

# THE WHIG.

"GIVE US BUT LIGHT."

BALTIMORE:  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1810.

## TO THE PATRONS OF THE WHIG.

To lighten or dispatch business, the best way is to divide labour; for this purpose we have formed a partnership with Mr. S. BARNES, of this city. The Whig will be henceforth conducted by us in conjunction. We shall seize the earliest possible opportunity of presenting it to our readers in a new dress, printed on a neat new type, and finer paper. Its increasing circulation, as well as the gratitude we feel to our zealous supporters, render it necessary to make this vehicle as worthy of patronage as honest intentions, feeble abilities, unremitting industry, and typographical neatness, are capable of doing. Arrangements shall be formed, as far as practicable, to insure the receipt of early news, domestic and foreign; and to secure this end, no reasonable expence shall be spared.

We are conscious of the great utility of an impartial and independent print in a free community, and shall never, knowingly, sacrifice truth to any other consideration. The adoption and maintenance of truth universally, in regard to fact and opinion, would, we are persuaded, introduce universal liberty. It is despotism whose foundation is laid in darkness and error, in mental mists, where man, benighted and degraded, knows neither himself nor his rights. But our liberty is achieved; our government is reared on the most eligible plan; it only remains for the present and future generations to continue or improve the structure. And did we not behold in the black history of nations, the most cogent warnings against political apathy or relaxation arising from a momentary indifference; perhaps we might be excusable for recurring to first principles less frequently than we may. True, we have witnessed the animating and brilliant discussions of profound philosophers and eloquent declaimers, which exhibit the most pleasing pictures of human perfectibility—but alas! such splendid exhortation too often serves rather to produce indolence than excite activity. One distinguished philosopher, who was himself an ornament of our species, having cast a glance through the age of darkness, and returned to the zera of faint illumination that followed; comparing the one with the other, he tells us, that this recovery of knowledge proves "the generative principle of a revolution in the destinies of mankind;" but there may be a revolution from light to darkness! Another declares, that "if man descends, it is not in his own proper motion; that it is with labour and with pain, and that he can continue to sink only until by the force and pressure of the descent, the spring of his immortal faculties acquires that recuperative energy effort that hurries him as far aloft—he sinks but to rise again." Fine sayings! pretty language! we wish that truth were the basis Ireland knelt down six centuries ago to put on fetters; and she wears them still. In 1700 years the Jews have not recovered what they lost.—What is all Asia, the seat of science the cradle of freedom, first haunt of the Muses? its empire is shared by the despot and his slaves. What is Greece?—"How happens it," says Curran, "that modern slavery looks so pretty at the despot on the very spot where Leonidas expired? the answer is easy, Sparta has not changed her climate, but she has lost that government which her liberty could not survive."

Every thing confirms the propriety and necessity of caution, vigilance, foresight. Prevention is safer than remedy; certainty waits on the one, doubt attends the other. Heaven works no miracles in behalf of lazy nations. In the present predicament of the U. States, we perceive much occasion for enforcing the lessons of preventive wisdom; we cannot desert our imitation of British policy too soon: What poisoned her liberty, would poison ours. However, we have no reason to despair of the commonwealth; past dishonour may be the cause of future honor; error may be the precursor of sagacious policy;—partial loss may point the way to prosperity. If the people's will be fairly expressed in our national councils, we have nothing to fear. Energy will correct imbecility—wisdom supplant folly. The chart of England's course is before us—we have only to avoid her way—to beware of national incorporations; to steer wide of monopoly. If, in a superstitious age, the church infected

the government—we may depend upon it, that in a mercenary one, avarice is omnipotent; and no wise government would, in our condition, connect itself with meretricious institutions.

Though on these and other subjects we may differ in opinion with some of our political brethren, we shall dispute like brothers; and with becoming charity, never attribute unworthy motives to any man, unless facts and circumstances warrant it. Times are probably approaching, which will require the honest "union of all honest men;" for, we can hardly imagine, that our submission has taught belligerent powers to respect neutral rights! If France and England be not prepared for peace, it is not unlikely that we will yet be obliged to contend with one of them. If it should happen, 'twill be but the contest (comparatively) of a day. We will never find our interest in frequent wars; but, return as soon as the exigency is over, to the pursuits of peace—the farmer to his plow; the man of science to his studies and experiments; the mechanic to his workshop; the merchant to his calling. Experience will tell how far peculiar encouragement to any one branch of the community may be detrimental or useful.—It seems already demonstrable, from the fate of Holland, England, and other nations, that monopoly is the bane of harmony and prosperity; that an equal distribution of kindness is due from every free government to each class of citizens. But, it is not our intention to obtrude a set address upon the reader. In advertent to the change in the establishment of the Whig—we were unavoidably led to speak of those subjects which often render a newspaper valuable, nay indispensable, to the merchant, the statesman, the farmer, and every other citizen. Our political tenets are known; we need not to repeat them.

SAMUEL BARNES,  
B. IRVINE.

## ENGLAND.

As we often said, will continue her injustice; she will act the part of Pharaoh. The evasive letter of Wellesley confirms our opinion. The evident construction of it is briefly this:

If neutrals be not permitted to carry English goods to the continent, neutrals shall not be suffered to proceed to the continent. For, if John Bull be not privileged to eat the continental provender, he will play the dog in the manger. Let us no longer shut our eyes, or stop our ears, but prepare for the worst.

## (SCRAPS)

The restrictive system of the continent is continued against English commerce, with increasing severity and effect.

General Bernadotte is reported to be appointed crown prince of Sweden.

The Turks were making great preparations for prosecuting the war against Russia; the Grand Seignior had put himself at the head of his troops, and the Asiatic Powers were hastening to his aid.

A large expedition was fitting out at Madras, at our latest dates, the destination of which was kept secret. The prevailing opinion was, that it was intended against the Isle of France.

Christy is reported to have gained decided advantages over Petion, in St. Domingo; and will, it is supposed, soon rule without rival or controul.

The Dutch deputies in August proceeded to Paris; one of them delivered a flattering address to the emperor, who returned an answer at once intelligent, conciliatory and imperious. Flush of news shuts it out of our paper to day.

It is very justly observed in the Salem Register, that had England lately conducted herself towards us as France has, "all our towns would have been invited to Festivity, even if we should have been slaves as soon as the day ended." But French justice, friendship and commerce render some folks gloomy.

The Paragon, Baker, hence, had arrived at Gottenburg.

## MANUMISSION.

A Russian landholder in the government of Wilna, has, by his last will, emancipated all his peasants, to the number of 7000.—The emperor Alexander has confirmed his act of beneficence.

Dr. James Mease is said to be preparing for the press, "A Picture of Philadelphia," comprising its history since it was founded by Penn; an account of its institutions, buildings, manufactures, commerce, &c. &c.

## Official Documents.

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER EXTRA  
Of Saturday, October 20.

LONDON.

Sir,  
Lord Wellesley sent me yesterday, his answer to my note of the 25th ult. respecting the Berlin and Milan decrees.

I hasten to transmit a copy of it.—A copy shall be sent without delay to Gen. Armstrong.

I have the honor to be, &c.  
Wm. PINENEY.

Hon. Robert Smith, &c. &c. &c.

## (COPY)

Mr. Pinkney's letter to Lord Wellesley.  
Great Cumberland Place,  
August 25, 1810.

My Lord,

I have the honor to state to your lordship, that I have received from general Armstrong, minister plenipotentiary of the United States at Paris, a letter bearing date the 6th instant, in which he informs me that the government of France has revoked the decrees of Berlin and Milan—and that he has received a written and official notice of that fact in the following words:—"Je suis autorise a vous declarer, monsieur, que les Decrets de Berlin et de Milan sont revokes, et qu'a dater du 1er Novembre '10, leur execution est interdite."

I take for granted that the revocation of the British Orders in Council of January and November 1807, and April 1809, and of all other orders dependent upon, analogous to, or in execution of them, will follow of course; and I shall hope to be enabled by your Lordship, with as little delay as possible, to announce to my government that such revocation has taken place.

I have the honor to be, with high consideration, My Lord, Your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

Wm. PINENEY.

The most noble the  
Marquis Wellesley, &c. &c. &c.

## (COPY.)

Lord Wellesley to Mr. Pinkney.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 25th instant.

On the 23d of February, 1808, his majesty's minister in America declared to the government of the United States, "his majesty's earnest desire to see the commerce of the world restored to that freedom which is necessary for its prosperity, and his readiness to abandon the system, which had been forced upon him, whenever the enemy should retract the principles which had rendered it necessary."

I am commanded by his majesty to repeat that declaration, and to assure you that whenever the repeal of the French decrees shall have actually taken effect, and the commerce of the neutral nations shall have been restored to the condition in which it stood previously to the promulgation of those decrees, his majesty will feel the highest satisfaction in relinquishing a system, which the conduct of the enemy compelled him to adopt.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, sir, your most obedient humble servant.

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

## NEW-YORK, Oct. 19.

Extract of a letter from Fahisend, dated 28th of July.

"Since the 25th inst. sentences have been passed at Christiansburg, on the Nancy of Philadelphia, and Mary, of Boston; the former cleared, and the capers sailed; the latter condemned for the reasons under assigned by the court—none of which have any relation to the privateering law; and what is meant by the instrument for taking length and breadth, we cannot comprehend."

## Reasons assigned by the Court.

"Having no Atlantic chart—Having no just intent on board by which the length and breadth could be taken—An old sea letter said to mention the burthen of a vessel 179 tons, the present sea letter 129 tons.—The President's signature is supposed on the sea letter to differ from his usual signature—the Supercargo's passport not signed by the Secretary of State, and the vessel too clean to have crossed the Western Ocean—the Supercargo's name on the roll of equipage, which is not customary in America, but common in England."

## Latest from Portugal.

The ship Circinnati, captain Conklin, arrived below last evening, in the remarkably short passage of 22 days from Lisbon.

Capt Conklin informs that no event of importance had occurred since the battle of Almeida, except that a corps of 10,000 French troops had entered Badajoz which had obliged the Junta of Badajoz to remove to Elvas, in Portugal. Both the English and French armies were strongly fortified in their entrenchments—and both seemingly afraid of risking an action. But the opinion in Lisbon was, that lord Wellington's army was perilously situated. If he should venture to retreat from his strong hold, then there was a chance of the French being able to cut off his retreat; and if he should attack the French, all would depend upon a single battle. The Portuguese were sending to the army, all who were capable of bearing arms—and troops were daily arriving at Lisbon from England and Cadiz. At the latter, there was left only a sufficient number of men to garrison the town. The French army was also greatly reinforced.

Mr Jarvis, the American consul, was to leave Lisbon in 5 days for the United States.

The following is an extract of a letter, dated Lisbon, Sept. 21.—

"The little progress of Massena's numerous army, which has been for a

long time on our territories, convinces us that he respects the strength of our forces and positions; and fears, that in case of a defeat, the Spaniards in his rear might complete his destruction.—The army which the French are reported to have, though great, is not equal to the enterprise they have undertaken. Exchange at London at par."

## Fall of Almeida.

[Translated for the New York Mercantile Advertiser.

From the Lisbon Gazette of Sept. 3.

Extracts from dispatches from his excellency marshal Beresford to the minister of war.

August 27 & 28.

In the morning of the 26th, our army learned that the enemy were firing upon Almeida. In the afternoon of the 25th, and in the morning of the 26th we could not discover what was passing at Almeida on account of the obscurity of the atmosphere. From 2 until 5 in the afternoon of the 26th, when the weather became more clear, a very brisk firing on both sides was distinguished.—On the 27th, it was observed that the firing continued, but with less activity, until near 2 in the afternoon. It afterwards ceased: between 10 o'clock and midnight it was repeated with great violence, after which we did not hear another shot.

29th.—Almeida fell into the hands of the enemy on the 25th: until the 26th the enemy made no general movement. In the night, between the 25th and 26th, the grand magazine of powder in Almeida blew up, and there were some other explosions of powder, in consequence of the bombs thrown by the enemy. That accident destroyed half the town, and killed many militaries, and it is probable that a considerable part of the garrison was also destroyed. All this caused such a general consternation, that the governor for want of powder was obliged to treat with the enemy on the 27th.—He demanded that the garrison should join our army, and that the inhabitants should also be permitted to leave the place; but Massena refused those conditions, and threatened to repeat the fire if they did not surrender prisoners of war. In fact the firing was repeated that night. The place surrendered in the morning of the 28th, after the garrison had expended the rest of their powder. The enemy offered them the choice of entering into the service of the emperor, or being sent to France as prisoners.—There was not a single man who did not prefer going to France as a prisoner. This is a noble example, and does much honour to the nation, especially when we consider that the greater part of them were militia. All this information was obtained from prisoners who were afterwards taken. Thus was Almeida lost by an accident, and not through the fault of the garrison, or the valour of the enemy. That event could not have happened but for the coincidence, as extraordinary as it was unforeseen, of the misfortune of the explosion, and the state of the atmosphere for exactly the two days of the firing: for otherwise lord Wellington would have known that extraordinary circumstance, which made it necessary that the place should be immediately relieved (which he could not suppose to be the case without such an occurrence) and having already advanced with the whole army on the preceding days, it is probable that he would have obliged the enemy to raise the siege.

From the Lisbon Gazette of the 3d Sept.

Copy of a dispatch from his excellency lord viscount Wellington to his excellency don Miguel Pereira Forjaz.

Most illustrious and excellent sir,

The enemy opened their fire upon Almeida late on Saturday night, or rather in the morning of Sunday last, the 26th inst. and I regret that I have to add, that they obtained possession of the place in the course of the night of the 27th inst.

I cannot conceal from your excellency, that this unfortunate event affords me sensibly; so contrary is it to what I had reason to anticipate, considering the manner in which the garrison was provided with every thing necessary for the defence of the place, the respectable condition of its fortifications, and the spirit and courage which, as I had understood from the governor, the garrison exhibited; for all these reasons I expected that the place would have held out to the last extremity, should I have no opportunity to relieve it; and that, at all events, the enemy would be delayed until a late period of the season.

I have no intelligence, upon which I can rely, relative to the cause of its surrender. Some prisoners taken yesterday relate, that the castle (which however was bomb proof) blew up on Saturday night; that on Monday the governor requested to capitulate, with the conditions that the place should be delivered to the enemy, but that the garrison and inhabitants should be permitted to join this army; which proposal having been refused, and the firing recommenced, the governor held out as long as he had any ammunition remaining, until upon its being wholly expended, he surrendered yesterday morning; after this the enemy having offered to the soldiers of the garrison either to take them into the service of the emperor, or to send them to France as prisoners of war, the latter offer was accepted by the garrison.

This account deserves credit, as coming from an enemy; and it is partly confirmed, as I had an opportunity of observing that there was a cessation of hostilities from one in the afternoon until nine at night on Monday, and that after that hour the firing recommenced, and continued until two in the morning, when it again totally ceased.

A great explosion was also heard at our advanced post, and I observed on Monday that the steeple of the church in that place was destroyed, and many of the houses unroofed.

I hope that this account may prove correct in all its most essential points, and may give me the satisfaction to find that the loss of Almeida, and the acquisition by the enemy of the military stores and provisions which the place contains, has not been occasioned by the fault of the governor, or of the garrison.

I had a telegraphic communication with the governor; but unfortunately the badness of the weather did not permit us to avail ourselves of it on Sunday, nor during the greater part of Monday, and when the atmosphere cleared on the latter day, I was informed that the governor was communicating with the enemy.

Considering the position which I had taken with the army so near to the place, I have to lament that I had not an opportunity of ascertaining its situation, after the loss of the magazine.

The enemy twice yesterday attacked our pickets; but they made that attack weakly; in both they were repulsed; in the afternoon they obliged general sir Stephen Cotton to call in his posts to this side of Freixedas: in these skirmishes the capt of the light dragoon No. 16, named Lygon, was wounded, and also two soldiers of the regiment of royal dragoons.

A picket of this regiment made a valiant and bold attack on a party of the enemy's infantry and cavalry; the result was successful, and they made some prisoners.

The 2d corps commanded by general Regnier has not made any movement of importance since the last dispatch that I transmitted to your excellency. A patrol belonging to that corps encountered a squadron of dragoons which consisted of a part of the British regiment No. 13, and of the Portuguese regiment No. 4, belonging to the army under the command of general Hill, and was commanded by captain White of the same regiment No. 13; this encounter took place on the 22d inst.; and the result of it was that the enemy's patrol was wholly taken, with the exception of the captain and one soldier, who I have since heard were killed. I transmit a copy of the dispatch which brigadier general Lane sent to general Hill relative to this skirmish, which is doubtless greatly to the credit, and proves the bravery of capt. White and the allied troops, who had a share in it.

There has been no movement or occurrence of importance in Estremadura since my last dispatch which I forwarded to your excellency respecting the transactions in this part of the country.

In the north of Spain the enemy marched on the 20th inst. a small body of infantry and cavalry towards Alcanizas; but general Silveira marched from Braganza in that direction; in consequence of which the enemy immediately retreated.

My last accounts from Cadiz are to the 16th inst. I learn by them that general Graham, was on the point of sending from Cadiz 2000 men towards the Tagus. Nothing extraordinary had occurred in that quarter.

I have the honour to be, &c.

WELLINGTON.

Almeida, Aug. 29.

The loss of Almeida was unexpected by us; but we are in the situation of Philip II, who, when he lost by tempests the grand armada, denominated the Invincible, said that he did not combat with the elements. There are disasters which can be neither foreseen nor avoided: such is ours: the principal magazine of the place being, and there being no more powder, defence was impossible. But to explain the magazine taking fire, though bomb proof, is what we are not yet able to do. The regret we feel, however, is only on account of the place itself, and the manner in which it was lost; for in regard to the defence of the kingdom, the possession or the loss of it is of little importance. It is situated beyond the river Coa, and all our positions; and appears rather a place to defend Spain than Portugal.—In the force and discipline of the army, in the hatred which the people have to the yoke of the tyrant, and in the love of liberty, our defence and our safety consist. We are in the same circumstances as Spain:—a war by the troops and by the inhabitants, carried on by skirmishes, the removing or burning the means of subsistence, are the infallible methods of destroying the enemy, they cannot advance into the interior of our country without great danger; because the Spanish provinces in their rear, being completely in a state of insurrection, render the carrying of provisions almost impracticable—and in their front is a formidable army. Disasters do not depress, but animate brave souls. We expect shortly to be able to announce events which shall counterbalance, and more than compensate for the loss of Almeida.

## Night School.

The Subscriber, grateful for that share of public patronage which he has received in his late establishment, takes the liberty to inform his patrons and the citizens of Baltimore generally, that he intends to commence his Night School at his Academy, in High-street, Old Town, on MONDAY evening next, the 31st inst. Where will be taught such branches of Education as may be required.

WILLIAM COTNAM COCHRAN.  
The subscriber will contract with any person or persons who have Apprentices or others, to teach them through the single Rule of Three, or further, if requested.

October 13.

1810.