occasioned with it, is a direct augmentation of the essential resources of the commonwealth.

The demands upon the treasury in consequence of our military preparations will suggest the expediency of improving the funds of the state, if it can be accomplished without adding materially to the burdens, already felt by our constituents. The expense both of blood and treasure arising from the present contest is, perhaps not more lamented than its unhappy influence upon the political institutions and moral principles of the nation. If we cannot restore peace, we may do much to diminish the baneful effects of war. Such expedients, gentlemen, as you may propose, to check the progress of licentiousness and impart energy to the laws, shall receive my zealous co-operation.

Gentlemen, notwithstanding the nation is unfortunately involved in the struggles which have long agitated the eastern continent, let us beware of allowing our passions or prejudices to be engaged in the conflicting interests of the old world. The wonderful changes continually occurring in that region will produce their proper effects here, by admonishing us of the evils of unprincipled ambition and thirst of conquest, and by teaching us to place a just estimate upon our own happy forms of government. We are urged by a sense of honour as well as of duty to avoid foreign predilections, and to cherish a real love of our country—to extinguish within the reach of our influence that spirit of political animosity which is destructive of the remedial powers of the constitution, to wait patiently for the free and efficient operation of public opinion, and in the meantime, with a humble trust

in Divine Providence, to resist firmly, and from whatever quarter every encroachment upon our rights. JOHN GORTON SMITH, General Assembly, May session, 1814.

COM. LEWIS'S ACTION.

Captain Burrows, of the sloop Ranger, informs, that he was at Fisher's Island after the late action between the British squadron and our flotilla, and that there were 17 of the enemy killed and buried at Fisher's Island, and 47 wounded, which information respecting the wounded, captain Burrows received from the party employed in burying the dead. The Maidstone frigate was so much shattered that they were obliged to work at her all night.

Advocate.

NEW-YORK, June 3.

By the Steam Boat Paragon of this morning—just as the Steam Boat was leaving the wharf at Albany yesterday morning. The following letter was handed to Capt. Wiswall.

Office of the Albany Register, June 2, 1814.

We have been obligingly favoured with a letter from Sacket's Harbor, dated May 30th, 1814, from which we make the following extracts.

"I have just time to inform you that the British have landed at Sandy Creek, where they were met by a small detachment of riflemen under the command of capt. Appling, who took and killed almost every man that landed. I have just heard that the British took two large guns and one large cable at Sandy Creek.

N. B. Among the prisoners are 3 Post Captains, and 4 Lieutenants of the British navy."

H. C. SOUTHWICK.

Captain Wiswall.

Capt. Morgan arrived this morning in a boat from New-London.—On Wednesday night passed the Bulwark 74 and a frigate at anchor off Black Point, and a frigate and sloop of war off New London.—The frigate Maidstone put to sea on Tuesday last for Halifax.

From the Franklin Repository, May 31.

FROM ERIE.

Extract of a letter from one of the Cumberland volunteers, to his friend in this place, dated Erie, May 20th, 1814.

"We have received marching orders to repair to Niagara river, and will march in a few days.

"On Wednesday the 11th instant Col. Campbell and Major Marlin, made a demand of Col. Fenton for 500 volunteers to go to Long Point, as they had received information of the British having considerable stores and men 25 miles from the Point. This put the hand to the heart to determine who did not wish to tread the Canada shore, and I am happy to inform you, the demand was complied with instantly, with that alacrity that was not dishonourable to the Pennsylvania volunteers and militia—we drew 4 days rations, had them cooked, and embarked on Friday. Cpts. Alexander, Mitchell, Hendel, Roberts and Moreland, went from Cumberland, with most of their men, though all of them left some valiant souls behind to guard Erie hill, as there was some danger of Sir G. Prevost coming from Lower Canada and storming the hill in our absence!!—Captain Mitchell and Lieut. McKeehan, shouldered their knapsacks, with all the other officers. Franklin and Adams turned out well. Maj. Wood and Adjutant Poe was along.—Mr. Poe acted as one of Col. Campbell's aids. Col. Fenton was second in command. Four of Capt. Piper's men, only, went with Capt. Alexander.—"Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Ascalon, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph." 500 volunteers and nearly 300 regulars, with four pieces of artillery was our force.—The reports of the enemy's force differed much—some said 8 or 900 militia and regulars, and others only 50 dragoons. We sailed in 6 vessels: the Ohio, Porcupine, Tigress, Somers, Scorpion and Calledonia; we have in sight of the enemy's shore at 7 o'clock on Saturday morning, but head winds kept us from getting to anchor until 7 o'clock in the evening, and could not get within 2-1/2 miles of the shore. The boats were instantly filled and made to land; when they struck the beach the men were instantly formed as they landed, and in 10 minutes after, discovered 20 or 30 dragoons along a small creek—these got a shot and

we heard nor saw no more of them: a few minutes after, when in pursuit of them, a large canoe and three men were discovered at a distance—the men effected their escape, as it was then getting dark, and the woods very close; we got the flour, 12 barrels. Fires were then built in the form of a hollow square, sentinels placed and we lay with our arms in our hands until day light; we then formed the line and wheeled to the left, when the advance was fired upon by some men; we returned the fire and they fled off and did not appear again. I suppose they were militia. We were then marched to within sight of a small village called Dover; formed the line of battle & marched to it; this was the place the enemy was expected to make a stand, but none appeared. Captains Alexander, Hendel, Mitchell and Moreland, were ordered with three companies of regulars to proceed and destroy some public buildings, 4 miles from that—they were commanded by Major Marlin. Col. Campbell with the artillery and the rest of the force, returned and destroyed some buildings and store houses, the number I do not know as I was with the advance.

"I am sorry to add col. Campbell destroyed some private property; but to the honor of the volunteers they were silent spectators, and except a few individuals, their hands are unspotted with that stain. Capt. Mitchell and the rest of the volunteer officers were much enraged at Campbell for destroying any private property—it was to fight they went and not to act so—this they told him.—He said to remember Hampton, Havre-de-grass and Buffalo.

"There was no force to be seen near where we were—the women said their men fled at our appearance off the harbor, they did not know where, and the nearest force the British had was at Burlington heights. All the valuable stores were removed or secreted. They had information we would be there the day before we came—so much for western Tories. Were embarked on Sabbath evening and landed here on Tuesday morning all well."

MONTREAL, (U. C.) May 14.

The General Order respecting the affair at Oswego, gives very interesting particulars, which cannot fail attracting the admiration of our readers. The cordial co-operation of the land and naval forces, and their united promptitude, stands above any eulogium that could be made, when the natural strength of the place is taken into consideration.

This brilliant success is however clouded by the loss of several men killed, and of many wounded—but such sacrifices are inseparable from military enterprises. The death of Capt. Hallaway of the Royal Marines, will be long regretted—as a professional man he was inferior to none—his friendship was warm and most sincere. Owing to the severity of capt. Mulcaster's wound the public will long be deprived of his services—but we are happy to understand that there are fair hopes of his ultimate recovery.

The demolition of Fort Oswego, the destruction of the barracks and river craft, will have a very considerable effect on the operations of the enemy during this campaign. The harbour and fort is in almost every respect more useful to the enemy than Sacket's Harbour; the excellence of the latter consists only in its being a better naval station, but most of the naval supplies come by way of Oswego. All the heavy cannon and bulky materials from Albany are first brought there, owing to the cheapness of water carriage. The Mohawk river is navigable for batteaux as high as the town of Rome, from thence there is a short portage, which leads to a stream that falls into Oneida Lake—after that there is no interruption till you arrive at the falls, a little above Oswego. It is by this river that most of the commodities raised in the western parts of New-York state are brought into Lake Ontario. Genesee river is also navigable, but it embraces a comparatively small tract of country. No commodities can be brought to Sacket's Harbour by any other water route; if they are carried by land from Mohawk river, the distance is more than 100 miles through a wilderness, at some seasons impassable. It consequently is evident that it would be highly imprudent to let Oswego rise again into strength while the war continues.

Perhaps a more judicious expedition could not have been undertaken against the enemy at any other point

of his defence.—It may probably be the precursor of another still more splendid, which a short time will develop.

On Wednesday evening Captain Jarvoise arrived in town from Kingston, with the garrison flag of Oswego. On Thursday it was elegantly displayed at the government house, and at half past 2 a royal salute was fired from the citadel in honour of the brilliant expedition against Oswego.

BERMUDA, MAY 11.

CAPTURE OF H. M.'S. BRIG EPERVIER. Extract from the log-book of the Brig Emily, M. Reynolds master, who sailed from Jamaica for this port under convoy of the said brig Epervier, and witnessed the engagement.

Brig Emily—Friday, 29th April, lat. 27, 10, north, long. 79, 40, west, by accounts, our course being north with the wind S. E. at 6 A. M. saw two strange sail bearing N. N. W. to whom H. M. brig Epervier, (our commodore) gave chase, and shortly after made the signal to us for an enemy in sight, whom we discovered bearing W. S. W. At 9, the Epervier gave up chasing ships ahead, and hauled his wind to the southward and westward, in order to engage the enemy, whom we now plainly perceived to be a U. S. ship of war, having an ensign at the fore-top-mast-head, one at the mizen, and another at the gaff end, and with a pendant on the main.

At 9 45 A. M. the Epervier being within pistol shot to windward of the enemy, exchanged broadsides with her, the Epervier being on the larboard and the enemy on the starboard tack. On the clearing away of the smoke, we saw the brig's main topsail yard down on the cap, and having to appearance suffered much in her rigging—so much so as to prevent her staying; on her attempt to do which, the enemy poured a most terrible raking broadside into her. At 10 15, both vessels running off the wind, the action became more general, but the Epervier evidently getting the worst of it; at 10 30, she became a complete wreck, and to appearance perfectly unmanageable. She however continued firing at intervals, until 10 45, when she struck. The enemy did not appear to have suffered much in her masts or spars; but from the confusion on board her immediately on the first broadside, we conclude, her loss in men must have been severe. At 11, she hoisted out her boat to take possession—but whether she would have to destroy the Epervier or not, we could not conjecture. When the Epervier sailed, she had a large quantity of specie on board. The enemy is a large black ship with a good deal of sheer—and from the almost incessant cannonading, must be of much superior force to the Epervier. At 4 P. M. on the 30th by log, we lost sight of both vessels.—Emily's distance at the commencement of the action, was two or two and a half miles.

VIRGINIA.

LYNCHBURG, MAY 12.

HAIL-STORM.

On Saturday last we were visited by a hail-storm of considerable violence. It was preceded by several warm days. Commenced about 5 o'clock in the afternoon, accompanied by wind, with thunder and lightning; and was followed by a heavy fall of rain. The size of the largest hail picked up after the storm ceased, measured 3 inches in circumference; perfectly round and very hard, except a small portion in the centre. It fell with great force, and was very destructive to gardens, and broke a quantity of glass. It is believed that two thirds of the panes exposed to the south were broken. A friend has furnished us with an estimate of the loss sustained by the town in the latter article only, which amounts to about 1,500 dollars. In Anheuser, a dwelling house was struck by lightning and consumed. A house was also struck in this place—no material damage sustained.—A wagoner was seriously injured by the running of his team, and one horse killed. We are informed that the storm was extensive in its ravages, doing much injury to gardens and fruit in the adjacent country.

For Sale or Rent

The subscriber offers his HOUSE in this city, for sale or rent. May 20. 37

CHEBAPEAKE FLOT. We stop the press to an express arrived here late from Saint Leonard's Creek county, with a letter from the Governor, which the following extract is: "Calvert County, 6th J.

"Sir, "This moment an express ed, with intelligence, that a gate with several smaller vessels now as high up Patuxent as the creek, in pursuit of Leonard's. I shall order a company. The inhabitants alarmed. Your excellency us all the assistance you can deem necessary. Tents, camp and canteens, are very much in great haste, &c."

The request made by promptly complied with by or, and the articles immediately forwarded.—The express stated by the whole of yesterday, the squadrons were firing at each other, though separated by so great a distance that the shot could not take

Subscribers in Salisbury ed, that their papers are care ed up, and leave the Post Office regularly every Saturday. We have had complaints of places of the irregular manner the Gazette is received.—T somewhere, and we shall take to discover the scoundrels who enough to suppress them.

The Revd. Dr. Kemp of has been elected Suffragan of the Protestant Episcopal Church State.

It is strange indeed, if an be considered strange in our wondrous, that our American should still cling to the fallacy of Napoleon. Reader, you lie here it, these are the same sons of Democracy who would to rejoice in the brutal of Septembrizers, revolutionaries; the first to sing hosannas to the great republic, the first to be First Consul; the first to be homage to the supremeness. To him indeed, their attachment indissoluble; their affections followed him through every political Zodiac; they have him with a most unholily very Protean variety of shape, religious and political.

When France was a republic attachment might have been natural sympathy of republic when France became an despotism, it was criminal terous. But, under Providence and destruction of that power, which the genius, crimes of this man had been as rapid as its growth; his hopes and to his prospect this sudden reverse of fortune yesterday "his nod could world;" "now, none so reverence." Exiled from his almost a outcast from some of his honours, and strip power, he may look back on to the deserted splendor, and exclaim in the language of the Persian Spenser has woven her web of royal Palace, and the Civil watch song on the towers

In his distresses and tribulations are found to sympathize by American Democrats; they joined in his triumphs, they over his disasters; and yet still persuade the American that the influence of the tyrant parted with his power. Known that the illustrious the decided favourite of the people; he was once too a son of democracy; but the man came obnoxious to Napoleon proscribed by the wigwag off from the list of Friends Bernadotte has been denoted; vengeance is in the air; let then the Philistine beware, least he be the object of their hatred and He has most incantingly his admiration of the virtuous, his detestation of the has deluged Europe with may soon find himself a British pensioner, and the imputation of having fish gold.

Almost every day we the democratic news-paper proportion as the allies one difficulties increase Peace with England. The to her hauteur, and that with such claims as to negotiation, and entail upon longer continuance of the war. How their success led to produce this effect has already transpired, cannot see—for the Briti