

and was filled with floating ice, but its borders are covered with marshes 300 toises long and which renders it a difficult obstacle to overcome. The enemy's general had placed his four divisions in different passes when he supposed the French army would attempt a passage. The 26th at day break the emperor after having deceived the enemy by divers movements made on the 25th, marched against the village of Studzianca and caused likewise two bridges to be thrown over the river, notwithstanding a division of the enemy were opposed. The Duke of Reggio passed, attacked the enemy and kept them engaged two hours. The enemy retired to the head of the bridge of Borisow. Gen. Legrand an officer of the first merit was severely but not dangerously wounded, the army passed on the 26th and 27th. The Duke Bellune commanding the 9th corps had received orders to follow the movement of the Duke of Reggio, to compose the rear guard, and to detain the Russian army of Dwina which followed him. The division of Partonux composed the rear guard of this corps. The 27th at noon the duke of Bellune arrived with two divisions at the bridge of Studzianca. The division of Partonux left Borisow at night; one brigade of this division which formed the rear guard, and which was ordered to burn the bridges, set off at 7 in the evening, it arrived between 10 and 11 o'clock, endeavored to find its first brigade, and the general of division, who had set out two hours before. The search was fruitless—they then became uneasy. All that we have been able to hear since is that this first brigade set out at 5 o'clock, missed their way at 6, took the right instead of the left and went two or three leagues in that direction, that in the night and chilled with cold, it was roused by the fire of the enemy which they took for the French army. Thus surrounded, they must have surrendered. This cruel mistake has lost us 2000 infantry, 300 horses and 3 pieces of artillery, it is rumored that the general of the division was not with his column but had marched on a head. All the army having passed on the morning of the 28th, the duke of Bellune guarded the head of the bridge on the left bank, the duke of Reggio with all the army were on the right bank.

Borisow having been evacuated the armies of Dwina and Volhynie communicated, they concerted an attack; the 28th at day break the duke of Reggio caused the emperor to be informed that he was attacked; an half an hour afterwards the duke of Bellune knew it on the left bank, the army was under arms. The duke of Elchingen went to the assistance of the duke de Reggio and the duke of Treviso followed him. The fight became brisk, the enemy wished to break our right, Gen. Doumre, commanding the 5th division of Cuirassiers and composing part of the second corps who remained on the Dwina, ordered a charge of the cavalry by the 4th and 5th of the Cuirassiers, at the moment when the legion of the Vistula was engaged in the woods to pierce the centre of the enemy which was beaten and put to rout. These brave cuirassiers surrounded successively 6 battalions of infantry and put to rout the enemy's cavalry, which came to the assistance of its infantry; 6000 prisoners, 2 colours and 6 pieces of cannon fell in our hands.

The duke de Bellune caused the enemy to be vigorously charged, made 5 or 6000 prisoners, and drove them out of reach of the cannon of the bridge. Gen. Fournier made a handsome charge of the cavalry. In the battle of Beresina, the army of Volhynie suffered very much. The duke of Reggio was wounded, but not dangerously, by a ball which he received in his side. The morning of the 29th we remained upon the field of battle. We had to choose—that of Minsk and that of Wilna. The road to Minsk is thro' a forest and uninhabitable marshes, and it would have been impossible for the army to subsist. The road to Wilna on the contrary is through a very fine country. The army without cavalry, with but little ammunition, very much fatigued with 50 days march, bringing after it the sick and wounded of so many battles, required rest. The 30th, the head quarters were at Plechintsi; the 1st Dec. at Slaiki, and the 3d at Moledeitschno, where the army received the first convoys from Wilna. All the wounded officers and soldiers, and every thing that encumbered us, such as baggage, &c. were sent to Wilna. The result of the exposition just made is, that it is necessary for the army to recruit itself, to remount the cavalry, to provide artillery, and obtain provisions. Its greatest want is rest. The provisions and horses have arrived.

Gen. Boureier has already more than 20,000 in the different depots. The artillery has repaired its loss. The generals, the officers and the soldiers, have suffered much with fatigue and want. Many have lost their baggage in consequence of the loss of their horses—some by the ambuscades of the Cossacks. The Cossacks have taken many stragglers and engineers employed in making drafts, and wounded officers who marched without precaution, preferring to run risks, to march with the convoys. The reports of the general officers will shew those officers and soldiers who have most distinguished themselves, in the details of these memorable events. In all his movements the emperor has marched in the middle of his guards, the cavalry commanded by the marshal duke of Istria, and the infantry commanded by the duke of Dantzic. His majesty is satisfied with the good conduct his guard have shewn—they have been always ready to go where circumstances have required—but circumstances have always been such, that his simple presence has sufficed to inspire confidence and insure success.

The Prince of Neufchatel, the grand marshal, the grand master of the horse, and all the aid-de-camps and military officers of the household of the Emperor, have always accompanied his majesty. Our cavalry was so dismantled, that we could scarcely unite the officers who had horses, to form 4 companies of 150 men each. The generals performed the duties of captains, and the colonels those of sub officers. This squadron commanded by general Grouchy, and under the direction of the King of Naples, never lost sight of the Emperor in all his motions. The health of his majesty was never better.

WARSAW, Nov. 27.

We have intelligence from the corps of the army under the command of Prince Schwartzenberg the 14th and 17th of this month.

When Adm. Tschischagoff advanced upon Minsk, he left a considerable corps behind him, under the command of gens. Sacken and Essen, with orders to attack the prince Schwartzenberg's rear if he should attempt to follow Tschischagoff. It was probable that this corps was intended to act against the grand dutchy of Warsaw, if the plan of operations against Prince Schwartzenberg had succeeded.

The Russian army attacked the rear guard of the Saxon and Austrian corps, under the command of gen. Regnier, and the Saxon troops lately arrived under General Durette.

There was some sharp fighting on the 14th and 15th inst. when the Russians lost 1500 men killed and 500 prisoners. By information that has been just received from WILNA, more important results may be expected.

Already a courier has arrived here from general Regnier, bringing intelligence to gen. Dutaillis commandant of Warsaw, with intelligence that the Prince Schwartzenberg, had appeared suddenly with the auxiliary corps, near Izaelin and had a general action with the Russian army. At the departure of the courier 3000 prisoners had been made, with all the baggage, and a considerable number of waggons. The enemy were pursued on the road to Pruegana.

WILNA, Dec. 2.

An arrival from the head quarters at Borisow, gives the result of those grand movements, which we announced as having taken place on the Duna and the Borystines. It is now very clear what were the dispositions made by the Russians, in order to stop the march of the grand army, from reaching its winter quarters. The plan was profoundly conceived, but the execution of it was not quite so easy, against one of the greatest captains the world ever produced, and the first of armies. The Prince of Schwartzenberg was on the 10th of November at Slonin, distant from Borisow 30 leagues—the Emperor arrived on the 27th of November at the last named place.

It is now certain that all our communications are well established.

PARIS, December 16.

Letters from Warsaw, Wilna and Posen, say, that the divisions of Durette, Mgrange and Loisen, the Neapolitan division, the guards of Tuscany and Turin, the battalions of the Imperial guards, have reached the Niemen. This mass of forces amounted to 120,000 men, and will cause the Russians to pause. The union of the 2d, 9th and 10th corps, the Saxons and Austrians, will present an imposing force, and makes the grand army superior to what it was at the beginning of the campaign. In the front and rear of Moscow the Russians have made the country a desert, can they then maintain themselves on this side the Duna and the Borystines? That is a question which at this time presents itself.

We yesterday mentioned an intercepted letter from Bonaparte to his secretary of state, Maret, and gave an extract from it; we are happy now to have it in our power to lay the whole of that curious document before our readers.—London paper.

(Translations.)

Copy of an intercepted letter from the emperor Napoleon to the Duke of Bassano, dated Moscow, October 16, 1812.

"Duke of Bassano—I have with me at this place two Prussian regiments, who have distinguished themselves in the advanced guard of the grand army, but which, as may be expected, have suffered severely. Might not the king of Prussia relieve these regiments by two others, fresh and well mounted? The former might then return to Prussia, and become fit for service again. The king would be a gainer by this arrangement in every respect since there would not then be occasion to make such an immediate expenditure to remount these regiments, and it would besides add to the number of his skeleton regiments, which have been disciplined and practised in grand manoeuvres.

I have given to the Prussian contingent its natural direction, by sending it to Riga; but I should wish greatly that the aid of my 7th division were no longer necessary in that quarter—I wish to know, therefore, from the king of Prussia, whether he would not make an augmentation of one thousand cavalry and 6000 infantry, which might proceed to Riga and take the place of the 7th division; the king may easily draw these troops from Konigsberg, Colberg and Graudena, and thus they could arrive in a few days. These last would be replaced by those which might be drawn from a greater distance, by rendering effective some skeleton regiments, or ordering troops from Silesia; in this manner the king of Prussia would form a cordon of 4000 cavalry and 20,000 infantry.

It will be an easy matter for you to make him comprehend that it is his own interest that this war should be terminated quickly; because in the mean time he must be greatly inconvenienced by this struggle; and that there is only one effectual way of bringing the same to a termination, which is, to shew to Russia, by the powerful means which the emperor possesses of recruiting his armies, not only in his own state, but by the succours furnished by his allies, that the hope she cherishes of ruining the army is void of foundation, and perfectly illusory.

The same language must be held to Austria; the same to Bavaria, at Stuttgart, and every where else. I not only desire that reinforcements may be sent to me, but I also wish that their numbers may be exaggerated, and that those sovereigns do order to be inserted in their Gazettes, not only the great number of troops which they send off, but also that they double the number in their statement; and it is to be well understood, that the Prussian corps at present at Memel is to be included in these reinforcements. I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

(Signed) NAPOLEON.
Moscow, Oct. 16, 1812

Domestic.

BUFFALO, January 12.

Protection.—Arrangements are in great forwardness, we understand, for completely guarding the lake coast, since the lake has closed. During the last week, several families have removed from the country; we think their fears are groundless. We have no doubt but that we shall be effectually guarded. However, it would not be inconsistent with the principles of self preservation, that every citizen have his arms in good order, with a supply of ammunition.

It is rumored, that General Boyd has been assigned to the command on this frontier, and may be expected on here very shortly. Gen. Boyd is a skillful warrior; a brave man; his valor and skill have been tested in battle. We hope the rumor may prove true. We believe, even now, he would receive the confidence of the soldiery.

Cold Friday.—On Friday last, Fahrenheit's Thermometer stood at 12 degrees below cypher—the same degree of cold as on the coldest day of last season. The coldest day of last winter, was the second of March!

The lake between Sturgeon and Abino points, we believe, completely and effectually closed. Between Buffalo creek and Fort Erie, owing to the rapidity of the current, there are several places not yet closed.

OGDENSBURG, Jan. 13.

The weather has been very cold a few weeks past.—The St. Lawrence is frozen over, and already several deserters from Canada have arrived in this village, who passed over on ice. With regret we also add that since last Thursday five men, belonging to Capt. Forsyth's rifle company, have gone over to the enemy, carrying their rifles with them—three of these men we understand, were enlisted but a few weeks ago—they came from Canada and said they were deserters.—Deserters cannot be examined too scrupulously.

Several accounts from Buffalo, (says the Crawford Messenger) represent the U. States volunteers, quartered in that town, in a shameful state of insubordination. The inhabitants have requested Colonel Porter, the commanding officer, to withdraw them from the town, and at the same time petitioned the Governor of New York to send on a competent number of militia for the protection of the frontier. The public property there, is stated to be in a very exposed situation.

PLATTSBURG, Jan. 13.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

The state of hostility which exists between the Kingdom of Great Britain and the U. States, makes it necessary that the intercourse which may take place between this country and the adjacent Province of Canada, should be regulated on the principles which govern belligerent Nations.—I have had it in charge from the commanding General Chandler, that no person should be permitted to pass in or out without his permission, or, in his absence, the permission of the commandant of the District of Champlain. This order has been communicated to the commanding officer on the lines, and will be strenuously enforced.

Some members of the community have been found so void of all sense of honor—love of country, or any other principle which has governed the virtuous of all nations and ages, as to "hold correspondence with and give aid and intelligence to our enemies." It therefore becomes my duty, to put the laws in full force. The two following sections of the Rules and Articles of War, which are equally binding on the citizen as the soldier, are published for the information of the public, that no one may plead ignorance; as from this time henceforward they shall be enforced with the greatest severity.

"ART. 56. Whosoever shall relieve the enemy with money, victuals or ammunition, or shall knowingly harbor, or protect an enemy, shall suffer DEATH, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a Court Martial.

"ART. 57. Whosoever shall be convicted of holding correspondence with or giving intelligence to the enemy, either directly or indirectly, shall suffer DEATH, or such other punishment, as shall be ordered by the sentence of a court martial."

Z. M. PIKE.

Col. 15th Inf. commanding West Lake Champlain.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

The House of Delegates have been engaged during the two last days in debating Mr. Archer's Resolution.

On Thursday it came before the house in the following form:

Resolved, That the sum of dollars be appropriated by law for the purpose of a loan to be offered on behalf of this Commonwealth to the Government of the U. States, to be applied in building of a ship of the line or other vessel of war for the use of the U. S.

On motion, the words in Italics were stricken out, and the object confined to a mere loan to the U. States. Messrs. Archer, Barbour and Pope advocated the resolution.—Messrs. Leigh, Upshur, Mercer and Blackburn opposed it. The argument took a wide range.

The foes of the resolution dwelt upon the impropriety of borrowing the money of the banks according to the terms which had been suggested. They said that it would be stripping the state of the means of self defence—that it was improper for the States to be propping by such subsidiary aids the general government—that administrations hereafter obnoxious to the majority of the people might put at defiance the voice of the people at large by drawing their resources from particular sections of the country—and that it was weakening the arm of the general government to do for them what they ought to do for themselves—that they ought to exercise the powers which they constitutionally possessed, and to lay the taxes if they wanted the money.

The friends of the resolution said, that the Legislature were not bound to borrow of the banks on the terms which had been suggested—that they might agree on certain terms of a loan and leave it to the banks or other sources to fill it up—that it was not stripping the state of her defence, for by the report of the committee of Finance, they

were about to appropriate \$30,000 to the Commonwealth Fund, and \$50,000 to the purchase of munitions; and after all there would remain in the public treasury near \$100,000—that Virginia was bound to redeem the pledge which she had given to the U. S. of life, of fortune, and of sacred honor, to aid in the prosecution of the present just and necessary war—that it would set an example of public spirit which would be felt through the whole community—that the United States wanted the money, and the State was able to loan it without any detriment to herself.

It is here proper to remark, that the Bank of Virginia offered a loan to the state of 300,000 dollars, at ordinary interest, renewable after the first year, if the present property of the Bank should continue.

Yesterday, about 4 o'clock, the question was taken on the resolution as amended, and last—Ayes 81, Noes 92. No more professions, say we, let us be done with words, and resolutions and pledges.

Waleigh:

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1813.

Popularity of the War. Virginia was the first state in declaring for war; her legislators and her citizens pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honors in its support. One would therefore suppose that the measure would at least be popular in a state so active in bringing it about and making such large professions of zeal towards the cause. But Virginia, when the thing is put to the proper test, miserably fails in proof. To use a figure, the powder of the ancient dominion can throw off a wad of tow or paper, but has not strength to discharge metal. By referring to the proceedings of her legislature, copied into our print of this week, it will be seen that the state has refused to loan a cent to the general government!—What then becomes of their pledge respecting fortune? And if they will not redeem that, in what aspect must we regard the other about honor?—Perhaps it is considered, in the Virginia system of political morality, honorable to make a pledge of fortune, but quite silly for any body to think the pledge in earnest. Like Jack, when he vowed to give the Virgin a wax-candle as big as the main mast, Virginia was possibly only coaxing the U. States. At all events one conclusion is arrived at. The war may be popular in Virginia; but it is not so popular as that she will lend money towards its prosecution.—This is sufficient to enable sensible men to understand the true state of the question.

A plain, honest old merchant. The Register of last week bestows this title upon Mr. Widgery, a member of congress, from Massachusetts. Perhaps the public will be better enabled to judge of the correctness with which the terms are applied when we shall have thrown a little light upon the subject. It would be ungrateful in any citizen of the southern portion of our country to quarrel with Mr. Widgery for paying to its industry and other good qualities the handsome compliments in which it appears he indulged. On our part, we are far from having any such disposition. Indeed, no better can be done than to imitate his politeness. He has complimented the southern population on their industry; now he shall receive due acknowledgments for his enterprise!

It appears that during the embargo, when a great majority of our eminent traders were too sluggish and faint hearted to violate the laws of their country, honest Mr. Widgery came on to this State, purchased a cargo, eluded the vigilance of the custom house officers, and sailed off to England, where of course he met with good customers and a handsome profit!! We are informed that this is well known and freely spoken of in Wilmington, the port whence he sailed. This is further substantiated by something that occurred in congress at the last session. Mr. Widgery, as is perfectly natural to all plain, honest old men, was heartily abusing those who could violate the public laws and countenance the enemy. He was asked, if he had not been in England during the embargo, and how he got there? Yes, says he, I was; and I got there—by water. So it appears honest old Mr. Widgery was too careful a man to neglect the main chance, on account of a musty old parchment law; at least this is our information, derived from the most respectable source.

Should what we have asserted prove correct, we shall not hereafter wonder to hear Paine praised for sobriety and Arnold lauded for patriotism.—Plain, honest old gentleman! Ah; what a pity, that our extravagant, thoughtless spendthrifts, who would rather see their vessels rot in dock than break through the meshes of knotty statutes—what a pity they had not a little of thy prudence and zeal. If in possession of but a fifth part, they might go on, get praise for honesty and all that patriotism, &c. yet pocket snugly the profits of a commerce—a little illicit it is true, and involving a good many little crimes, such as false swearing & forgery—and occupying a seat on the floor of congress, abuse all Tories and traitors, and laugh at the credulity of the people!

One thing by way of remark: Patriotism, now-a-days, is made by many to consist in an inveterate hatred to your native country and a wish to involve it in all possible difficulties and dangers.

Our Armies. The friends of the war and of the administration are assuredly correct on one point—that is, the absurdity of marching against the enemy, a force which, at the instant it reaches a certain line, can stop short and refuse to proceed an inch farther. But although there is an absurdity in the thing, we are by no means convinced that the difficulty does not really and constitutionally exist; nay, that it is not an insuperable one.—Happy, in all likelihood, may it yet be found; and what now to us appears ridiculous, be, to the honest and true interests of the Union, eventual salvation. Such an obstruction may prove an effectual check to the spirit of ambition and foreign conquest, passions, we grieve to see, spreading so wide and poisoning so much virtue among us. The downfall of Rome is dated from the conquest of Carthage; and she that was once the world's mistress is now the slave of a despot. How then, practising the same crimes, could we hope for a better fate? Should we not fear, that if we dare so offend we must thus