

and that, by a signal judgment, the pride and vanity of nations should be humbled in the degradation of the most powerful republics of ancient and modern times? How would it look to see the shade of Roman greatness and the distorted image of American freedom, both prostrate at the feet of the same conqueror? Yet our ambition might work that mischief. It may therefore be fortunate that the better portion of our fighting men cannot be matched beyond our limits.

No writer has made it perfectly clear that militia can be held to serve further than the authority extends by which they were called into the field. One of these is a mere temporary soldier, under the laws of the land. Under them all infractions of duty must be tried and punished. But when he is removed out of their region; that is, to say, as he sets foot on a soil where other authorities and different laws prevail, how can he be bound by the former ones, and how can the arm of justice inflict a penalty, where the delinquent has got beyond the sphere of its action? There is a wide difference between a regular soldier and a militia man. A soldier of the regulars may be punished by death for desertion; a militia man cannot. One may be put to hard labor, be curtailed of his rations, and be punished in various ways, under army regulations, which do not at all apply to the other. The one description of force is to be used for every purpose; the other for two purposes only—defence against invasion and the maintenance of internal tranquility. We, in the most unqualified manner, condemn the conduct of the militia who refused to cross the river at the affair of Queens-town. But we cannot join in the senseless clamors, against the whole yeomanry of the country, which the administration has procured to be kept up, because the militia will not aid them to conquer Canada. Every one knows that raw militia will not fight in a pitched battle. But what of that? In every free country, which has yet been invaded, where they had arms in their hands, they have been of vital importance. They did not, to be sure, in the revolution, fight at Guilford, but they began the war at Lexington, and contended nobly at the battle of Bunker's Hill. The most essential service of militia is to harass and hold the enemy in check, until an efficient regular force can be raised.—The history of Switzerland will show that militia, in defence of their homes and firesides, can and will fight with tremendous effect.

In abusing the militia more than is warranted, the friends of the administration only expose the folly of their leaders. Many of these latter thought or pretended to think that Canada could be conquered with militia in six weeks. Their folly then is made glaring, when we see that they calculated on an important effect from means totally inadequate to produce it. Militia never can wage war with advantage; and it was absurd to draw them to the lines, in hopes to overcome Canada by their assistance. Nor is the project of 25,000 regulars, for one year, a whit wiser.—What experienced man can expect, from such a crude expedient, anything but disappointment? More than one half of them will have served their period of a year before the other half can be enlisted. More than a year's experience is necessary to form a good soldier: so that it is evident no good soldiers can be expected in this corps. Besides, their enlistments will be so scattered, their numbers so vacillating and uncertain, that they never can be rendered effective. They will be as expensive as regulars, but as inefficient, for aggression, as any body of militia whatever.

We had no northern mail last Tuesday, probably owing to the badness of the roads. Yet our paper will not be found deficient in interest. The 29th French bulletin, unquestionably authentic, completely confirms the accounts stating the ruin of their army.

**FRENCH FLEET.**  
Several letters from Boston, New York and elsewhere, mention that a French fleet of six sail of the line and five frigates, has arrived at Newport, Rhode-Island.

Jesse Bledsoe, is elected a Senator of the U. S. from the state of Kentucky, in place of Mr. Pope, whose term of service expires 4th March next.

**NORFOLK BLOCKADED.**  
The British squadron, under Admiral Warren, appeared in Hampton Roads on the 4th inst. and are now blockading the Chesapeake. They have made several captures; and, it is said, threaten to destroy Norfolk. The frigate Constellation narrowly escaped, being aground but a short time before the fleet appeared in view.

**BILL RESPECTING SEAMEN.**  
The following are its principal provisions: After the treaty of peace with Great Britain no seamen are to be employed in our public or private ships but our natural born citizens, "or citizens of the United States at the time of such treaty being made and concluded," or persons who had previously declared their intention to become citizens under the existing laws. No naturalized seaman is to be employed unless such person previously produce to the commander of the public ship, or the collector, &c. the certificate of his having been naturalized. The consuls or commercial agents of foreign nations in our ports may state their objections to the commander or collector as to any particular seaman, &c. and be present at the time when the proofs of such person's nativity or citizenship shall be investigated by such commander or collector.

Every commander of a public ship of the U. States to pay 1000 dollars for employing any person prohibited by this act. The master and owner of a private ship to pay 500 dollars for the same.

The Senate of Pennsylvania have rejected the bill from the House of Representatives, for building a frigate and sloop of war—there were but four votes in favor of the measure.

**ROANOKE NAVIGATION.**  
The Legislature of this State at their last session, passed a law to incorporate a company for

the purpose of opening the Falls of Roanoke River. The advantages that would result from the execution of this undertaking, are incalculable. The Roanoke is navigable for Batteaux, for upwards of two hundred miles above the falls. This river flows through a very rich and fertile country, producing a vast quantity of wheat, corn, cotton tobacco, beef, pork, &c. &c. all which articles, are carried to Petersburg, Richmond, and other places in Virginia, by land carriages, at a vast expence. If a passage thro' the falls can be made for boats, this commerce will take another and more advantageous course. It will be carried by water from the mountains to Plymouth, Edenton, and if the owners think proper, through the Canal, that now joins the waters of the Albemarle Sound to those of the Chesapeake Bay, to Norfolk and thence to Baltimore, &c. A water carriage may thus be made from Danville to any of the large trading towns of Virginia or Maryland. From Plymouth or Edenton, vessels sail to any part of the world. So the owner of the produce could choose his market, and get the best prices that could be attained any where.

The advantage of water carriage over land carriage, is so evident, that I need say but little upon it, viz. a hoghead of tobacco cannot be waggoned from Roanoke to Petersburg for less than twelve dollars, the same can be carried by water from Halifax to Norfolk for two dollars and a half, or less; so in proportion with every other article. The boats can take cargoes of salt, iron, sugar, coffee, rum, molasses, &c. &c. purchased much lower than the people above get them at now. Boats carrying sixty Barrels of flour, now come down the river to the falls, and then it is waggoned to Murfreesborough and other places. Some of these Batteaux's now go through the falls and down the river with safety, when the river has a small swell. This proves that there is not near the difficulty of opening these falls as some think. The stock of this company is to the owner his heirs and assigns for ever; an advantage which the stockholders of very few corporations possess. Less than one hundred thousand dollars will open the falls of this river; yes, the negroes belonging to the rich planters in its neighborhood would open it in autumn, if they had an engineer. The stock in this company will be worth more than any bank stock in N. Carolina or Va.

The land above the falls of Roanoke would increase in value from twenty five to thirty per cent. if this river is made navigable. It is to be hoped that farmers and mechanic men will soon fill up the subscriptions when opened, which will be shortly. The shares are, one hundred dollars each, payable by instalments, the first instalment, a very small sum.

There is not a river in the United States, as large and long as Roanoke, but what is made navigable. See what the patronage of General Washington has done for Virginia—nearly all her great rivers are made navigable as high up as they can swim a canoe. Let us take the example.

We understand boats are now built and building at Norfolk, which will navigate the Roanoke, the Sound and the Dismal Swamp Canal with safety. What an immense saving it then will be for the farmers of the upper counties to bring their produce to Halifax, and to boat it to Norfolk. *Halifax paper.*

Arrived at this Port on Thursday the Schooner Lilly Joseph G. Wicker Master. Sailed from New York on the 18th day of January, on the 25th of said month was boarded by the British frigate Junon of 44 guns and plundered of all her freight consisting of Dry goods, &c. in company with the Maidstone and several other ships of the British Navy.

The Commander of the Junon permitted Captain Wicker and his passengers to retain all their property, cargo of Merchandize excepted; their trunks were not opened, and not an article was removed from the Cabin. The vessel was permitted to proceed without injury. Our friends and allies the French burn, sink and destroy our vessels on the Ocean. Our own ships and privateers publish a boasting account of the numbers of the enemy's ships whom not finding worth sending in, they have burnt at sea: But our Enemies with whom we are at open war, permit the vessels to depart uninjured—an example of generosity worthy of imitation. *Newbern paper.*

Extract of a letter from a gentleman near Buffalo, dated Jan. 14.

"The report, as I already mentioned, of Gen. Boyd's being about to assume the command on the Niagara frontier, has given lively hopes to the army. He, it is expected, will correct abuses, and relieve them from the odious conduct of a *dent-brute*, of a whimsical savage—who ought to be placed in a museum, or sent into a forest with the orang-outang.  
"The lake being frozen over, our guards are extended, up and down the beach for safety.—Caution is prudent, but I do not expect a visit from the British. They will remain on the defensive, as I judge.  
"The season has assumed a settled character, and I hope sickness will be nipped by the frost.—Sleighing is universal here for business and for pleasure. Though the cold is intense, none suffer by it unless the shivering sentinel."

**MURDER.**  
Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Nottoway county to his friend in Manchester, Virginia, dated

January 26th,  
"On Tuesday night last one of the most shocking murders was committed on Minor Mallory, of our neighborhood, that ever disgraced our part of the country: he was sitting quietly at work in his shop when some monster crept up to the window, and literally blew out his brains—he immediately fell dead—and this while his poor wife was, and is still, and has been for months, bedridden. Ingenuity is at a loss, as yet, to attach suspicion to any person, without hazard of error, but we hope that some clue will be discovered—every man with whom I have conversed ardently desires to subscribe something to induce a discovery of the murderer. I wish you would have it published. I suppose no printer who is a friend to justice

would charge a cent,] and I pledge my honor in the most solemn manner, that \$200 shall be the reward of any person who shall make the discovery."

The bill has passed the House of Representatives for the better organization of the Militia of the U. States, by dividing it into three classes, viz: the *Minor*, to comprise all persons liable to Militia duty between the age of 18 and 21 years; the *Junior*, to comprise all between 21 and 31; and the *Senior*, to consist of all between the age of 31 and 45. The bill makes these classes liable in time of need to perform particular duties; the younger classes of course being those most liable to be called into the field.

The following letter is extracted from a paper friendly to the administration, and was penned by a democratic officer. When the measures of government meet with condemnation in such a quarter, surely federalists are not to blame for expressing their opinions:—

Living in the western country, and having with regret seen volunteers and militia returning home, breathing no note but of murmuring and complaint. I learn that the poor *regulars* dare hardly complain of ill usage, and that the *volunteers*, when they make requisitions on the quartermaster, for those things to which *positive laws* entitle them, are flouted, and in effect refused. The quartermaster (whose actions and deportment usually say, like Costard in the play, "I Pompey am, Pompey surnamed the big") the quartermaster I repeat, generally observes on such occasions, "I have more trouble with your corps than with all the *regulars*," and the like. I do not think that the completion of slavery is the perfection of discipline—nor can any course be wise which debases and degrades mankind.

The government has, some how or other, appointed characters who are not only injurious to its cause, but absolutely hostile to the principles on which it is established. Such fellows do vast mischief in the army.

Is it not wrong to grant a subsidy of an annual kind to the quartermasters? I believe them at this moment the greatest enemies the army have.

Go on with army levies, and I hope to see revived the virtue of '76: I hope to see states, not coming forward with *vapouring and disgusting resolutions*, as long each as a manifesto; but contributing sums to raise legions for the national service. It is high time they cease to prosecute pestiferous intrigues to foist the most incapable men into the highest stations civil and military. Such conduct has deeply wounded our interests; it is such conduct that burdened the army with Dubois's and Snyth's and *Dearborn's*, and filled civil stations with the offals of society. It is time that baseness found its level, and that worth were promoted to its proper station.

When an Albany company of volunteers applied to him for arms, I am informed, and from the most respectable source, that our commander in chief observed, "What's the use of giving arms to these Irish \*\*\*\*\*? Sure, if they are taken in Canada, they'll be hanged or shot." This doctrine tallies with the Prince Regent's proclamation about non-expatriation! There is one danger in appointing *old characters* to offices—they rely rather on what they were, than on what they are.

It is said that the Russian Minister lately offered his mediation for the restoration of peace between the United States and Great Britain, but it was declined by Mr. Madison. *Fed. Rep.*

A Frenchman in the city declared a short time since, that to his certain knowledge, at least 30,000 French troops were now in the United States, scattered in various directions, to be embodied at a signal. Three rascals, no doubt belonging to this corps, were badly wounded in Charles street, and were secretly conveyed off the ground. They were attended by a French doctor in Baltimore. We have not been able to learn what has since become of them. It is, however, certain, that the number of foreigners, mostly French, in the mob, were ten to one.—*Fed. Rep.*

From some observations of a Boston writer we select the following pertinent and sensible remarks on the French bulletins.

The 27th Bulletin evidently labors to diminish the importance of the battle of Matojarslavetz, and furnishes conclusive proofs of the decisive termination in favor of the Russians. Matojarslavetz is to the south of Mojaisk about 30 miles, and in a direct line from the main Moscow and Smolensko road. The French stepped aside to drive the Russians from that town, and the combat began on the 24th. Bonaparte admits the Russians occupied very advantageous heights, but says they were driven back with great loss; and yet on the 25th his whole army appeared only in order of battle; in other words, instead of pursuing, expected to be attacked by a beaten enemy!!! Here suddenly, and no doubt purposely, the account is broken off; and the reader is carried to Bonaparte at Grodnevo, a village on the main road a few miles northwest of Mojaisk. Here we had him attacked by 6000 Cossacks, and tho' he says they were sabred and otherwise destroyed, the admission that they had taken 6 pieces of cannon from a park which is always in the centre of an army, and the remarkable expression that "at 8 o'clock order was re-established," plainly shew the attack was very important, and that there was disorder; which in the French nomenclature is synonymous with defeat. On the 25th the Emperor went to his army at Matojarslavetz, to reconnoitre the position of the enemy, the position from which, we were told in the beginning, the enemy was driven back!!! This curious enemy, that seemed to appear where he was not, retreated again, and was suffered to do so; but observe, the *humane* conqueror, out of pure compassion, returns on the 26th to Borovsk, and on the 27th to Vereja, two towns which lie directly on the line of the *backward* progress to the main road from which he advanced to the attack. Who does not perceive he was beaten and compelled to fall back? The loss he acknowledges, and the death of his favorite Gen. Deizov, confirmed still further this supposition. As to his speculations about the Russian infantry, and grey jackets, they are too ridiculous, and deserve no

more notice than his humanity, which in the 26th bulletin, prevented him from destroying poor Russians by fire.

28th Bulletin gives us a pretty accurate idea of all the horrors and privations which the French have suffered; of the destructive activity with which they were pursued; and of the complete success of Wintestein, who drove St. Cyr over the Dwina, and crossed the river in pursuit.

The language of the bulletin, if properly translated, would read thus: St. Cyr beat Wintestein, but ran away in order to form a junction with Victor; and to beat the beaten Russian at some other time! A child might make out a more consistent story, were it not for the impossibility of getting over the stubborn fact.

In short from attentively perusing the French account, we are convinced the success of the Russians is much greater than they themselves in the first instance claimed. From the slight way in which Bonaparte mentions the defeat of St. Cyr, we have reason to suppose the defeat of Murat, on which he dwells with such evident chagrin, to be more decisive and extensive in its effects than was at first apprehended. It is further evident that at Smolensko he is as badly lodged, and perhaps worse than even at Moscow; and that no place short of Warsaw or Konigsberg can afford him winter quarters; to obtain which he must march 500 miles in the depth of winter, through a Russian army from Moldavia, which was supposed to be posted at Minsk, directly in his front, and if so, must inevitably intercept him. If he escape safe, two thirds of his army at least will be left behind; and no temptation on earth will ever again induce him to invade Russia. Nor will he be able to turn his arms against others, and against Spain in particular; for the Russians unquestionably will follow him, and every territory he quits in retiring home, will give him a new enemy, whom the terror of his name can no longer hold in passive obedience. Prussia will be reinstated, and Germany, if there be any virtue left in it, will recover its independence.

Since writing of the above, the English papers have come to hand, and confirm the advance of the Moldavian army to Minsk; St. Cyr's army is almost destroyed; and is separated from the main French army, Bonaparte is completely intercepted. There is reason to suppose that Victor's corps is in the same predicament.

Mr. Editor—I am a curious, inquisitive fellow, and would be glad to know, how much longer can a man live under privations which kill a horse? How much stronger are the French soldiers, or more tenacious of life than any other? Can famine, fatigue, frost, the sword or the Cossack's spear assail them like other men, or are they proof against all? If more than 3000 draft horses are acknowledged as lost in the retreat—and I am told by the established rule of decyphering the French bulletins, we may add one 0 more—what must be the proportion of men that perished, and cannon that was lost for want of horses to draw them. If you are kind enough to answer these questions, that is, if you can and will answer them, you will greatly oblige your most obedient and humble servant.

*Boston Repository.*

**THE MINT.**  
The Director of the Mint has reported that during the last year there were coined as follows:

Pieces	Value.
Of Gold 58,087	\$290,435 00
Of Silver 1,628,009	814,029 50
Of Copper 1,075,500	10,755 00
Total value	1,115,219 50

He also reports that the supply of gold and silver bullion continues to be abundant.

In June last, a British force under Col. Gillespie, took by assault, in the Island of Java, the castle and fortified district of a native Prince, the Emperor Sooloo, Sultan Djocjocarta. The place was defended by 17000 men who were destroyed or made prisoners of, and 92 pieces of cannon and much ammunition and treasure were taken.

Accounts from the frontiers say that the U. S. volunteers have made an attack on fort Erie; and that the British attacked Sackett's Harbor and destroyed our flotilla.

The frigate Essex has captured a British packet with 70,000 dollars, specie, on board. She took the money out and ordered the prize to America; but the latter was re-captured.

**A BARGAIN.**

I OFFER FOR SALE my store of BOOKS & STATIONARY, and will give a credit of one, two and three years. I expect to receive in a few days a large supply from Philadelphia, to make the assortment more complete. The whole stock shall be put at such prices as cannot fail to be an object to a person who wishes to establish himself in a profitable trade. It is unnecessary to say that to a young man who has some knowledge of Books, and who does not like the drudgery of a Profession, this establishment promises profit, respectable acquaintance, and may afford time to pursue his studies.—Undoubted security will be required, if necessary, a small sum of money can be had to keep up the assortment. Letters on the subject, post paid, will be attended to.  
—If no sale be made in a few weeks, I shall enlarge my assortment.

Feb. 12, 1813. W.M. BOYLAN. 80.1F

**STRAYS.**

STRAYED from town last fall, a red and white STEER, three years old, with a half crop in the right ear, commonly termed an under square. Also, a red yearling BULL, of the same mark.—Information of these Strays will be thankfully received by  
W.M. BOYLAN,  
Who wishes to employ three or four WOOD CUTTERS for one month.  
Raleigh, Feb. 19, 1813. 80.1F