

Mr. Love asked of the gentleman from Massachusetts whether the late collector actually resigned, and whether the gentleman knew of any subsequent appointment of the officer alluded to. If so, whether this had been within the knowledge of the President of the United States.

Mr. Quincy said, whether it was or was not an offence to keep an office, the salary of which is \$600 a year, a man who had declared his inability to execute it, was for the House to determine. The charge which he made was simply this: that an officer had been compensated for doing no services, and kept in a situation the duties of which he was unable to perform. It was an offence that to great an office as the collectorship of Boston should be kept in this position, the United States paying to an individual \$600 a year for inadequate services, contrary to the express wish of the gentleman himself, who, ever since June, had not been in the town of Boston; and of consequence the execution of the duties of the office had been totally dependent on one individual, the deputy collector. You send a law on (said Mr. Q.) to be executed, and by one individual. The deputy says he will not act; the collector is unable to act, and the consequence is, that that law is not executed. In answer to the question whether the country has suffered, I will state a fact; the deputy collector of that port had a right to resign his office to the collector; and if the collector had been an efficient man, there would have been no difficulty; but because he was not efficient, the law is not in a state of execution. I take this position, because the facts which I have stated can be proved. Whether the House will or will not agree to these resolutions, is no concern of mine; not if gentlemen choose to utter any abuse, do I regard it. I stand before this nation, and fear not to do my duty.

Messrs. Johnson, W. Allen, D. R. Williams, J. G. Jackson, Dana, McCree, A. Con, Rhea, Macon, Bibb, Southard, Masters, L. Sloan, Rowan, and Key followed Mr. Quincy in debate, all of whom differed with him as to the propriety of adopting the resolutions. The reasons assigned by gentlemen were various, but generally to this effect: that it would be indecorous, if not beyond the power of this House to call upon the President of the U. S. for his private correspondence with any individual, without doing which it would appear that none of the facts could be established; that were the facts established and the charges maintained, they constituted no crime or misdemeanor, and it was said by some of the gentlemen, no ground for reprehension; that constituting no crime or misdemeanor, it was not a matter coming within the cognizance of the House, or on which an impeachment could be grounded; and being a matter on which the House had no constitutional power to act, it was also a matter into which it was not their province to enquire.

The question on the passage of the resolution was taken by Yeas & Nays—Mr. Quincy only in the affirmative.

JANUARY 17.

Debate on the Message of the President, communicating Mr. Canning's letter, with the answer of Mr. Pinkney—Concluded.

Mr. Key said that he would give his hearty vote for printing the greatest number of copies proposed; for he did conceive that the American people ought to have full information, and that the antidote should accompany the poison. I consider the late publication (said he) as the most direct and insidious attempt of a foreign government to take advantage of and influence the parties in this country, and that too by the most dishonourable means. The paper alluded to could only have been in possession of our own administration, or of the British government. It came not from us; it must have proceeded from the other—and from what view? Had fair information been the object, the letter of Mr. Pinkney in reply would also have been made public, that one might have been confronted with the other. If it proceeded from that quarter, the separation of the letter from the letter, is evincive of the attempt to impose on the people. I consider it an attempt to set the people at variance with their government, and an insolent attempt of a foreign nation to interfere in our affairs, in three points of view. 1st. Mr. Pinkney is expressly exonerated from the charge of misrepresentation; but no man can understand it otherwise than as having elusion to the Executive of the country—an insinuation which there is no proof to support, and in support of which none can be adduced. Whatever difference of political opinion may exist between us on some points, I respect the administration on the whole, and every honest man of every political opinion must side with me. 2ndly. There is an insinuation that the President of the U. S. had only permitted our minister at London *individually*, not *formally*, to make a proposition on the subject of the embargo. This is unfounded in fact, because the documents before the House prove the contrary. 3dly. A question is raised whether actual knowledge of the orders in council of November was in the possession of our government at the time of the laying the embargo, which Mr. Pinkney has fully explained, that the American papers showed that it was well known before the passage of the embargo, that such a would probably be the measures adopted by the British government. It is upon these three great questions that this letter is insidiously calculated to delude the American people. I think therefore ample publicity should be given to the truth as may be. However we may differ as to internal regulations, I hope we shall feel as husband and wife, who, however they jar, will not suffer the interference of a third person. In case of such interference, I trust we shall always be ready to rally around the constituted authorities, as protecting the true interest of the country.

Mr. Story. This is not a new occasion. More than once in twenty years the same attempt has been made of foreign intrigue; and when the attempt has been made, there was scarcely a man in America but considered it insidious and disgraceful. Like the gentleman from New York, it was before my time; but I gathered the feelings of the moment and held sacred the same feelings, as was avowed by the father of his country. Whatever may be our political differences, it is incumbent on all of us to show indignantly on any foreign government that should attempt to influence the people. The publication of garbled and mutilated documents, purporting to be real correspondence between one country and another, has been a means used to lead the public mind into a state of distemper-

ed jealousy, and array the citizens against his country. It has been too long the case in Europe. Whenever the sword has been drawn, corruption has preceded it; and when I find the same means used to detach the people of this country from their government by similar attempts, I cannot repress my contempt at them. Sir, I cannot but express the honorable conduct of the gentleman from Md. (Mr. Key) who, though opposed in political opinion to the present administration, has shown himself to be a real friend to his country. If the same spirit which he has manifested, was exhibited throughout our country, instead of dissensions on this floor, that moment an attempt was made by a foreign nation to injure our rights, our differences on minor points would dissolve into the air. It is not necessary for me to state because the gentleman from Maryland has clearly shown, the reason of the publication of that letter. As one, sir, I do know that it was not only understood that the orders in council was about to issue, but that, before I heard of the embargo, I had seen letters and newspapers which informed that these orders were signed in the cabinet though not published to the world. In respect to Mr. Canning's saying that the orders to repeal the embargo were not authorized, the dispatches laid on our table, at the commencement of the session show to the contrary; and his own formal letter is a denial of the insinuation in the letter to-day communicated.

Mr. Gardiner said, by this time the editor of the Columbian Centinel must be pretty well mauled. The fact is (said he) as regards myself, that I have never read with attention the document said to be official; and therefore unfortunately am not in a situation to determine whether in this respect our administration is to blame or not. A gentleman from Vermont (Mr. Fisk) appeared to be offended at my mischievous curiosity to the people of New-England. If the gentleman supposes that I mean any harm to the people of New-England, he is mistaken. It is not necessary for me to take up any time of the House in expatiating on the respect which I have for the people of New-England. New-England was the cradle of American Liberty. Sir, it was there the revolution commenced. From that same quarter I apprehend that the same spirit will again arise. A light appears first in the east which I hope soon to see break forth into the most perfect day. The gentleman from Vermont, after this declaration I hope will not impute to me, any disrespect to the people of New-England. They will not submit either to the insolence or injustice of foreign nations, or to any other. Nature intended them for a great and happy people. The gentleman from Vermont has misunderstood me in one thing. I did not say that Mr. C's letter contained any view of the subject not heretofore given; and therefore have no occasion to answer his question.

The question on printing the documents was then taken, and five thousand copies ordered to be printed.



It comes
The noisy herald of a busy world.

FOREIGN.

On the 24th ult. arrived at New York the British Packet, Princess Amelia, Moorson, from Falmouth, via Bermuda, having left England on the 8th of December; and the ship Philipburgh, Lefingwell, from Liverpool and Cork. The latter left Liverpool on the 27th of November, and Cork on the 12th December. By these two vessels the Editor of the Mercantile Advertiser has received London papers of the 3d December, and Cork papers of the 8th, nearly a month later than any previous advices.

We have extracted from the latest of the papers whatever is interesting, those of an anterior date being unusually barren of intelligence. It appears that the army of the French Emperor had entered Spain, and that the division under General Blake had been defeated with considerable loss; but this defeat is not considered as calculated to excite despondency with respect to the ultimate success of the Patriots.

The captain of the Packet informs us, that on the 6th of December two British regiments of cavalry sailed from Falmouth for Spain, to reinforce the patriotic army; and that on his passage he spoke the Guerrier frigate, from the West-Indies, and received intelligence that the English had taken Martinique.

Mr. H. Purvovence passenger in the Philipburgh, is the bearer of dispatches for government, from our minister at the court of St. James.

London papers contain the following intelligence from Portsmouth, of the date of December 1—

4 This afternoon, says a letter, arrived here the Bonne Citoyenne, captain Thompson, with dispatches from Coruna, from whence the Bonne Citoyenne sailed on Saturday last, the 16th ult. Captain T. brings dispatches from General Blake's army, which continued retreating, but bravely defending every inch of ground until the 24th, when General Blake made a firm stand, and repelled his enemies, numbers as they were. After this action General Blake's force remained 25,000 strong. This we must think very good news; but we regret that Romana's force, having made some mistake in the route, fell in with the enemy, and after a brave resistance, and having slaughtered a great number of the enemy, he was at length overpowered and cut in pieces. We regret still more to learn, that Bonaparte's emissaries had but too well succeeded in stirring up faction, and that the Prince of Peace's party was formidable in Spain. We trust, however, that the patriots will ultimately succeed over Bonaparte and the Prince of Peace.

"The news from Oporto is unfavourable. The party there in opposition to the Regency is very strong, and General Heresford had mediated in vain. The French are at Valladolid."

Another letter, came date.

"This afternoon at 8 o'clock, the Bonne Citoyenne, a ship of war arrived from Coruna, from whence she sailed on Saturday last, bringing accounts from General Blake's army up to the 24th ult.

"The dispatches she has brought will be found to relate to several most dreadful battles, between the armies of General Blake and Marshal Ney—

The Marquis Romana's troops (from the Baltic) by advancing too far ahead of General Blake's army, were severely defeated; one of the regiments of Catalonia has been cut in pieces. The fighting on both sides was most terrible and desperate. The marquis of Romana's cavalry was recovered. In the last attack, Blake repulsed the French with considerable loss. He is now at Coruna, about forty miles north of St. Andero, with 25,000 men. The communication between him and the centre army, under Castanos, is cut off, the French army being between them, whose head quarters are at Valladolid. There are many fears for the safety of the centre army. The Prince of Peace's army in Spain is very strong, and the patriotic cause looks desponding. Sir David Beards at Astorga with his army, and Sir John Moore at Salamanca. They have not been engaged. In the Bonne Citoyenne came passenger captain Gage of the Royal Artillery, with dispatches from Sir Robert Wilson, at Oporto. His dispatches are not so favourable as could be wished. The party against the Provisional Government is very strong and turbulent. Sir Robert had clothed, armed and trained 3000 Portuguese, and formed them into a battalion. There were three British regiments there."

Madrid papers contain the following information from Coruna, of the date of November 22.—General Moore's army had a very severe march. The English seem very much alarmed, that is, the few that remain behind the army in consequence of indisposition, but such of the sensible Spaniards as I have hitherto conversed with, are not in the least dismayed. The raising and disciplining of troops go on with the greatest activity in every part. This day I saw with great pleasure, upwards of 2000 young and robust fellows practising their evolutions. Bonaparte, it seems, has returned to Paris."

Nov. 23.—The sad accounts we received some time ago from Biscay, have been since followed up with a succession of melancholy intelligence. There is not the least doubt that the enemy have cut off the communication with Madrid, as the mail from thence, due the 21st, has not come in. Those here connected with the English army, mention their information, but our government preserves the deepest silence. On all hands, however, there is the most gloomy apprehension and foreboding."

Another letter, came date.

"You already know that the first attack of the enemy upon the Spanish lines, was the 31st ult at Zornoso. This was officially imparted by a dispatch from General Blake, dated the first instant, and since that moment no communication has been made from the Gallician army to its government; and the post which conveyed that dispatch, brought no communication whatever from any of the individuals of the army, to relieve the anxiety of their numerous friends and relations in this neighbourhood. Eleven days have elapsed, and three regular posts from Madrid have arrived, which posts receives the letters from Biscay, &c. in bye bags, and still without letters from the army. The inference to be drawn from this is very obvious. Nevertheless, such is the unwillingness of all men to receive unwelcome information, that they reluctantly, though unconsciously deceive themselves by the ready assumption of any suggestion, however improbable, which serves to relieve them from the necessity of believing what they do not choose to believe. The non-arrival of letters was ascribed to an order of the Central Junta, that they should be forwarded to Madrid—and the cotemporary and still more vague information of other attacks by the enemy near Navarre, gave rise only to tales of treachery, which have not, to this hour, been either disproved or verified. Yesterday, however, a fourth mail arrived which ought to have brought the Castile letters, but it contained none except those from Lugo. The Madrid bags had not arrived, we are told, at ten o'clock on the preceding evening; and it was thought proper not to wait any longer for them. We are still promised the arrival of the Madrid letters, and indeed there is little doubt that, by a circuitous route at least they may be recovered, for the position of the French between this province and Madrid, will not suffice to destroy all communication. Early yesterday morning, however, dispatches were received from the English head quarters at Astorga, the contents of which have this morning been published by the government. This is the sole source of the public information, and the members of the actual government affirm they know no more. This account states in substance (for I am not disposed to copy the melancholy detail) that on the 31st ult. the French attacked at Zornoso. 5th inst. General Blake drove them beyond Balmaseda. 7th. General Blake attacked at Guinias. 8th. An engagement on the rear-guard. 10th. The French attacked at Espinosa. 11th. The French attacked again, and appear to have cut off the retreat in part. 12th. General Blake retired to Reynos to collect his army. 13th. The General was attacked there, and he retreated towards Samard. Thus the army of Galicia has sustained seven attacks valiantly, though unsuccessfully; and the character of its General in Chief has not sunk in our estimation, from the calamities to which he has been exposed. Who, that knows the French system of warfare, and reflects the position and the divided force of the Spanish armies, can wonder at the result? At the same time we are informed, that between 7 and 8000 men have penetrated beyond Burgos, in the plains of Castile. We know from former statements, that from the Ebro likewise, the French have made successful advances, and there can be no doubt that their vehement and repeated attacks upon General Blake's army, have been made to enable the French to proceed towards the metropolis, not subject to molestation from the right. Whether they will now proceed to Madrid, or whether they will first continue their attack against the remains of General Blake's army in the mountains of Asturia, in whose rear, namely, at or near St. Andero, are the troops from the north, and afterwards advance into Leon upon the English forces, whose head quarters are at Astorga, remains to be seen. Whichever may take place, the provincial government seems to be resorted to unusual exertions. Orders have been sent to call into action the whole force of the kingdom of Galicia. The British troops, and all the Spanish forces which can be collected, will be united at the pass of Galicia; and the mountains which surround the province, form so strong a natural bulwark, that the English army alone, it is said, will be sufficient for the defence of the passes for a very considerable time. Of these passes there are two; one in the neighbourhood of Villanueva and Penterale, and the other by Montefort. I mention the name you will find on the smaller maps."

The Norwegians have invaded Sweden, but obtained only some slight advantages. On the side the Russians have attacked with success. The last accounts left an English army, under the Danish town of Christianstad, and the French troops it is said are to occupy Zealand, and the other Danish territories, and the whole army is to march to Spain.

The troops of the Princes of the Coblenz, on the Rhine, which have been ordered into France, are to be employed, to garrison the frontier guard against any expression of the public mind during the absence of the army in Spain. Prince Primate's contingent is arrived at Bordeaux, and that of the Duke of Nassau at Toulon-Bordeaux, &c. are in like manner to have German garrisons.

The road across the river, (says a Montreal paper of Jan. 7.) was hardly made, when the snows of Montreal were crowded with American soldiers, some from our own townships, but infinitely more from the other sides of the lines—full of pork, butter, cheese, &c. They flocked in as if the enemy had broke loose. They have a brisk market of furs. If we are not misinformed, there are more than 20 sleighs now on the road to this city.

After trial of various kinds of Wood, in looking for Hum Puncheons, an excellent kind has been discovered, which will be used for the present. The Coopers say it is equal to the North American oak; it is called *Sanea Maria*.

Captain Seymour, of the British ship, *Andromeda*, has captured the French ship *Le Zephire*, of 44 guns, with a crew of 330 men, and 100 soldiers, on her passage from Le Orient to Martinique, after a chase which continued from 10 o'clock, a. m. till 10 minutes after midnight. For near an hour, the ships were close grappled, and the men fought hand to hand. The *Andromeda* had her Captain and 10 men killed, and one hundred and two men wounded. The *Andromeda* had a Lieutenant and 19 men killed, and 51 wounded. The former ship was wholly masted, and the latter lost her mizen mast. The French are represented to have found disaster as their loss will show. The force of the English ship is not known.

DOMESTIC.

The following incendiary notice was posted on the Coffee House in Philadelphia, on the 14th ult. "The *Perseus* the boundary—the *Agave* the by themselves."

A Constitutional meeting of the citizens of Boston was held on the 24th ult. agreeably to notification of the Select Men: Stephen Cutman, Esq. was chosen Moderator. Col. Perkins proposed resolutions, expressing their disapprobation of the Embargo Law, as repugnant to the interests of the people; that arbitrary and unconstitutional means had been resorted to enforce them; that having petitioned the national authorities for their repeal, no resource remained but the protection of the Legislature of the State; that it be petitioned to save the people from the destruction of their liberties and prosperity which awaited them; and that they would pledge their lives and fortunes to support such measures as the Legislature might adopt. Messrs. Perkins, Dr. Carter, Callender, and Sergeant supported the resolutions; and Messrs. Austin, Blake, and Enderbough opposed them. After a very animated debate of 11 hours, the resolutions were carried, and a committee appointed to draft the memorial; when the meeting adjourned to the next morning.

In the Plymouth district, in Massachusetts, where no election was made at the general election, William Baylies, the Federal candidate, has lately been elected by a majority of between 2 and 3 hundred votes.

On Friday last, says the Portland Gazette of Jan. 14, a small sloop got under way to go down the bay for the purpose procuring Clams—on passing the gun boat, stationed in the harbour for protecting the embargo, three guns were fired at her—the sloop, notwithstanding, proceeded; and this formidable division of the navy, got under way and gave chase to her; after a pursuit of nearly an hour, the sloop got aground, and so enabled the "line of battle to come up" and effect a boarding.

General Wilkinson and suite embarked at Baltimore on the 24th for Charleston. From Charleston, he will sail for New Orleans in the homestead of war. A portion of the regular troops, will very soon follow the General.

From the Boston Centinel, Jan. 18.

The Collector and Deputy Collector of the Customs, of this port, have resigned their respective offices.

It is understood that the merchants of this town have generally determined not to comply with the new embargo regulations.—Having deposited their goods in the ships and ware houses, when they had a legal right so to do, they will not submit to any regulation, which is in effect an ex post facto law. They will neither give bonds or unload their vessels, and if the officers of the United States attempt to take possession, they will trust to an independent judiciary of their own State, for protection.

There are nearly 14,000 tons of shipping lying at the wharves at Bath, (Me.) of which about 9000 tons are now laden and ready for sea. The bonds required by the new law, for these loaded vessels, will be nearly three millions of dollars—Bonds which the owners cannot, and consequently will not give.

From a New-York Paper.

Several seizures of boats with produce, which were crossing the North River have been made. The ferry boats have been prohibited from taking soldiers, or any kind of provisions, even a piece of Beef, over to the city of Jersey; and several boats with armed men are stationed in the North River to intercept the communication between the two shores. It is also stated that the keys of a suspected store, the property of one of the first merchants of our city, have already been demanded. Such we are informed, are the iron-handed measures already pursued under "the new order of things"—an order of things which has prostrated the rights and liberties of our countrymen.

Extract of a letter from an officer in the U. S. army, to the editors of the Boston Chronicle, dated Burlington, N. H. Jan. 9, 1809.

"I have taken the liberty to inform you of the proceedings of the Supreme Court in this place, on the trial of Samuel I. Mow, one of the murderers in the taking of the Black Snake.—This Mow had had one trial before, but in consequence of the officer