

Foreign.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 8.

VERY LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM LONDON VIA LISBON

By the arrival of the fast sailing ship Ann... Donalson, in 29 days from Lisbon, the... of the Freeman's Journal has been favored...

Despatches had been received from Lord Cath... dated the 23d and 25th of November, contain... an account of a continued series of vic... and successes obtained by the Russians...

General Count Lambert, has defeated the advanced guard under Dombrowski, and made 3000 prisoners; the killed are in proportion.

Count Wittgenstein is at Copsysse, in communication with Admiral Tchitchagoff. In his report of the 24th November, he states that he had killed a great number of the enemy and taken 800 prisoners.

INTERCEPTED LETTERS.

From the Viceroy of Italy to the Prince of Neuchatel.

"I have the honor to inform your Highness, that I put myself in motion this morning at four o'clock; but the difficulties of the ground, and the frost, caused so many obstacles to the march of my corps, that the head only was able to arrive at six o'clock in the evening, and the tail only enabled to take a position at nearly two leagues in the rear.

"From two to five o'clock the enemy presented himself upon my right. He attacked almost at the same time, the head, the centre, and the tail with artillery, Cossacks and dragoons. At the head he found an opening of which he took advantage to make a detour, and carry off two regimental pieces from a very steep declivity, and distant from their escort. The 9th regiment of infantry ran to their assistance, but the pieces were carried off.

"The rear guard of the enemy fired with four pieces of cannon, and General Orlando believes, without affirming it, to have seen infantry; upon each of the other points, he had two pieces.

"Your Highness will easily judge that embarrassed by my heavy baggage, and a numerous artillery, 400 horses belonging to which have, with out exaggeration, died to day, my position is critical enough. I will, nevertheless, continue my movement early to-morrow, to arrive at Polighe. From thence I will send for intelligence, and according to what I learn, I will either proceed to Douchovitchina, or to Pueblo.

"I ought not to hide from your Excellency, that after having employed every means, I now find it impossible to carry off my artillery; and that, under these circumstances, you must expect very great sacrifices. To-day, several pieces have been spiked and buried. I am, &c."

Upon the Passage of the Voss, Nov. 8.

"Enclosed, I forward your Highness a letter which I wrote yesterday, but which did not arrive, the officer who was the bearer having been led astray by his guide.

"Your Highness will be surprised at still finding me only on the Voss. I nevertheless left Salsie this morning at five o'clock, but the road is so intersected with ravines, that it required me considerable efforts to arrive here.

"It is with pain that I am under the hard necessity of confessing to you the sacrifices we have made to alleviate our march. These three days have cost us two thirds of the Artillery of the Corps d'Armee. Yesterday there died about 400 horses, and to day perhaps double that number have perished, without comprising the great number of horses which I have taken from general and particular services. Whole teams perish at the same time. Several of them have even been renewed three times. To-day the Corps d'Armee has not been annoyed; some Cossacks only, without artillery, have appeared, which appears to me very extraordinary; and if we may believe the report of a voltegeur, who was sent on a foraging party, it would appear as if a column of infantry, artillery, and cavalry, were following the same direction we take, viz. upon Douchovitchena. To-night I send a strong reconnoissance upon Douchovitchena, where I reckon upon being to-morrow, if the enemy do not oppose a serious resistance, for I ought not to conceal from your Highness that these three days sufferings have in such a degree cast down the spirits of the soldiers, that, at this moment, I believe them very incapable of making any efforts; many men have died of hunger or cold, and others in despair have allowed themselves to be taken by the enemy."

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman in Bordeaux, dated 13th October.

"Mr Barlow has positively received from the Emperor assurances of his high satisfaction on account of the 'glorious conduct,' as he expresses it, of the Americans, in contending with England for the maintenance of their Maritime Rights; and his Majesty promises to grant to their trade every facility. The Minister who was appointed some time ago to negotiate with Mr. B. (in the place of the Duke of Bassano, who was too much occupied) has received orders to renew the negotiations, and bring them to an immediate termination. The Minister of Marine has instructed the Maritime Prefects to treat the prizes sent into French ports by American privateers, agreeably to the Convention of 1800, and that the American Consuls are to have extensive jurisdiction over them. He adds, 'the Custom House will of course exercise their accustomed authority to see that the Revenue Laws are complied with.' We shall shortly know how the Minister of Commerce means to treat the affair; we may infer favourably, as all the Ministers act subordinate to the will of the Emperor; no one of them dare take on himself a decision of any importance but in consequence of his will—which serves as a general guide to the various branches of administration. American privateers need not now, in my opinion, hesitate to enter our ports, or to send in their prizes. I have myself seen the copy of the Minister of Marine's letter above mentioned."

NORFOLK, Jan. 27.

To captain CORRAN, who came passenger in the Spanish ship Prudentia, we are indebted for Cadiz papers to the 26th November. A friend who has examined them gives us the following summary:

The French entered Madrid on the 2d Nov. King Joseph was with them, the British retired as they approached. On the 7th the French evacuated Madrid, and marched to the Northward, and on the 9th the Spanish General Espinadolo entered that city, and on the 11th marched to the Northward, so that Madrid remained without any troops, and under the direction of Spanish Magistrates.

The armies of Lord Wellington and Gen. Hill formed a junction on the 7th November near Salamanca. Lord Wellington and the Spanish Gen. Castanos, occupied the position of Saint Christophal, the same occupied in June last, about a league from Salamanca.—General Hill occupied a position before Alba de Tormes, on the other side of that river. It was believed that Marshal Soult joined the army of the north, between the 4th and 7th of November with about 40,000 men, mostly new levies. It was believed that Lord Wellington had determined to maintain his position; that he had offered the French battle, which they had refused, and it was even reported that they were retiring on Burgos.

The position occupied by the allied army was considered as very advantageous; the passage of the Tormes, if attempted by the French, would be more difficult than in July last; besides, that Hill occupied a strong position on the other side. In the exhausted state of the country it was believed that the French armies could not long remain united.

Farther accounts from Salamanca to the 4th of November, stated that the allied armies occupied the same positions, in front of which some works were thrown up. On the 11th the French attempted to pass the Tormes, but were repulsed by Gen. Hill and the Spanish Generals Penne and Morilla.

The General Cortes, on the 22d of September, appointed Lord Wellington commander in chief of the Spanish armies; in consequence of which Ballasteros addressed the letter to the regency which was published in our last; he was deprived of his command and banished to Ceuta.

Advices from Madrid to the 18th of November, stated that Gen. Caffrelli, with 14,000 cavalry and infantry marched towards Villuria, and it was further said that the French were demolishing the castle of Burgos. The main body of the French army remained in nearly the same position it occupied prior to the battle of Salamanca last July.

A bloody battle was fought on the 2d November near Pamplona, the Spaniards under Mina,

in which the French lost 1500 men. The province of Biscay was entirely clear of the French. War had broke out between Spain and Algiers, and the citizens of the latter had taken some Spanish vessels, but by the mediation of the English, peace had been restored, and the captured vessels given up. An account from Badajoz of the 22d November, said that the allied army was retiring upon Ciudad Rodrigo. Public Ledger.

Communicated for publication in the Merchantile Advertiser

(Private) Cadiz, Nov 23, 1812.

Sir—I have the honor to enclose you a Copy of an Order in council, which has been transmitted to me by His Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, empowering me to grant Licences to such vessels as shall arrive at Cadiz with Cargoes of grain and Flour, furnished with his Majesty's Licences, or with Licences from Augustus J. Foster, Esq. his Majesty's late Minister in the United States, to return with cargoes of lawful merchandize to the ports of the said States; and I beg to inform you that I am prepared to give licences to any vessel or vessels, coming within the description of the enclosed order.

I have the honor, &c. &c. Your most obedient humble servant, (Signed) H. WELLESLEY. To the Consul of the United States of America, Cadiz.

Domestic.

ALBANY, Feb. 4.

POSTSCRIPT

Twelve o'clock at noon:—We stop the press to communicate to our readers the following extract of a letter from Buffalo, just put into our hands, conveying the melancholy intelligence of the defeat of the American army under general Winchester, at the Miami rapids.

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 general 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 adds, that 600 of our men were killed, and 400 taken prisoners. An express has been sent to Gen. Dearborn, with this distressing intelligence, by Col. Porter, commanding at this post."

DISASTER CONFIRMED!

OFFICIAL ACCOUNT.

The following letter from General Harrison, to Governor Meigs of Ohio, fully confirms the accounts of the disaster sustained by the troops lately under Gen. Winchester:

Head Quarters, Carrying River, 25th Jan. 1812.

"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 General Winchester with 250 men. He attended it and took the command at the River Raisin on the 20th, and on the 22nd he was attacked at reveille, 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 twenty or twenty five minutes. A major and captain, and about twenty five privates were all that effected their escape.

I had but 360 men with me, about three 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, (Col. Andrews' Ohio regiment) came up, it was ascertained that the defeat was complete, and it was the unanimous opinion of Generals Paine, 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; 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 secreting themselves. I believe there were not more than 40 or fifty 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 not only made 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 as speedily as possible: Major Cosgrove's battalion, the first in the army, was within 14 miles of the scene of action, when he heard of their defeat, and 200 regulars were also on their way. I remained at the rapids with one regiment only. In justice to Gen. 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 and field officers, I took this position yesterday, for the purpose of forming 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 4 or 5 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 retrieving their country's dis-

grace 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 Excellency Gov. Meigs.

[The following is an extract of the letter alluded to in the commencement of the above letter of gen. Harrison. It was dated Lower Sandusky, January 19, 1812.]

"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."

BURLINGTON, Vt. Jan. 21.

On Tuesday last was brought into camp, a Mr. Sears of Williston; he has taken on Hog Island, on his way to the enemy, with a load of provisions. We understand that he was arrested by a Lieut. a Sergt. of the U. S. Army, and a citizen who volunteered his service. Sears is a giant in strength and fought until he was overpowered. Those who took him, are severely wounded, and are now confined to their rooms.

NORFOLK, Feb. 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.

Yesterday morning, the Richmond Cavalry, under the command of Capt. Gamble, and in the afternoon the Richmond Rifle Company, under Capt. 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 port of threatened danger, furnish honorable testimony, that in defence of our country, we are not a divided people.

His Excellency Governor Barbour, accompanied by his aids Majors 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.

A detachment of Regulars, under the command of Capt. Pollard, arrived from Richmond and are stationed in Fort Nelson.

This morning the Henrico Rifle Company, under the command of Capt. Henly, arrived.

It is ascertained that Don Bernardo's expedition (the adventurers headed by colonel Magee) against the neighbouring Spanish provinces has failed. They proposed terms to governor Salcedo, requesting permission to retreat from the Spanish territory. To this Salcedo consented, excluding, however from the benefit of such arrangements all the Spanish subjects associated with the invaders.

To this the American part of the army would not consent, and are now shut up in Labadie, about 70 miles west of St. Antonio. No doubt is entertained of their ultimate capture.

From the Albany Gazette

MOUNT HOPE, 21st Jan. 1813.

Messrs. Printers—A false and scurrilous publication which has appeared in the Columbian, constrains me to solicit a place in your paper for a short answer to it.

The statement in the Northern Whig, which it is pretended led to the publication in the Columbian, made its appearance without my privity or consent, and, therefore, I am not answerable for its contents.

It is true that while at Lewiston in the month of September last, the base conduct of PETER B. PORTER, the quarter master general, led me to brand him with the epithet of rascal. The result was that Porter sent his friend to demand satisfaction of me for the insult. His friend appointed a time and place for my friend to meet him to make the necessary arrangements, and give a solemn assurance of secrecy. But Porter, in violation of that assurance, immediately communicated the matter to his partner, Mr. Barton, who informed Gen. Van Rensselaer thereof, and solicited him to put a stop to it.

After several meetings between our friends, and reiterated and unsuccessful attempts on the part of mine, by my direction, to press the business to a decisive issue in the mode requested by Porter I learnt that he had made the thing known to several persons, and that his appointed and recognised friend had avoided meeting mine to fix definitively the time and place of our meeting. While I was expressing myself with some warmth at the rascality of Porter, Gen. Van Rensselaer came up, and with some pleasantry rallied me and my friend, saying that this was a pretty affair indeed; that he had been obliged to keep a watchful eye on us; for that he had been made acquainted with the affair, by one of Porter's confidential friends from the first; and had we attempted to leave the camp together, he would have arrested us both and would still do it, if any further attempt of the kind should be made—I then declared that I would horsewhip the scoundrel for disclosing the attempt—which gave rise to gen. Van Rensselaer's positive orders to me to drop the matter, and to his letter to Porter of the 14th Sept. which contained similar orders, and which note was delivered the same day.

Finding that I had been trifled with by Porter, and that a compliance with his demand of satisfaction on my part was rendered impracticable by repeated and pitiful evasions of his, I address