

the following letter to him, which was delivered the same day by an officer of the U. S. army to which no answer was ever made.

Lewistown, 10 o'clock, A. M. Sept. 14th, 1812.

SIR—In consequence of your message to me, several interviews were had between our friends, it was at length agreed between them, that they should meet at the first house above the Tanawanta bridge, and proceed from thence to Great Island to select a spot for our meeting. On their arrival at that place on Saturday, propositions to postpone the meeting were made on the part of your friend which could not be acceded to by mine without consulting me, and with that view they were to meet this morning, at 8 o'clock at the Falls of Niagara—at this place my friend punctually attended, and now reports that neither your friend or any apology appeared.

This very extraordinary conduct on your part, together with the fact of your having disclosed the affair, (in violation of the most solemn pledge of secrecy, and which has been most religiously adhered to on my part and that of my friend) to two or three persons besides your friend, and the information I have just received, that Gen. Van Rensselaer was made acquainted with it, and in consequence of which, he has kept a watchful eye on all my actions—shews conclusively that you have trifled with me, and that it never was your intention to meet me; and I now declare that if you do not make me a suitable apology, I shall at a proper time publish you to the world as a poltroon, a coward and a scoundrel!

I am, &c.

SOL. VAN RENSSELAER.

P. B. Porter, Esq. Quarter Master General, Militia S. N. York.

The publication threatened in the foregoing letter has been withheld, as well in consequence of the General contempt in which Porter is held, as from an unwillingness to enter into a newspaper controversy which might involve third persons, and lead to the disclosure of facts and transactions of a delicate and confidential nature, connected with the interest of the service.

For the same reasons I forbear to enter into further particulars at present. If a fuller statement should become necessary hereafter, it shall be given without reserve. It is presumed that the printers who have published the article from the Columbian, will insert this statement also.

SOL. VAN RENSSELAER.

THE VIRTUOUS CABINET.

It is boasted, since the removal of Eustis and Hamilton, and the induction of Armstrong and Jones, that there has been, at no period since the union, so virtuous and enlightened a cabinet.

1st. As to Mr. Madison's virtue. It would be enough to mention his false and degrading proclamation, still unrevoked and persisted in to this day. That act alone shews a mind debased and capable of any thing, no matter what, if required to preserve his party. The attempt upon Mr. Randolph, when leader of the majority to gratify the wants of France, with two millions of dollars, and all Mr. Smyth's disclosures, have established a character for Mr. Madison which posterity will do ample justice to. Upon these subjects there will be but one opinion, twenty years hence.

2d. Mr. Gallatin—he is from a country, whose very name is a reproach in Europe. Flying from poverty and persecution in his native land, he sought an asylum in the United States, was received with open arms, and soon honored with the confidence of the people of Pennsylvania. The manner in which this man required the hospitality and unsuspecting kindness of his adopted country, was by stirring up insurrection, and figuring in the character of a rebel. So much for the virtue of the second member of the cabinet, looking over his repeated usurpations and acts of tyranny in office, and leaving to those of his own party and former friends, who commenced the enquiry, to explain the manner in which he has risen from indigence to affluence.

3d. Col. Monroe—this gentleman came out of political banishment, upon condition of surrendering his conscience into the keeping of the virtuous Mr. Madison, abandoning the principles he brought with him from Europe, and became an accessory after the fact to all the misdeeds which have damned to everlasting fame their author. To say nothing of Mr. Monroe's disgracing himself in France, his recd by Gen. Washington, and the peculating charge for the court dress, his sordid exploits while aid de-camp to Lord Sterling, and his reuniting (produced by the bribery of office) with those who drove him into obscurity, sufficiently indicate the virtuous qualities of this new intended idol of democracy.

4th. General Armstrong—this gentleman is admitted by his friends, to be the author of the Newberg letters, which invited the army at the close of the war for independence, to turn their swords upon their country. We substitute to any remarks of our own, the subjoined extracts from General Washington's address to the army.

EXTRACTS.

"He (Armstrong) had another plan in view, in which candor and liberality of sentiment, regard to justice, and love of country have no part: and he was right to insinuate the darkest suspicion to effect the blackest design."

"If peace takes place, says he (Armstrong) never sheath your swords until you have obtained full and ample justice" (from their own country.)—This dreadful alternative (says Gen. Washington) of either deserting our country in the extremest hour of distress, or of turning our arms against it, which is the apparent object unless congress can be compelled into instant compliance, has something so shocking in it, that humanity revolts at the idea. My God! (exclaimed the father of his country) what can this writer have in view; by recommending such measures? Can he be a friend to the army? CAN HE BE A FRIEND TO THE COUNTRY? rather is he not an insidious emissary, perhaps from New-York, plotting the ruin of both, by sowing the seeds of discord and separation between the civil and military powers of the continent?"

Gen. Armstrong is universally considered a perfidious, designing, treacherous man; and the manner in which he furnished the federal party with weapons, to attack and annoy administration,

we may take occasion to demonstrate at some early day.

5th. Mr. Jones—this gentleman's pretensions are aptly illustrated in the decision of the American commissioners in London, under the seventh article of the British treaty. The executive touch has had the magical effect of transforming him into a virtuous and enlightened citizen.

6th. Mr. Pinkney—rotten to the very core—"touch him and he falls to pieces."

Such are the men who are selected to direct the destinies of the rising Republic, which from the very nature of the government, ought to have virtue for its foundation. Can the country flourish? Can the government last? It is true the Jeffersonian system, which is a branch of Napoleon's, cannot be supported, but by having such men at the head of affairs; for to commit knavery, a knave must be employed; to support an organized system of falsehood, he who does not scruple to promulgate and patronize falsehoods, must direct affairs, but in the nature of things; such a government cannot last.

Raleigh:

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1813.

NEW SYSTEM OF NAVIGATION.

In the Senate of the U. States, on the 8th inst. the resolutions, submitted by Mr. Dana, from Connecticut, respecting a new system of navigation, were referred to a committee of four, with instructions to report by bill or otherwise. These resolutions comprehend the following principles: 1. That no vessel shall be recognized as bearing the flag of the U. States, unless known to be registered or enrolled, and officered and manned as required by law. 2. That merchant or coasting vessels shall not enjoy the respective privileges to which each description might be entitled, unless the officers and the whole of the crew, or at least a majority thereof shall be native born or adopted American citizens. 3. The mode of proving citizenship to be fixed by law. 4. All American mariners and apprentices to be comprehended and described in an official sea-paper, which, after the return voyage, is to be accounted for and renewed. Similar documentary evidence to be furnished fishing and coasting vessels. And no collector hereafter to issue separate certificates of citizenship.

As the question at this time presents itself we are inclined to think very favorably of the foregoing project. It would certainly tend to check frauds in the transfer of certificates; and, contemplating the inclusion of the whole crew of a vessel in one protecting document, it certainly bids fair to be a most effectual mean for preventing the impressment of our own citizens and confounding them with foreign seamen. Congress would act wisely in trying the experiment.

NORTH-WESTERN ARMY.

A total and bloody defeat has been experienced by that portion of the western force, which was under the immediate command of Brigadier General Winchester. A detachment, under the orders of Colonel Lewis, had been pushed forward as far as the river Raisin, where on the 13th January, they had an affair with a company of Canadian militia and some hundreds of Indians. The action lasted from three o'clock in the afternoon until dark, when the rout of the enemy was complete. The Canadian militia retreated early in the engagement; but the Indians contended obstinately, and it is believed suffered much. On our side were ten killed, with two captains and twenty privates wounded. Col. Lewis's detachment remained undisturbed until the 20th, when General Winchester joined him with 250 men, making in all 1000 effective troops. The General then took the command. At reveille on the morning of the 22nd, this force was attacked by a body of British and Indians, said to be 2000 strong, who succeeded in surprising Winchester. His men were routed in twenty minutes, and himself killed, scalped, and his body hacked to pieces. Six hundred of the 1000 shared the fate of their general; and all the others, except perhaps about thirty, were made prisoners. It is said the General slept about a quarter of a mile from his men, and that most of the officers lodged in private houses in the neighborhood.

This is a most disastrous event, nearly equal to the unfortunate defeat of St. Clair, in 1791. In that battle 900 men were killed. Ample revenge, however, was afterwards taken by Wayne, near the same spot.

General Harrison's troops have returned back as far as the portage river, at the crossings of Hull's road, where they are well supplied with provisions. The movement of Gen. Winchester to the river Raisin was to secure a considerable quantity of provisions, and to protect the inhabitants.

Col. Lewis and Col. Allen, are supposed to have fallen. Gen. Harrison, at the Rapids on receiving this information fell back about 18 miles, where his forces are concentrating. Gen. Tupper has marched to join Harrison. Gen. Perkins, with his brigade, and Gen. Lewich and Gen. Crooks, with their brigades are with Harrison.

A small quantity of provisions, which could not be brought from the Rapids, was destroyed. The troops which were engaged were mostly Kentuckians.

A steam boat is about to be put into operation on the waters of the Potomac between Alexandria, Georgetown and the Federal city.

There are numerous reports of the death of Bonaparte. They chiefly rest, however, on circumstances which would seem to give such a tale great probability. A short time will decide whether these accounts, as former ones of the same nature, shall be confirmed, or be found to have spoken rather the wishes of the authors than the accuracy of their intelligence.

The votes for President and Vice President of the U. States, were to have been counted in the representative chamber, before both houses of congress, on the 10th instant.

THE INDIANS.

In a late speech on the new army bill, Mr. Randolph, the greatest orator of the age, speaking of the Indians, has this passage:—"The wars with the Indians are of our seeking. The Christians of the country are in the habit of hunting the heathen as they are of hunting the deer, bear, or any other game; and who are we who do it? The Virginians—the Big Knives. There is not a shadow of reason to believe that the Indians were instigated by the British. No: they were invaded, hunted, assailed; and they must fight or die." It is to be feared here is too much truth. The Indians will never enjoy repose, while they have fat lands and but slender means of defending them.

Mr. Randolph asserts that England neither can, will nor ought to give up the right of search.

The House of Representatives have rejected the bill making compensation to the officers and crew of the Constitution for the destruction of the Guerrier.

Government has purchased the Macedonian of Commodore Decatur and crew, for the sum of 200,000 dollars. A splendid reception was lately given to the Commodore on entering his native city, Philadelphia.

Extract of a letter from New Orleans dated December 12.

"Mr. Fromentin has been appointed senator, in the room of Mr. Magruder. 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."

Naturalized Seamen. It appears by the report of the Secretary of State, that in the nineteen years from 1793 to 1812 inclusive, there have been 1,530 naturalized citizens enrolled as American seamen in the custom houses of the United States.

A letter from Albany, mentions, that a caucus of democratic members of the Legislature met on the evening of the 21st inst. and nominated Daniel D. Tompkins for governor, and John Taylor, for lieut. governor of the state, at the ensuing spring election.

Troy, Jan. 26.

We are informed by a gentleman of this town, who received his information from a person direct from Sackett's harbour, that a battle was fought there a few days since between about three hundred sailors and a numerous body of the Militia, in which the sailors were defeated, having one of their number killed, and a great many wounded, some of them very badly. The sailors were armed with clubs, we were not informed what weapons their opponents fought with. Thirty men are said to have been left on the field after the battle.

FRACAS!!!

A serious affair took place on Saturday evening in water street, between some Spanish and American sailors. The former, about twenty in number, having been roughly handled by our sailors in a fracas the preceding evening, came ashore expressly it is said, to be revenged; for which purpose they provided themselves with knives, and soon provoked their adversaries to an affray, who, not suspecting treachery, attacked only with the weapons which nature had given them. In a few minutes six of the American sailors were stabbed, one of whom died on the spot, and another it is thought cannot survive. This was done before the guard could repair to the scene. They however arrived in time to secure the greater part of the murderers, whom they rescued from the enraged populace and committed to prison.

Norfolk Herald.

IMPORTANT, If true.

A letter was received the day before yesterday, by a gentleman in Washington, from his friend in Baltimore, in which the writer says "Mr. Randall (a merchant of Baltimore) has just received per his schooner Racer, arrived at Annapolis, in 33 days from Bordeaux, positive accounts that Bonaparte was killed in a late great battle at Smolensk!—Alex. Gaz. Friday,

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Baltimore, to his friend in this place, dated February 3d 1813.

The news of the day is so important and deeply interesting to the whole civilized world, that I also lose no time in informing you of it. There are letters in town of late date from France, which give strong hopes that the report of Bonaparte's death is true—letters to Capt. Tennant, mention, that business of all kinds is at a dead stand—that a universal consternation prevails, and the people say that nothing can relieve them from their present state but news from the emperor—that they do not HEAR from him, and are ignorant as to his movements, do not know where he is, and finally that he is missing. The situation of things there is such that they dare not say he is dead, but speak in that kind of mysterious way as amounts to the general belief that he is really no more. The opinion here is very general that some Russian stabbed him."—Ibid.

Extract of a letter from Norfolk dated February 9. The Baltimore Revenue Cutter, capt. Travis, was taken off Back River Point, coming from York, by nine boats belonging to the blockading squadron. The Cutter fought about one hour and an half, but being calm the boats succeeded in boarding.

P. S. Since the above was written, I understand the vessel mentioned to be taken to be the Revenue Cutter captured yesterday, proves to be the Letter of Marque schooner from Baltimore.

MARRIED.

On Thursday, the 4th inst. at the seat of Alexander Long, Esq. near Salisbury, capt. John W. Bradley, of Lynchburg Virginia, to Miss Nancy M. Long.

Postscript.

LATEST FROM FRANCE.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 10.

The schr. Kemp, capt. B. from Nantz, arrived at Annapolis yesterday. She sailed from Nantz the 23th 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.

Capt. Burton came up to the city last evening and has favored us with a file of Paris papers to the 21st December.

The emperor Napoleon arrived at the Palace of the Thuilleries at 11 o'clock on the night of the 18th of Dec. His arrival at Paris was most pompously announced in the French papers.

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.

Several letters have been received in this city from Buffalo and its vicinity, which concur in stating that Gen. Winchester is not killed, as reported from Ohio, but is among the prisoners taken by the British.

Nat. Int.

On the 10th instant were counted the ballots for President and Vice President of the U. States. The ballot stood thus.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Votes. James Madison 128, Elbridge Gerry 131, De Witt Clinton 89, Jared Ingersoll 86.

CGDENBURG, Jan. 27.

Since the 20th inst. 53 persons mostly British soldiers, have reported themselves to Capt. Forsyth (commanding officer at this post) as deserters from Prescott or its vicinity. Several have brought over their arms.

Thespian Society.

MEMBERS are requested to meet at the Indian Queen Tavern, to-morrow (Saturday) evening, at 7 o'clock, on business of the first importance to the interests of the Institution. By order of the President, Feb. 18. T. W. LORRAIN, Sec.

I SAYS, SAYS I.

JUST RECEIVED, and for sale by John and Robert Stuart, a few copies of the new novel,

"I Says, Says I."

BY THINKS I TO MYSELF, WHO

ALSO,

Desilver's (spotted) PLAYING CARDS

Feb. 19.

It

A House and Lots, in Raleigh.

FOR SALE.

THE subscriber offers for sale, the house and lot, on Fayetteville street, which he at present occupies as a dwelling house and work shop. Also, three lots, lying on Salisbury, McDowell and Davie streets. He also wishes to sell a likely young Negro Woman, about 23 or 25 years of age, to any person who lives in this neighborhood and who is accustomed to treat negroes well. None other need apply. The terms will be made known on application to

THOMAS EMOND,

Feb. 19.

81,3t

Notice to Contractors.

THE undersigned being a committee appointed by the county court of Granville, to contract for the building of a JAIL for said county, do hereby give notice, that on Friday the fifth day of March next, they will let out to the lowest bidder at the court house in the town of Oxford, the building of said Jail, all the materials whereof to be furnished by the undertaker. A plan of the building will be shewn at any time by the committee to any person desirous of undertaking.

John Washington, Benj. Bullock, William Smith, Nathaniel Roberts, Thomas B. Littlejohn.

Oxford, Feb. 9, 1813

81,2t

State of North-Carolina,

CASWELL COUNTY. COURT OF PLEAS AND QUARTER SESSIONS, JANUARY TERM 1813.

Thomas Brooks and Mary Brooks vs. Armstead Flippin and Jane Brackin, administrators of the estate of Thomas Brooks, dec. and Joseph Brackin.

PETITION FOR DISTRIBUTIVE SHARES.

IT appearing to the satisfaction of this court, that Armstead Flippin, one of the defendants, is not an inhabitant of this state, it is therefore ordered, that unless the said Armstead Flippin appear at our next County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions to be held for the county aforesaid, at the court-house, on the second Monday of April next, and plead or demur, the said petition will be heard ex-parte as to him, and judgment be entered accordingly—and that this suit be advertised three weeks in the Raleigh Minerva. Test, A MURPHEY, C. C.

State of North-Carolina,

CASWELL COUNTY. COURT OF PLEAS AND QUARTER SESSIONS, JANUARY TERM, 1813.

George Findley vs. James Shelton, Joseph Speed and his wife Elizabeth, David Shelton, Nancy Shelton and Henry Shelton, heirs at law of David Shelton, dec'd.

PETITION TO BUILD A MILL.

IT appearing, to the satisfaction of this Court, that the defendants in this suit are not inhabitants of this state, it is therefore ordered, that unless the said defendants appear at our next Court, to be held for said county on the second Monday of April next, and plead or demur, the said petition will be heard ex-parte as to them, and judgment entered accordingly—and that this suit be advertised three weeks in the Raleigh Minerva. Test, A MURPHEY, C. C.