

[ORIGINAL.]

To MADAME JEROME BONAPARTE.

As round the pure unruffled stream,
Which loves the shining vale to lave,
More bright the bordering flowrets seem,
Reflected by the lucid wave;
So in the charms which deck thy form,
The graces of thy soul we find;
That blush, from Nature's pencil wain,
Is but the bounty of thy mind.
That voice, which like the vernal breeze,
With balmy health and fragrance fraught,
Each animated sense to please,
Was from thy heavenly temper caught.
And though thy bosom's downy throne,
The whiteness of the dove impart,
E'en that, the Critic's eye will own,
Is not more spotless than thine heart.

The finished form, the speaking eyes,
To sense and dulciance are due,
While that their brilliant glance supplies,
From this the modest graces grew.

Thence huz, whom queens were proud to claim,
Proud his imperial hopes to share,
Gives to thy love his glorious name,
And finds his happiest empire there.

No longer than the adoring train,
Shall boast that blooming charm alone,
Can with despotic empire reign,
And make the subject heart their own.

But, gazing on thy perfect face,
To all thy beauteous self resign'd,
Will, in that polish'd mirror, trace
Each faultless feature of thy mind.

August, 1804. N. Y. Merc. Adv.

From the Newbern (N. C.) Gazette.

There is not a week passes by, but we have to record the capture or robbery of some of our vessels by the French privateers in the West Indies. The articles below add to the catalogue of insults, to which our countrymen are compelled to submit.—We cannot publish such proceedings, without feeling indignation at the cause, which produces this degradation to our national character. Millions of dollars have been taken from our merchants, by these lawless pirates, and there is no prospect of an alteration in their conduct.

In our last was published an account of the capture of the schooner John Ellis and the Fair American of this port, by a French privateer.—By the arrival at Washington on Sunday last, of the brig Adventure, from Jamaica, we have received the account of the recapture of the John Ellis, by the British frigate Vigilant and carried to Jamaica. We have not understood what the salvage will be. The Fair American was ordered by the privateer, to St. Jago, where she was robbed of part of her cargo, and was then permitted to proceed, and arrived safe at Jamaica.

Last week, a brig belonging to Washington, came over Ocracock, from Jamaica, the captain of which informed our correspondent, that he was boarded by a French privateer, and robbed of nine hundred and seventy five dollars.

The day after, a sloop, likewise from Jamaica, arrived, bound to Edenton, that had been boarded by three French privateers, two of which abused the captain in a shameful manner, and kept him in irons some time—the other treated him politely. He was afterwards boarded by a British frigate, had his colours taken from him, and otherwise badly treated.

St. GEORGES, (Green.) June 22.

On Monday last sailed from hence, the homeward bound fleet, consisting of
53 ships from Demerara,
32 St. Vincents,
17 Tobago, and
29 Grenada,

making in all 131 sail.—Two or three privateers were hovering about the harbour for several days previous to their sailing, one of which we have the pleasure to understand, was captured off Gross Point, where she had the audacity to lay too under Danish colours, while the fleet was passing, on being hailed from one of the sloops of war, she answered from St. Thomas bound for St. George; but her appearance being suspicious, an officer was sent on board, who discovered her crew, hid in the hold; she was in consequence taken along with the fleet.

ALBANY, (N. Y.) August 17.

On Tuesday last, writs of enquiry of damages were executed in the causes of *Amos Spencer* against *Matthew Ward* and *Stephen Gould*, and likewise in the causes of *Thomas Tillotson*, against the same persons. In the two former the damages were assessed at five hundred dollars in each suit, and in the two latter at three hundred dollars in each.

The defendants in these causes were prosecuted by the publishers of the celebrated pamphlet of *ARISTIDES*, for

the most gross and detestable libels which ever disgraced the American press.—The writer has hitherto concealed himself, and whether by the issue of these suits he will be drawn from behind the curtain, is problematical. We presume the publishers are indemnified, as we understand, that previous to the commencement of the prosecutions, the name of the author was demanded and refused.

The defendants having suffered judgment by default, is conclusive evidence that they could not support their infamous slanders by the least shadow of proof.

The jury who assessed the damages are entitled to credit for having evinced an honest detestation of injuries, which, if suffered with impunity, would speedily tear up the foundations of civilized life—and produce a state of anarchy the most wild and barbarous. May their example be imitated by all who may hereafter be called upon to judge in similar cases, without regard to party distinctions; and may it shortly become the common sentiment of our countrymen, that to preserve the freedom of the press unimpaired, its licentiousness must be restrained by the energy of constitutional law.

NEW-YORK, August 21.

DEATHS in this city during the last week—Died, of Flux 30, consumption 6, Dysentery 5, Fits 7, Small Pox 6, Old age 2, Dropsey 2, of Appoplexy, Casualty (a youth accidentally shot), Child-bed Cold, Debility, Decline, D. wned, Intermittent Fever, Inoculation, Palsy, Spasms, Sprue, Still-born, Suicide, (a person who hanged himself in the Debtor's Apartment) Fevers, Whites, and Worms, of each 1—22 adults, and 55 children—Total 77—31 boys and 24 girls, 43 of whom died under two years of age.

We have declined publishing several articles which have appeared relative to the capture of the Hopewell and Rockland of this port, because they seemed to reflect on the captain. The following letter to his owner affords satisfaction on this head.

COPY OF A LETTER TO GEORGE BARNEWELL, ESQ.

SIR,
No doubt ere this you have heard of the capture of the ship Hopewell and brig Rockland. Owing to S. W. and S. S. W. winds, was obliged to go the eastward of Bermuda. In latitude 27, 28 Longitude 61, 57, on the 30th June, at 3 A. M. saw a brig which appeared to be dogging us, and at day break she bore down on us, hoisted the flag of St. Marks, and fired a gun to leeward. We were then under all the sail we could use, but finding she came up with us, we hoisted American colours and fired a gun to leeward, and shortened sail. I had the Rockland, and desired Captain Akens to keep on our lee bow, and to use as much sail as I wished to speak the privateer first; and know what she was before we attempted any thing. She was then on our weather quarter, the Rockland not keeping in her station dropping more to leeward and nearly on our lee quarter; the privateer was then almost within hail of us, but immediately up helm and ran along side the Rockland and commenced firing under English colours, which we returned from the brig; the privateer being between us and the brig prevented my firing until I got in a situation to fire clear of the brig Rockland, which was in less than a moment, when we commenced firing to the best advantage we could; the Rockland fired only one broad side and some musketry, when she was boarded, they only left three men on board, the rest of and gave us a broadside, and attempted to board us, but were repulsed by our quarter gunpikes and musketry, they then kept clear of our pikes and played continually with all their means at musketry; our men seeing their ship mates falling, most of the landmen quit their quarters—the privateer seeing this attempted the second time to board us, by cutting our netting and overpowering us by numbers, was obliged to haul down our colours & quit the deck, otherwise he cut in pieces. We had three men killed, four badly and two slightly wounded; the first who fell was poor Mr. Bird. When they boarded us nothing saved our lives but their thinking we were English, and asked us how we dare engage under American colours, and did not believe we were Americans even after we had arrived. After the Rockland was boarded we engaged the privateer close on board for forty minutes. When the black General found we were captured he ran below with a pistol with intentions to blow the ship up, and with much difficulty we prevented it. He set all the cartridges on fire in the cabin and steerage, which was in pouch-tubs, and only my laying the magazine scuttle over, saved the ship and our lives; when he found he could not blow the ship up, he put the pistol to his head and blew his brains out.

The privateer took out all the passengers, officers and men, except myself, carpenter, two boys and one of our men badly wounded. The privateer continued with us until we arrived at this port, which was on the 17th July, a dividend immediately put altogether in a most miserable prison, with nothing to eat but stinking beef and course bread, and very short evel of that. They will not suffer me to see any Americans, nor have any communication with any body. There is a sch. called the Snake in the Grass

bought in New York and fitted out at Salem, with five guns, taken and brought in here a few days before me, one of the mates is allowed to go out at times, and this is the only opportunity I had to write. They say that orders has gone to America, that every vessel bound to St. Domingo, if taken, shall be treated as pirates. God only knows what they mean to do with us. I beg you will do all in your power to get our government to claim us, otherwise I don't know what they may do—they seem to be inveterate against the Americans, and even told every ship and captain's name that was armed from New-York.

Captain Akens and his mate killed, and one man, and several wounded, himself wounded and died at this place on the 22d inst.

The schooner Snake in the Grass was commanded by James Mansfield, who is also in prison with all his men; the vessel will be condemned although they did not fire a shot.

As no protest can be made here, I thought it best to let the officers sign this letter with me. Several large privateers are getting ready to go down in the Blue after the Americans.

The privateer that took us was the brig Fribrisquey, captain Antwan, with 10 long French sixes, two twelve pound cannonads, one long eighteen pounder, and 150 men. The French seem to be very inveterate against the Americans, and insult us as they pass the prison.

All that I can say more is to request you to do what you can with our government to claim us as Americans. I think the manner in which the French privateer engaged us under English colours, will be a sufficient reason for them to claim us. All that I can say more is that your ship and property was deluded with spirit, and overpowered by numbers.

We are, Sir, with respect,
Your obedient servants,
(Signed) PHILIPSON,
MABLON BENNET,
JAMES ROSS, jun.

Guadalupe, Point Petre,
July 26, 1804.

N. B. You will please to excuse any fault in this letter, as I am so closely watched.

Messrs. LANG & Co.
GENTLEMEN—Enclosed are copies of two letters received by me on Saturday last, from the commander of his Britannic Majesty's ship Leander; You will do me a favor by giving them a place in your paper to-morrow.
I am your very obed't serv't,
THOMAS BARCLAY.
New York, August 20, 1804.

(COPY.)
Leander, Wednesday 15th Aug. 1804.

MY DEAR SIR,
THE enclosed letter relates to the circumstances of the Revenue Cutter, of which I have no doubt you have heard; and I have no objection to my name being published with the explanation, since it is certainly the reverse of our wishes to give any just foundation for complaint. Men of sense ought consider our situation, and the nature of our duty coolly, before they complain violently.

I am, my dear sir, &c. &c.
(Signed) ALEXANDER SKENE.
Col. Barclay.

H. M. S. Leander, Aug. 14, 1804.
SIR,—It was reported to me that a French privateer was passing near his Majesty's ship and on examination, the vessel did appear to carry a large French pendant, without an ensign. The boats were immediately armed, and a gun fired to bring this vessel too. She hoisted American colours; we fired no more; and the boats were instantly recalled.

This little incident, I am grieved to find, has been construed into premeditated insult to the American national flag; that which, nothing can be further from my intention, or more directly contrary to the sentiments of the British government, and the particular orders of the Admiralty under whom I have the honor to serve.

I beg, sir, that you will not suffer such misrepresentations to gain ground, without contradiction and explanation. It is cruel and unjust, to put the very worst construction on every act of the British officers and the British nation, who must, in the end, be found, THE NATURAL AND FIRMEST FRIENDS OF AMERICA.

I am, Sir,
Your very obed't and humble serv't,
(Signed) ALEXANDER SKENE.
To Col. Barclay,
British Consul-Gen. &c. &c.

FREDERICK-TOWN, August 17.

Republican Meeting.
At a numerous meeting of respectable Republican inhabitants of Frederick county and town assembled by a public and general notice, at the dwelling of David Levy, on the 15th day of August, 1804, to consult upon measures necessary to be taken with respect to the ensuing elections; JOHN HOFFMAN, esq. was chosen Chairman, and JOHN B. COLVIN appointed Secy ary.

Resolved unanimously, That this meeting do entirely approve of the administration of the general government, as it has been conducted by THOMAS JEFFERSON and the heads of departments. The meeting is therefore free to declare its

unanimous wish that THOMAS JEFFERSON may be reelected to the presidency; solemnly impressed with the idea that his pacific disposition, his liberal mind, and philanthropic views are well calculated to preserve the happiness and further to promote the unrivaled prosperity of the U. States of America.

Resolved, That this meeting do cordially approve the nomination of the venerable GEORGE CLINTON as Vice President of the United States, and that they will exert their influence to procure his election to that office.

JOHN HOFFMAN, Chairman.
Published by order of the meeting,
JOHN B. COLVIN, Secretary.

NORFOLK, August 18.

Yesterday evening, captain Bowlers, of the brig Commerce, in 44 days from London, furnished us with files of London papers up to the 30th of June; and what is rather extraordinary, notwithstanding they are very late from Europe, they contain scarcely a line interesting to the American readers.—We shall, however, give some extracts in our next.

Counterfeit Bank Notes.

Two counterfeit notes of the bank of the U. States have, within a few days, been received by a correspondent. They are dated the 9th of October, 1801, letter D. for ten dollars. The paper is softer, and the note larger than the real ones. "Thos. Welling" is written very stiffly, the T. particularly. "G. Simpson" is better executed. The engraving is coarse, when contrasted with the real notes.

AUGUSTA, (Geo.) August 4.

Last Sunday some negro fellows killed a RAFTLE SNAKE, within a few miles of this city, on a Savannah road; it measured seven feet, exclusive of the tail, and was upwards of twelve inches in circumference—it was an old serpent, being twenty years of age. Mr. Chatfield, who has got the skin, intends making a present of it, we understand, to the University at Athens.

American.
BALTIMORE
FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 1804.

Captain Green, of the brig Lucy Ann, of Rhode Island, in 40 days from Cadiz, was informed by the Vice Consul that it was probable a war would take place between Spain and the United States. The report was current in Cadiz, the cause supposed to be some dispute about Louisiana; it was so much believed by some of the Americans, that they were hurrying to get away as fast as possible.

A young man, apprentice to Mr. Andrew Hays printer, was killed by lightning on Wednesday last, in the City of Washington.

The following articles will serve as a just comment upon the truth of the assertions made by Skene, (see New-York head) who has been, for some time, robbing our citizens and our property within our own jurisdiction.

To the editor of the Morning Chronicle.

On the 18th inst. about one and a half leagues from Shrewsbury Inlet, was boarded by a Lieutenant of a British frigate cruising off Sa dy Hook, her name the boarding officer would not inform me, (but have since been informed is the Leander) and after showing him the manifest of the cargo, list of seamen, consul's certificate, register, mediterranean pass and sea letter; the said lieutenant demanded my invoices and bills of lading, to which I replied they were inclosed in a letter under a seal to my owners, American merchants at Providence, Rhode Island, and if he insisted upon seeing them he must break open the letter himself, for I should not, that it would be an unjustifiable act in either him or myself to do it, on which he, the said lieutenant, without any further ceremony opened the letter, and after overhauling the same, I observed to him, it was hard for any foreign power to treat our American ships in this manner and within the limits of our own ports, his answer was, that our government allowed of it, and why should I find fault; he left the ship, and said you may go on your course. I had been before boarded by 3 British men of war on my voyage, treated politely and permitted to proceed after a very short detention.

JOHN WARNER, Master
Of the American ship Nancy of Providence, arrived at New York 18th inst.
New-York, Aug. 20, 1804.

From the N. Y. EVENING POST.

"I now return to these customary editorial duties which have been more than a month suspended to give place to the most awful and afflicting subject that ever occupied my mind and weighed down my heart.—It was my intention to have closed all discussion of the melancholy event, by an attempt to exhibit the character of him whom I can never cease to mourn as the best of friends, &

the greatest and most virtuous of men; but that ground has been so much pre-occupied, that, the design, though in great part actually executed, is for the present deferred. And unless it should be rendered necessary, by attacks or remarks from a certain quarter, I shall not again be disposed to bring the affair into the papers.

"The first subject of a political nature that presents itself to our view is the very extraordinary conduct of His Majesty's frigates, the *Leander* and *Cambrian* in lying off our harbour for several weeks; with the express design, if we may believe the oath of one of our captains, of annoying the Americans. A dispute has been carrying on in some of our morning papers about the precise distance from the shore that these outrages have been committed, one side contending it was within a league of the shore, the other that it was not: This dispute seems to have arisen from a supposition that it depended on the distance from the shore whether the proceedings on the part of the British were correct or not; a supposition altogether foreign to the question. We hold the law of nations, strictly to be—

"First. That no ships or vessels of war, may lie in wait for, nor take means to learn what enemy's vessels are expected to arrive; and in case they should discover them off the port, they may not go out to capture them; and if they attempt they may be compelled by the forts or ships of war to return into port.

"Second. They may not conceal themselves in the bottom of bays and gulphs, nor behind the heads of land and small islands, of a neutral country, for the purpose of surprising and capturing [even] enemy's ships:—they ought not in any manner to disturb the free and secure approach of any vessel of any nation whatever towards ports of UPON THE COAST OF A NEUTRAL STATE.—*Asuni* 2. p. 326.

"Such are the principles of maritime law now recognized throughout Europe. It is altogether immaterial, therefore, whether these ships lie at one, two, or three leagues distance from the shore, for them to lie upon the coast at all, for the purpose of annoying our commerce, under whatever pretext, or of disturbing the free and secure approach of any vessel whatever to our port, is a flagrant infringement upon our national sovereignty, and a gross violation of the acknowledged law of nation. For this attack upon the rights of our citizens, this indignity to the state and country, we have a claim on those to whom the national administration is committed.—It is a high handed wrong, demanding speedy and adequate redress."

"Next to the late affair of the *Cambrian*, this transaction is the most disrespectful and contemptuous that we have yet witnessed, and, in point of actual injury, is far beyond it."

INSURGENCY.

From the Lycoming Gazette, August 16.

Our accounts from Tioga are of a very alarming nature. It appears those assassins and incendiaries are determined to go on, in opposition to the laws and authority of the state. Threats have been publicly made by a person or persons residing in that country that they will have a fresh hide (meaning the skin of a Pennsylvanian, or persons fleeing from the Pennsylvanians,) in the course of a few days—they also declare that they will take the Governor's life before the first of October, &c. When such are the threats of those men, what are the poor settlers who oppose their proceedings to expect—plunder and massacre—Justice and mercy cry aloud for the interference of government and unless the measures of the Executive are prompt and energetic, those villains will be suffered to remain in quiet possession of property to which they have no just claim whatever.

From Dr. BARR's character of Dr. PRIESTLEY.

"I confess with sorrow, that in many instances such modes of defence have been used against the formidable heresiarch (Dr. Priestly) as would hardly be justifiable in the support of revelation itself, against the arrogance of a Bolinbroke, the buffoonery of a Mandeville, and the levity of a Voltaire. But the cause of orthodoxy requires not such aids; the church of England approves them not; the spirit of christianity warrants them not. Let Dr. Priestley indeed be confuted where he is mistaken; let him be repressed where he is dogmatical; let him be rebuked where he is censorious; but let not his attainments be depreciated because they are numerous, almost without a parallel. Let not his talents be ridiculed; because they are superlatively great; let not his morals be vilified because they are correct without austerity, & exemplary without ostentation; because they present, even to common observers, the innocence of a hermit and the simplicity of a patriarch; and because a philosophic eye will discover in him the deep fixed root of virtuous principles and the solid trunk of virtuous habit."

The Emperor has ordered our customhouse officers in Hanover to visit in the strictest manner all vessels from Tonningen, Gluckstadt, Itzehor, &c. that pass Stade, on their way to Hamburg or Altona;—and if any English property is found on board, confiscate both the ship and the cargo.