

did multitudes of others, as an attempt too absurd for serious examination. I was in this case again beset by common sense and common prudence. That the U. States should precipitate itself upon the unsuspecting people of that neighboring colony, unprovoked, and without any previous warning, because the nearest states, 3000 miles distant, had violated some of our commercial rights; that we should invade a country, defended by veteran forces, at least equal, in point of numbers, to the invading army; that bounty should be offered, & proclamations issued, inviting the subjects of a foreign power to treason and rebellion, under the influence of a quarrel of the country, upon which a return of the same nature was so obvious, so easy, and in its consequences so awful, in every aspect, the design seemed so fraught with danger and disgrace, that it appeared absolutely impossible, that it should be seriously entertained. Those, however, who reasoned after this manner, were, as the event proved, mistaken. The war was declared Canada was invaded. We were in haste to plunge into the great difficulties and we have now reason, as well as leisure enough for regret and repentance.

The great mistake of all those, who reason concerning the war and the invasion of Canada, and concluded that it was impossible, that either should be set on foot, resulted from this, that they never took into consideration the connexion of both those events, with the great election for the chief magistracy, which was then pending. It never was sufficiently considered by them, that plunging into war with Great Britain, was among the conditions, on which support for the presidency, was made dependent. They did not understand that an invasion of Canada, was to be, in truth, only a mode of carrying on an electioneering campaign. But since events have explained political purposes there is no difficulty in seeing the connexion, between projects and interests. It is now, apparent to the most uneducated, how a nation may be disgraced, and yet a cabinet attain its desired honours. All is clear. A country may be ruined, in making an administration happy.

I said Mr. Speaker, that such strange schemes, apparently irreconcilable to common sense and common prudence, were on that very account, more likely to be successful. Sir—There is an audacity, which sometimes stuns men instead both of genius and strength. And most assuredly, he is most likely to perform that, which no man ever did before, and will never be likely to do again, who has the boldness to undertake that, which no man ever thought of attempting, in time past, and no man will ever think of attempting, in time future. I would not, however, be understood as intimating, that this cabinet project of invasion is impracticable, either as it respects the collection of means and instruments, or in the ultimate result. On the contrary, sir, I deem both very feasible.—Men may be obtained. For if forty dollars bounty, cannot obtain them, an hundred dollars bounty may, and the intention is, explicitly avowed not to suffer the attainment of the desired army, to be prevented by any vulgar notions of economy. Money may be obtained. What, by means of the increased popularity, derived from the augmentation of the navy, what, by opening subscription offices, in the interior of the country, what, by large premiums, the cupidity of the monied interest may be tempted, beyond the point of patriotic resistance and all the obtained means being diverted to the use of the army, pecuniary resources may be obtained, ample, at least for the first year. And, sir, let an army of thirty thousand men be collected, let them be put under the command of a popular leader, let them be officered, to suit his purposes, let them be flushed with victories, and see the fascinating career of military glory opening upon them, and they will not thereafter, ever be deficient in resources. If they cannot obtain their pay by your votes, they will collect it by their own bayonets; and they will not rigidly observe any air-lines or water lines in enforcing their necessary levies; nor be stayed by abstract speculations concerning right; or learned constitutional difficulties.

I desire, therefore, that it may be distinctly understood, both by this house and this nation, that it is my unequivocal belief that the invasion of Canada, which is avowed by the cabinet to be its purpose, is intended by it—that continuance of the war and not peace is its project—Yes, sir—As the French emperor said concerning ships and colonies, so our cabinet, the friends of the French emperor, may say with respect to Canada and Halifax—“THEY ENTER INTO THE SCOPE OF ITS POLICY.”

Mr. Quincy was here called to order by Mr. Hall of Georgia, for intimating that the members of the cabinet were friends of the French emperor. Mr. Q. said, that he understood that the relations of amity did subsist between this country & France, and that, in such a state of things, he had a right to speak of the American cabinet as the friends of France, in the same manner as he had now a right to call them the enemies of Great Britain.

The Speaker said, that the relations of amity certainly did subsist between this country and France, and that he did not conceive the gentleman from Massachusetts to be out of order in his expressions. That it was impossible to prevent gentlemen from expressing themselves, so as to convey an *impendo*.

Mr. Quincy proceeded—If Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Georgia, and his political friends, would take one thing into consideration, he, and they will have no reason to complain in case the cabinet be of that immaculate nature he supposes. No administration, no man, was ever materially injured by any mere *impendo*. The strength of satire is in the justness of the remark, and the only sting of invective, is the truth of observation.

I will now proceed to discuss those topics which naturally arise out of the bill under consideration, and examine the proposed invasion of Canada, at three different points of view.

1. As a means of carrying on the subsisting war.
2. As a means of obtaining an early and honorable peace.
3. As a means of advancing the personal and local projects of ambition of the members of the American cabinet.

Concerning the invasion of Canada, as a means of carrying on the subsisting war, it is my duty to speak plainly and decidedly, not only because I hereby express my own opinions upon the subject, but as I conscientiously believe, the sentiments also

of a very great majority of that whole section of country, in which I have the happiness to reside. I say then, sir, that I consider the invasion of Canada as a means of carrying on this war, as cruel, wasteful, senseless, and wicked.

You will easily understand, Mr. Speaker, by this very statement of opinion, that I am not one of that class of politicians which has for so many years predominated in the world, on both sides of the Atlantic. You will readily believe, that I am one not of those who worship in that temple, where Condorcet is the high priest and Machiavel the God. With such politicians the end always sanctifies the means; the least possible good to themselves perfectly justifies, according to their creed, the inflicting the greatest possible evil upon others. In the judgment of such men, if a corrupt ministry at three thousand miles distance shall have done them an injury, it is an ample cause to visit with desolation a peaceable and unoffending race of men, their neighbors, who happen to be associated with that ministry by ties of mere political dependence. What tho' these colonies be so remote from the sphere of the question in controversy, that their ruin or prosperity could have no possible influence upon the result? What though their cities offer no plunder? What though their conquest can yield no glory? In their ruin there is revenge. And revenge to such politicians is the sweetest of all morsels. With such men, neither I nor the people of that section of country in which I reside hold any communion.—There is between us and them no one principle of sympathy either in motive or action.

That wise, moral reflecting people, which constitute the great mass of the population of Massachusetts—indeed, of all New-England, look for the sources of their political duties no where else than in those fountains, from which spring their moral duties. According to their estimate of human life and its obligations, both political and moral duties emanate from the nature of things, and from the essential and eternal relations which subsist among them. True it is, that a state of war gives the right to seize and appropriate the property and territories of an enemy. True it is, that the colonies of a foreign power are viewed, according to the law of nations, in the light of its property. But in estimating the propriety of carrying desolation into the peaceful abodes of their neighbors, the people of New-England will not limit their contemplation

(Continued in page 32.)



Foreign.

Baltimore, Feb. 10.—The schooner Kemp, Capt. Barton, from Nantz, with a valuable cargo to Mr. George Williams, arrived at Annapolis yesterday. She sailed from Nantz on the 25th of December.

The Kemp came into the Bay at 12 o'clock on Saturday night through the British squadron at anchor inside the Capes, unobserved by them, and could distinctly hear the sentinels speak.

Captain Burton came up to the city last evening, and has very politely favored us with a file of Paris papers to the 21st of Dec.

The emperor Napoleon arrived at the Palace of the Thuilleries at eleven o'clock on the night of the 18th of December.—His arrival at Paris was most pompously announced in the French papers. We are inclined to think that the twenty-ninth bulletin, which is not in our file, concludes the campaign; that the remarks of the Paris Journal refer to it, and that the grand army are in winter quarters in the neighborhood of Wilna.

Paris, Dec. 20.—His majesty the Emperor arrived at the palace of the Thuilleries at 11 o'clock on the night of the 18th. The approach of his happy return was announced during that day by volleys of artillery.



THE WAR.

CHILICOTHE, January 23.

Extract of a letter from General Harrison to Governor Meigs, dated Head-Quarters, North-Western Army, Chillicothe, the 19th of January 1813.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the detachment under Col. Lewis, was completely successful in its attack upon the part of the enemy at the river Raisin. Their force there, consisting of several hundreds of Indians, and a company of militia which were placed behind pickets, were attacked by our troops, about three o'clock on the eighteenth instant.—The action continued till night, when the enemy were completely routed. The Indians suffered considerably—thirteen ran off with a piece of artillery in the commencement of the action. Our loss is ten killed, two captains and twenty privates wounded. Gen. Winchester marched yesterday with 200 men to take the command at the river Raisin; he will have 1000 effective men. I am this moment dispatching five companies more of Gen. Hopkins' brigade.

HORRID DISASTER.

Chillicothe, February 2.—Late last evening an express arrived in town, bearing letters from General Harrison to Governor Meigs. A number of letters have also been received from officers in the army, which contain the melancholy account of the total defeat of the advanced detachment under the command of General Winchester. Of the en-

agement at the River Raisin, on the afternoon of the 19th January, and the taking possession of that place by the force under Col. Lewis, the public are already informed. General Winchester reinforced Colonel Lewis with about 250 men on the 20th.—On the morning of the 21st, at day break, the American force was attacked by the British and Indians. The line was formed as expeditiously as was practicable, from the irregular manner in which our troops were encamped. To the centre were opposed the British, with from 3 to 6 pieces of cannon—the Indians on the flanks. The Americans are said to have fought bravely until they had exhausted their ammunition, of which General Winchester had not taken the precaution of supplying his troops; and they were scarcely able to fire five rounds. Those who surrendered on the field of battle, are said to have been made prisoners by the British, while those who attempted to make their escape were pursued by the Indians on horseback, tomahawks and scalped. The slaughter was very great, and Kentucky has lost many valuable citizens and brave officers. About 40 only have arrived at the head quarters of General Harrison. The opinions are various as to the force of the enemy—they are generally supposed, however, to have been 160 strong. Gen. Winchester was killed and his body mangled in the most horrid manner by the Indians. He is said to have lodged three fourths of a mile from camp the night preceding the engagement, and his officers were principally at private houses. The movement of General Winchester to the river Raisin was to secure a considerable quantity of provisions, & to protect the inhabitants.

Since the above was issued, another express has arrived in town, bearing a letter from Gen. Harrison to Governor Meigs, who has politely favored us with the following extract, dated.

Head-Quarters, Carrying River, Jan. 24.

Dear Sir—The event of which I expressed so much apprehension in my letter to you, from Lower Sandusky, has happened. The detachment under Col. Lewis was reinforced by Gen. Winchester with 250 men. He attended it, and took the command at the river Raisin on the 20th, & on the 21st, he was attacked at Reville, by a considerable British and Indian force with six pieces of artillery; the troops being surprised and the ground unfavorable, had but little opportunity of forming to advantage. They were surrounded and broke in 20 or 25 minutes. A major and captain and about 25 privates were all that effected their escape.

I had but 360 men with me, about 3 miles above the Rapids, where the news first reached me. I immediately ordered them to prepare to march, and set out with my staff to overtake a detachment of 300 men that had set out that morning for the river Raisin. I overtook them at the distance of 6 miles, but before the other troops (Colonel Andrews' Ohio regiment) came up, it was ascertained that the defeat was complete, and it was the unanimous opinion of general Payne, Perkins, and the field officers, that we should return. A detachment to the amount of 170 of the most active men, was sent forward with directions to proceed as far as possible to assist those who were fortunate enough to escape; there were however but few; and the snow was so deep that the fugitives were entirely exhausted in running a few miles; those that did get off effected it by turning down to the lake and securing themselves. I believe there were not more than 40 or 50 that got a mile from the scene of action, and the greater part of them were overtaken.

Never were the affairs of any army in a more prosperous situation than ours before the unfortunate step of marching the detachment to the river Raisin; it was made not only without any authority from me, but in opposition to my views. Every thing in my power was, however, done to prevent any disaster, and reinforcements were pushed on with as much rapidity as possible; (major Cotgrove's battalion, the first in the army) was within 14 miles of the scene of action, when he heard of the defeat, and 300 regular troops were also on their way. I remained at the Rapids with one regiment only. In justice to general Winchester, I must observe, that I have understood that the measure (marching the detachment to the river Raisin) was forced upon him by his officers; but, whatever may have been the cause, and however great the calamity, both as it regards the nation and individuals, it is certainly not irreparable. By the unanimous advice of the general & field officers, I took this position yesterday, for the purpose of forcing a speedy junction with the troops in the rear, and to cover the very valuable convoy of artillery and stores that are coming from Upper Sandusky. Unless the weather is very unfavorable, I shall be at the Rapids again in four or five days, and shall certainly give the enemy an opportunity of measuring their strength with us in another contest. For myself I feel no doubt as to the result, and if I can judge of the disposition of the troops, from the manner in which they received an address from me yesterday, a desire of avenging their lost companions and relieving their country's disgrace is the predominant passion that occupies their minds.

I know not what proportion the prisoners of Gen. Winchester's late troops bear to the killed; some of the French who have come in report the latter at 500 and others at 800.—The detachment amounted to near 1000.

I am, with much regard, dear sir,
Your humble servant,
WM. H. HARRISON.

His Exc. Gov. Meigs.

[The following is an extract of a letter allu-

ded to in the commencement of the above letter of Gen. Harrison. It was dated Lower Sandusky, January 19, 1813.]

Gen. Winchester has been at the Rapids since the 10th—he has pushed a detachment to the river Raisin. I have not learned the precise object. I shall set out this morning, and reach his camp this night. I have strong fears that colonels Lewis and Allen may be overpowered.

From the Albany Gazette, of Feb. 4.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Buffalo, to his friend in this city, dated on Wednesday last:—It is with extreme pain I inform you, that on Saturday last a flag came across from the English side, with captain Fitzgerald of the 49th regiment, informing the commanding officer on our side, that Gen. Winchester, and about 1000 men, were killed and taken prisoners, at the Miami Rapids.—That it was a dear bought victory for the British. He added that 600 of our men were killed and 400 taken prisoners. An express has been sent to General Dearborn, with this distressing intelligence, by Col. Porter, commanding at this post.

Extract of a letter from New-Orleans, dated December 12.

Mr. Fromentin has been appointed senator, in the room of Mr. Magudon.—Our army in this quarter is augmenting very fast. We shall have 10,000 men by the first of March.—None of our militia will volunteer or put themselves under the command of General Wilkinson. Our reinforcements are from Tennessee and Kentucky.

Norfolk, February, 12.—On Tuesday night a schooner which had been captured by the British squadron, drove from her anchorage and went on shore near Lynhaven river. In the morning, several boats were manned from the squadron, with a view to carry the schooner off, but they were attacked and driven back by the Princess-Anne militia. Another attempt was made under cover of a small tender, but with no better success. On our side no loss was sustained; of the loss of the enemy, we have no information.—Ledger.

Yesterday morning, the Richmond Cavalry, under the command of Captain Gamble, & in the afternoon the Richmond Rifle Company, under Captain Taylor, arrived in town. The detachments detailed from the 7th and 95th regiments, also arrived in town and were marched to their points of destination.

The zeal and ardor with which citizens of every situation and description have repaired to the post of threatened danger, furnish honorable testimony, that in defence of our country, we are not a divided people.—*ib.*

His Excellency Governor Barbour, accompanied by his aids Major Mercer and Campbell, arrived in town on Wednesday evening, and on yesterday His Excellency reviewed the 54th regiment and the detachment detailed from the 95th regiment.—*ib.*

Without stating particulars, (says the Norfolk Ledger) we are happy to say that the most extensive and efficient means have been adopted for the defence of this place.

The Bill appropriating \$50,000 as a reward for the gallant Hull and his brave officers and men, in the capture of the Guerriere, has been rejected in the House of Representatives—59 to 54! Thus has the gallant commander, his officers and crew, been rewarded, first for most extraordinary skill, which commanded the admiration of a discerning foe, in saving his ship from a superior force, and next in subduing his enemy.—We are happy to say, that the case of the *Macedonian* has been better settled.—It has been submitted to reference, and the ship has been given to the gallant Decatur and his brave crew. The United States have, we understand, taken the *Macedonian* at \$200,000 which she is well worth.—*ib.*

From the Richmond Argus, Feb. 4.

ALARMING—Letters from Norfolk received in this city by the last Mail, say that a respectable Captain of a Vessel of that place just arrived there from Bermuda has made OATH, that on his leaving that port, a number of British Vessels were engaged in taking on board CONGREVE ROCKETS, &c. &c. intended for an immediate ATTACK ON NORFOLK!

To the Editors of the National Intelligencer. 18th January, 1813.

Gentlemen—A publication signed "P. B. Porter" has appeared in sundry public prints, in which the writer professes to give a true account of the prominent transactions of the 23th November, and 1st of December, at Black Rock. Some facts are truly stated; but wherever the writer gives numbers, his statements are (I must presume wilfully) incorrect.

He states that on the 27th November there were collected near Black Rock 4500 effective men, under my command; that on the 28th 2000 or 2600 were embarked; that on the morning of the 1st December 4000 men without order or restraint were discharging their muskets at the navy yard. I affirm that on the 27th Nov. there were collected in the neighborhood of Black Rock not more than 3500 effective men, non-commissioned officers and privates, of every corps under my command; not more than 1500 were liable to be ordered to cross the Niagara, according to opinions generally