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LATEST FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 19.

The schr. Hazard, White, in 28 days from Leith in Scotland.

We have been politely favored by the owner of the schooner Hazard, with a London paper of the 15th, and a Leith paper of the 19th Oct. from which we make the following summary—

The Leith paper of the 19th contains London news one day later than by the arrival at New-York.

All the vines and cottons within 14 miles of Mount Vesuvius were destroyed on the 13th September by a volcanic eruption. Every thing within 20 to 30 miles was scorched. The vines in some places was 100 feet deep.

A tax was about to be imposed in Saxony on colonial produce to be in operation on the 8th Oct. of \$ 120 on every hundred weight of Indigo; 100 on the same quantity of cotton, and \$ 50 on every cwt. of coffee and sugar.

Accounts at Leith state, that a constant skirmishing had taken place between the French and British armies from the 20th to the 26th September, prior to the more general battle; in the different assaults the French loss is stated at 2000 killed, a General (Simon) 36 officers and 250 privates prisoners, the loss of the Anglo-Lusitanians 1206 killed, wounded and missing. Notwithstanding the boast of Lord Talavera, he is confessed to have retreated to the left of the Mondego, and Coimbra it was expected would fall into Massena's hands.

The fleet in the Scheldt was expected shortly to get to sea.

The long negociation between Mr. Mackenzie and the French government is broken off, the British refusing to accede to the French proposals which were, that in exchange for every three thousand French, the English were to receive 1000 English, 1000 Portuguese and 1000 Spaniards.

The French fleet in the Scheldt, consists of 10 ships of the line, 3 frigates, 14 praams and 22 gun boats.

The celebrated Maurice Margarat is said to be on his return from Botany Bay.

Bands have been sent under a strong escort, by Bonaparte, to Madrid for the discharge of all arrears due to the French armies.

The French have been dispossessed of Calatayud, a small fortified place 37 miles from Saragossa.

More troops are to be sent to Portugal to assist Lord Wellington in driving away from Massena.

A riot took place in Porchester Castle between the French prisoners and about 120 Germans and Swiss, who had enlisted into the British service, out of prison—military aid was called in for restoring order, which was done without blood-shed.

The ex-king of Sweden, count Gottorp, had so effected his escape to the English fleet, as to put off in a boat when he was fired upon by the guards, the commander of whom informed him, that his orders were to suffer him to return to Germany or to go into Russia, but by no means to suffer him to pass into Sweden or go on board the English fleet.

LONDON, October 8.

The following address to the citizens of Rome, was issued by Lucian Bonaparte, and privately distributed two days after he sailed, but was immediately suppressed by an official order:

TO THE CITIZENS OF ROME.

"In the bosom of retirement, occupied with no other cares than those of contributing to the happiness of my family and my neighbors, and resting on the classic territory of Rome, all that refined bliss which a mind imbued with a love of the arts can enjoy, I was assailed by the ruthless hand of despotism, rendered still more cruel by its being that of a brother; still more cruel, as he owes his life and his honors to my generosity.

"This infernal mandate was, that I should renounce an endeared wife, and desert those children whom nature identifies with my existence; that I should ascend a throne created by the most horrible perfidy, and unite efforts to despoil and ravage the yet unconquered part of the globe.

"Citizens, I had no choice between unconditional submission and immediate flight. I did not hesitate. The Tiber, on whose banks I had vainly hoped to pass my allotted term of life, received me in her bosom, and she will wait me, I trust, in safety, to those shores which, dreadful when sought in hostility, become a sure place of refuge to the destitute and the oppressed.

"Citizens, farewell! my gratitude is all I can leave behind. May your chains sit light upon you; or rather, may you soon cease to bear any, by the intervention of that Omnipotent vengeance, which sooner or later, punishes usurpation, tyranny and oppression.

"LUCIAN BONAPARTE."

October 13.

In the recent attack made upon the allied army in the Sierra de Busaco, almost the whole of the French army, consisting of the divisions of Ney, Junot and Mortier, to the amount of 70,000 men, were under arms; only 25,000, however, were engaged in the attack. The British and Portuguese under arms, amounted to no more than 50,000, of which but comparatively a small part was engaged. Our line extended no less than eight miles.

Massena directed the operations in person, and was conspicuous throughout the whole affair.

The different Marshals were at the head of their respective divisions. The French could not bring their artillery to bear, and such of their guns as were brought into action, were but indifferently served. The British artillery did execution.

From the 15th to the 27th there had been continual skirmishes, in which the British troops had uniformly the advantage. The battle of the 27th lasted four hours. After the battle, Massena sent in a flag of truce to request permission to bury his dead. The request was refused—but they were buried by the British. Besides the prisoners which we have already stated to have been taken, a great number of the wounded have fallen into our hands. A flag of truce, with money and other articles for General St. Simon, was sent to the British head quarters shortly after the battle.

During these operations, the Portuguese villages were uniformly abandoned, and every thing that could be serviceable to the enemy was destroyed.—The British army was abundantly supplied with every necessary, and was in excellent health and spirits.

We are concerned to mention that letters have been received from Bombay, communicating the melancholy intelligence of two officers, in the suite of general Malcolm, having been treacherously murdered by a Turk near Ispahan. The Embassy, which was only about eighty miles from the capital of Persia, on the 24th of May, was expected to make its entry with great pomp and solemnity on or about the 1st of June.

Lucien Bonaparte is, it is said, to be allowed to continue his voyage to America, and that orders have been sent from the Admiralty to afford him the necessary convoy thither.

A treaty of peace was lately concluded between the Portuguese Government and the Dey of Algiers. The former, however, being unable to fulfil one of its principal and most interesting stipulations, has published an address, requesting a voluntary subscription for the ransom of the Portuguese slaves at Algiers.

Retreat of the English Army.

LONDON, October 19.

The following intelligence is by the Elizabeth packet, from Lisbon, and may be relied upon. As has before been stated, Massena's army made a strong and rapid movement to outflank Lord Wellington's army on the Mondego.—This of course required a counteracting movement on the part of his lordship, and produced the battles of the 26th and 27th, at Busaco, near Coimbra, (a town on the Mondego a few miles from the Atlantic.) A general battle was expected on the 28th, which did not take place. On the 1st of October, after giving time to the inhabitants of Coimbra to remove themselves and valuables, Lord Wellington left the banks of the Mondego and retreated towards Lisbon; and on the 7th occupied a position extending from the Tagus to the ocean, on a chain of fortified heights.—His head quarters on that day were at Alcobaca, about forty miles from Lisbon; having his right at Alhandria on the Tagus, and his left at Peniche on the Atlantic. In this position, it is stated, he had about seventy thousand men, militia included, and was amply supplied. General Silveira and General Wilson, with a strong body of Portuguese irregulars, were hanging on the rear of Massena's army. The Marquis Romana with fifteen thousand men was on the south of the Tagus, following Lord Wellington's march.

Unless an immediate embarkation took place, a general and decisive battle could not be avoided. The English merchants had waited upon Admiral Berkeley for permission to embark on board the transports, but were denied as there was not shipping sufficient to take away the troops; and at the same time hinted that there was no great cause for apprehension.

It appears from Murat's account of the invasion of Sicily; that his troops went slowly over in a hurricane, and returned with great celerity in a dead calm!

Letters from the French coast, received yesterday, state, that eighteen cargoes of American produce, which had been confiscated were carried to Antwerp and sold the 15th ult. by the order of Bonaparte.

In case of Lord Wellington's being hard pressed by an overwhelming force or in danger of being turned; it was understood to be his intention to fall back upon his fortified positions in the neighborhood of Lisbon which it was expected he would be able to maintain for a considerable time.—The necessary precautions we are informed have been taken to bring off the army in case of any great disasters, or the impossibility of effectually resisting the enemy.

A party of armed peasants in the rear of the French army lately took about 2000 French soldiers and a colonel prisoners, to whom they read the French general's proclamation for giving no quarters to the Spanish peasantry; which done they immediately put them all to the sword.

Rear admiral Harwood (one of the Trafalgar heroes) boisted his flag on Thursday as second in command at Portsmouth, in the room of admiral Sawyer, who is going to Halifax.

FRANKFORT, (on the Oder) July 31.

An occurrence has happened in our neighborhood, which is looked upon as an example of divine justice. A woman believing her husband killed in 1806, at the battle of Jena, married again without scruple. The man had not been killed, but only wounded; he was cured by the

French, and entered the service in one of the Prussian regiments, which France raised at that period. After serving for more than three years in Spain, he suddenly returned to Prussia, and went to look for his wife. The latter was afraid to acknowledge that she had got another in his place, and suffered him to go to bed, but immediately induced the new husband to rid her of this returning importunate. The unhappy man is strangled and put into a sack, and then they set off to carry him away and throw him into the Oder. But the weight of the body burst the sack, and one foot came through. The woman hastened to sew up the torn place but did not perceive that at the same time, sewed the clothes of her accomplice. Being arrived at the bank of the river, she latter proceeded to a pier and endeavoured to throw over the body of his victim. He was dragged in with him, and was drowning, whilst the woman forgetting how important it was to her to hold her tongue, set a terrible cry. Some peasants ran up; the two criminals were arrested; and they confessed their crime with all its particulars.

Legislature of North Carolina.

(Omitted last week for want of room.)

SKETCH OF DEBATE

On the resolution from the House of Commons, relative to the Public Printing.

IN SENATE,

Saturday, November 24.

The resolution, as published in our last was read.

Mr. Mebane offered the following amendment:

"That a joint committee of both houses be appointed, whose duty it shall be to confer with the heads of departments of this state, and make use of any other means which to them may seem proper, to ascertain the true value of all the duties enjoined by law, on the public printer of this state, and that they report by bill or otherwise."

Mr. Brickell could not conceive that this amendment could have any good effect upon the resolution. It proposed to appoint a committee to make enquiries of the heads of departments in regard to certain public business. The original resolution embraced pretty nearly the same object. It contemplated a reduction in the price at present paid for printing, which was generally thought to be too great, and which opinion he believed to be correct. If this were considered to be the fact, why make the proposed enquiries? He did not think the heads of departments were the proper persons to apply to; he presumed the members of the house were as competent judges of the value of printing as either the Secretary, Treasurer or Comptroller. The proper place to make the enquiries, was of the printers themselves. It struck him that the resolution itself pointed out the proper mode of proceeding. It contemplated, in effect, if not in words, that enquiries were to be made of the different printers, on what terms they would do the work. He thought it a duty which gentlemen owed to their constituents to make this enquiry; and the mode originally contemplated did appear to be better than any other. The amendment could have no effectual bearing upon the subject, unless to produce delay; and believing this, he was of opinion it ought not to be received.—Had the question been upon the original resolution, he should have made a few further remarks. But these were his objections to the amendment—that it could have no good effect; that it would only produce delay; and that the printers themselves were the only correct judges of the value of their work. Some of these gentlemen had informed the legislature that they would undertake the public printing for a sum much less than that annually given. Then why appoint a committee? To enquire into what? For what the house already knew. The real worth of the work was what it could be done at. He saw no use, therefore, in the amendment. It only tended, and he believed was calculated, to produce delay; and he was therefore decidedly opposed to its adoption.

Mr. Mebane said as he was the person who had introduced the amendment, and believing the subject of some importance, it might be expected that he would attempt to advocate it. He would have been glad if he were qualified to do it completely justice. The gentleman who had preceded him, (Mr. Brickell,) appeared to object to the contemplated committee, on the ground that their enquiries were to be confined to the heads of departments. Had the gentlemen attended more closely to the language of the amendment, he would have found that that was not the case. They were first to apply to them, and see what knowledge they could obtain from that quarter; they might then take a general range. They might even apply to the gentleman from Franklin, (Mr. B.) who seemed to have so great an acquaintance with the subject.

The resolution, as it came to that house, contemplated that the printing should be done on the cheapest terms. This was the true system intended. The same method was to be adopted as in any other job of work, and the only enquiry to be made, was, "where is the person who will do it for the least sum?" If so, who would be likely to be the printer? It was well known.

What was the object in having the printing done by an officer elected by the legislature? Was it not that they wished so important a business, as that of printing their laws, to be completely and correctly executed? that all the duties attached to it should be carefully performed? And was it not of greater importance to the state that the

business should be done in the best manner than that a few hundred dollars in the price should be saved? It was of but little consequence who would do it for a few hundred dollars less if the business were well done. How happened it that a change was now found to be necessary? There had been an officer to execute the public printing ever since government was established, and it had been well done. He was fond of good old practices, which had the test of experience; and did not like innovations. What was the complaint? Had not the business been well done? Were not the laws properly printed and distributed to the several counties? No complaint had been heard. But it was said that too much money was paid for these services. This might be true for aught known, and admitting that it was the case he was willing to go into an investigation of the subject. This was the object of the amendment he had brought forward. He was not for giving Mr. Mebane, Mr. Boylan, or any body else, more than enough; but he would give for the services their full and just value. To obtain them for less was not honest; and to give too much was not fair. Let the true value be said, be first fixed, and then select the most proper person to discharge the duty. If the legislature were so frugal and parsimonious they might perhaps give the work to those by whom it would be worse done. And why not as well proceed to the reduction of the allowances to other officers?

But it was said that the business of printing was merely mechanical. Even admitting this, there were other appointments which were certainly as much so. What was the business of clerks of the house? The one was to read and the other to write. This was also mechanical. And why not give out their offices at the lowest rate? Persons could no doubt be found, who were competent and would be willing to discharge these duties for three dollars per day instead of six, though he did not say their pay was too great. If gentlemen were determined to offer any of the public offices to the lowest bidder, why not these as well as others? There were the door keepers, too. They received three dollars per day though he had no doubt persons could be found here, who would perform the duties for half that price. Then why not pursue the same system with regard to them. He hoped, in reducing the salary of a particular officer, they would not lose sight of others.

The spirit of party, Mr. M. thought, had too long prevailed in the legislature and throughout the country; but he was pleased to see that it had in some measure subsided. He was sorry to see it again stirred by a question of this kind. While that spirit prevailed there was little doubt but persons could be found to do the public printing for less than its real value. This would unquestionably be the case, and he did not wish to do any thing which would tempt men to act in this way. He wished to go on in the old way. If the salary was too much, let the legislature reduce it, and then elect whom they pleased. There were different printers in the place, and they were at liberty to make their choice.

Mr. Stude felt himself obliged to oppose the amendment, because it appeared to strike at the principle of the resolution. The object did not seem to be so much an amendment, as an entire destruction of the resolution from the house of commons. If he understood the scope of that resolution, it was this—that there existed a belief of a sum having been heretofore paid for the public printing, far exceeding what it was really worth. And considering the source of the information to be such as could not be relied on, a plan was proposed by which the difficulty could be removed. The Secretary of State, or some other of the public officers, was to receive proposals for doing the work, and to give it to the lowest bidder. It was not to be presumed that any printer would contract to do the work for less than its value, and it was important that it should be done for the least sum at which it could be procured. If more was given, it was wasting the money of their constituents to gratify their own whims and caprices. The amendment would defeat this object. It proposed the appointment of a committee, to make enquiries as to the value of the work, of such persons as they may think proper. They would of necessity, meet with different opinions. One person would say it was worth so much—another so much—and perhaps no two persons would agree. In this way it would be impossible to ascertain which of the opinions, was really the correct one. Then the most certain way would be to say to the public, that the printing was to be let out to the lowest bidder. All the proposals could be made, and proper security received from the person obtaining the contract. The desired point would then be arrived at; for it was not to be supposed that any man would do the work for a less sum than the actual value. But why need gentlemen trouble themselves about that? It was a subject for the calculation of the printers; not one which ought to bear upon the question. If any gentleman wished to employ a laborer, and two persons equally qualified, and equally to be depended upon, offered their services, he would certainly employ that person who should do the work for the least sum. If then gentlemen stood there as legislators, as representatives of the people, they should feel bound to act in this responsible station, as they would in their individual characters. He would deal out the public money, as if he were dealing it out for himself; & conceived that no one should act differently.

It had been observed that the office of public printer was one of long standing; and it seemed