

### Domestic.

NEW YORK, February 16.

#### EXCURSION FROM OGDENSBURG.

Extract of a Letter from Ogdensburg, dated February 7.

Last evening Captain Forsyth, commandant of this post, left this village with about 200 volunteers, part from his own company, part from Capt. Lydie's volunteers, and the remainder citizens, among whom were Col. Benedict and other gentlemen of distinction. The detachment proceeded in sleighs up the river to Morrisburg, where they formed, and at 5 o'clock this morning crossed over Elizabethtown, surprised the guard, took 57 prisoners, among whom were 100 rifles, 3 captains, 2 lieutenants also 120 muskets, 20 rifles, 2 cast-iron fixed ammunition, &c. but no private property was either taken or destroyed. All was effected without the loss of a single man.

Capt Forsyth was led to this enterprise by the repeated aggressions of the British guards who had been in the habit of crossing the river a few miles above this place, and taking the deserters, 16 of whom they had in the jail at Elizabethtown, threatened with being shot. Capt. F. being informed of this, determined to effect their liberation in which he succeeded. One prisoner confined in the jail for murder he declined taking. Capt. F. speaks of the conduct of the officers and men in the highest terms of approbation. Two British officers from Prescott came over a few hours after the return of our troops with the prisoners, to effect their release. I understand they are all paroled, and are to return again to Canada this evening.

The movement of the troops on the other side indicating an attack on this place, Col. Benedict was induced to call out his regiment of militia so that we have now in Ogdensburg about 800 men; and should an attack be made from Prescott, I have the fullest confidence in our success. Indeed from the high tone of our troops, it is difficult to restrain their ardor; and should we not be attacked from the other side within a few days I should not be surprised were they to go over here.

Columbian.

At a general meeting of the New York State Society of the Cincinnati, held in the city of New York; pursuant to public notice, the 6th of Feb. 1813.

In pursuance of a resolution offered to the Society at their last general meeting, and which is contained in these words:

“Whereas by the constitution of this Society, it is amongst other matters provided as follows, viz:

“As there are and will at all times be men in the respective states eminent for their abilities and patriotism, whose views may be directed to the same laudible objects with those of the Cincinnati, it shall be a rule to admit such characters as honorary members of the Society for their own lives only.”

This Society, in testimony of the high sense which it entertains of the patriotism, valour and abilities of com. Stephen Decatur, of the ship of war the *United States*; Capt. Isaac Hull, of the ship of war the *Constitution*; and Captain Jacob Jones, late of the sloop of war the *Wasp*; and of the meritorious services rendered by them to our country, do admit them, and they are hereby admitted, Honorary Members of the Society of the Cincinnati.

The Society proceeded to ballot for the several candidates, who were upon inspection, declared to be unanimously elected honorary members thereof.

Resolved: That as it is more than probable that neither of the newly elected members will be present at the anniversary meeting of the Society on the 4th of July next, a committee of five be appointed to receive them in the name of the Society, and to invest them with the insignia thereof, and that this committee consist of Col. Varick, President; Maj. Gen. Stevens, Vice President; Brig. Gen. Giles, Col. Troup, and M. Fairlee.

Resolved, that one of the original diplomas, signed by his Excellency General George Washington, first President General of the Society, together with the eagle, the order of the Society, be presented by the committee to each of the new members at their installation.

In pursuance, whereof, the committee met on Saturday, the 13th instant, at the President's, and in presence of a considerable number of the other members of the Society, proceeded to the installation of Com. Decatur and Capt. Jones, (Captain Hull being absent at Boston)

The original constitution of the Society having been read, the President addressed the newly elected members in these words:

“Behoving proceeding to the solemnity of receiving you as members of this Society we consider it a duty incumbent upon us to recall your attention to the objects of our institution, and to explain our motives on the present occasion:

“The world has been informed, and future generations, we hope, will bear as witness that the principle objects of our institution were Friendship and Charity. To Heaven and our own bosoms we recur for vindication from any misrepresentation of our intentions. The toils and dangers we had shared in a cause in which human happiness was so extensively interested, had excited and cemented affections which we could not be willing to see dissolved with our military existence; whilst the death of some of our companions and

the misfortune of others had already created objects of charity, and it was then probable that from the same causes many others would arise.

“The style of our society is taken from that patriotic Roman, whose example we proposed to follow, and the experience of nearly thirty years has proved the sincerity of our professions.

“However unnecessary an enumeration or catalogue of our patriotic virtues may be deemed on any circumstance be more grateful than the recollection of our common efforts in establishing the freedom and maintaining the independence of our beloved country? The sentiments and reflections arising from such considerations will tend to make us better friends, better citizens, and (if it were possible) more disinterested patriots. The tenor of our past lives furnishes the pledge of our future conduct; for men who have done and suffered so much in such a cause, can never, (however their services may be required) deviate from the paths of honor and public rectitude. This would be to forfeit that consciousness which is their principal reward, to belie their character, and do violence to nature itself.

“Permit us to conclude this address by offering to you our congratulations upon the occasion which has brought us together.

“Nearly forty years have now elapsed since we became a nation. Independence was declared at the head of an army in this city, then invaded by the most powerful fleet and army that ever crossed the Atlantic. A consideration of the tremendous circumstances through which we established it, should animate every individual through temporary discouragements and difficulties to use his exertions to make our Republic still more respectable among the nations.

This finished, the President rising from his seat all the members of the Society rising at the same time, addressed the newly elected members successively as follows:—

“Do you desire to be admitted into this Society?” “A ‘‘I do.”

“Do you promise a strict observance to its rules and statutes?”

A. ‘‘I do.”

“In confirmation of what you have promised you will sign your name to this Institution.”

This done, the President, taking the eagle after pronouncing these words:

“Receive this mark as a recompense for your merit, and in remembrance of our glorious independence.—Attaches it to the button-hole of the recipient.”

Then displaying a diploma, in which was inscribed the recipient's name, and presenting it to him:

“This will shew your title as a Member of our society: Imitate the illustrious hero Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus, whom we have chosen for our Patron: Like him be the defender of your country, and a good citizen.”

Published by order of the Committee. HENRY DODGE, Secretary.

February 17.

General Hull, with his Aids, arrived in this city on Sunday on their way to Philadelphia.

The Court-Martial, which was to have assembled on the 25th instant in Philadelphia for the trial of General Hull, is postponed until further orders.

SALEM, Feb. 12.

### AFFECTING LETTER.

Extract of a letter from George Tittle to his Mother in Beverly, dated ‘‘Algiers prison, Oct. 4, 1812.’’

“On the 26th of August we were taken by an Algerine on our passage home, and on that fatal day I lost my liberty—and all that I held dear, to be made a slave in this cruel country. When taken, we were stripped and plundered of every thing, and remain almost naked; and here we are without friends or any one to assist us. We are all in as good health as can be expected in our deplorable situation, which to describe would wound your feelings too much. I hope it will not be long before our country will redeem us from our unmerciful tyrants. We are obliged to labour hard, and every night we are confined in this prison. In the few hours allowed for rest, I write this, which I send by the same brig that we were taken in. She is now under Moorish colours, and bound to Gibraltar, I hope you will get some persons to intercede for myself and companions, if in their power. Your unfortunate son, &c.”

We have a letter from SAMUEL LARRABEE, giving a similar description of his slavery, chained to hard labor, &c. He adds, “I hear there is war between the United States and England. If that be the case, I fear we shall not get clear for some time.”

BOSTON, February 13.

A BRITISH FLEET.—A letter from Bermuda, dated Jan. 15, to a gentleman in this city, says a new admiral has arrived on this station from England, and the British force at present consists of 12 ships of the line and 20 fr. besides sloops of war, brigs, &c.

### MASSACHUSETTS.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

February 6, 1813.

On motion of Mr. Pickering, of Salem, the following preamble and order were adopted:

Whereas the President in his message to Congress, has made known to the people of the United

States, that the British orders in council have been repealed “in such manner as to be capable of explanations meeting the views of the government” of the United States, and therefore none of the alleged causes of war with Great Britain now remain, except the claim of the right to take British subjects from the merchant ships of the United States:—

And whereas, during the administration of President Washington and President Adams the claim of Great Britain was not considered as a reasonable cause of war: and under the administration of President Jefferson the government of Great Britain did offer to make an arrangement with the United States, which in the opinion of Messrs. Monroe and Pickney, their ministers, placed this subject on a ground that was “both honorable and advantageous to the United States, and highly favourable to their interest, and was at the time” a concession which had never before been made; and it is highly probable that the government of Great Britain would still be willing to make an arrangement on this subject which should be alike honorable and advantageous to the U. States.

And whereas, under the administration of President Madison, when the arrangement of the matters in controversy between the United States and Great Britain was made with His Britannic Majesty's minister, David Montague Erskine, Esq. the imprisonment of seamen was not considered of sufficient importance to be made a condition of that arrangement.

And whereas, all the European powers, as well as the United States recognize the principle that their subjects and citizens have no right to expatriate themselves, and that the nation has a right to the services of all its citizens, especially in time of war, and none of those powers respect the naturalization laws of the others so far as to admit their operation in contravention of that principle:—and it is manifestly unjust for a neutral power to make war upon one nation in order to compel it to relinquish a principle which is maintained by the others.

And whereas, it is the duty of the government of the United States, to protect and encourage American seamen, and to exclude from our ships the numerous foreign seamen, of their natural means of subsistence.

And whereas, a great proportion of the seamen of the U. States belong to this commonwealth, and this legislature is desirous to ascertain how many of them have been impressed or taken by Great Britain, France, or any other power, in order that satisfactory information may be had, and communicated to the government of the U. States.

Resolved, that Mr. Pickering (of Salem) Mr. Fillingham (of Taunton) and Mr. Watson (of Chelsea), be a committee to consider and report what measures are proper to be taken in order to ascertain the number of the seamen of this commonwealth impressed or taken by any foreign nation.

### UNPRECEDENTED DECISION!

We understand the ship *Aurora*, of this port, taken by a New-York privateer, and sent into Rhode Island, was, on Monday last, contrary to general expectation (and we may add contrary to every principle of equity) condemned by Judge Howell, district judge for Rhode Island, on the principle that a licence denationalized the property. Thus fares it with the idle remnant of our commerce, What escapes French sequestration and burning, and British capture, is destined to fall a sacrifice in the courts of our commerce-haters to the rapacious privateers men. The property was entirely American, bound to a neutral port. We learn that the owners, Messrs. Clark and Wheelwright, have appealed to another tribunal, where if the sentence of this Judge Howell is not reversed, our commerce is annihilated.

The corrupt prize courts of Norway can do nothing worse!

We understand, that it was the opinion of gentlemen at Newport, that Judge Howell would condemn a vessel captured by an American privateer, bound from one port in the United States to another, if any thing like a British licence could be found on board—without any hesitation.—Insurance Office Books.

ALBANY, Feb. 12.

A numerous public meeting of the friends of Peace and commerce was held last evening at the Capitol—Judge Benson called to the chair and Daniel Paris, esq. appointed secretary, the business of the meeting was opened by Mr. Cady, from Montgomery, who proposed that Stephen Van Ransselaer, of the county of Albany, be nominated as a candidate for the office of Governor, and George Huntington, of the county of Oneida, for the office of Lieutenant Governor—After an eloquent and impressive speech from Mr. Hoffman, the question was put and carried unanimously; after which a committee of five was appointed to prepare and publish an address.

### GEN. HULL'S TRIAL.

On the account of this trial, announced and so confidently repeated in the Philadelphia papers, the *Albany Gazette* makes the following observations:

A court martial ordered for the trial of general Hull! There must be some precipitancy here—the exchange mentioned in the general order from the war office, signed T. H. Cushing, adj. gen. is not correct in all its parts, perhaps in none—in a word, the exchange there mentioned has

not taken place. Where the mistake has originated or who is in the fault, we shall not undertake to determine. We shall only add, that our information is from the highest authority, and may be relied on as correct.

WASHINGTON CITY, FEB. 15.

Messrs. Gates and Seaton.—With regret, the friends of General James Winchester have discovered, from various quarters, charges and insinuations against him on account of the late mistake which has befallen the American arms under his direction. Whether he lives or not is uncertain, from the intelligence received in the East, he will do justice to himself;—but his friends who will see justice done to his reputation. Nothing more is wished for. Until the circumstances can be fully developed, from authentic sources, it is hoped that public opinion will be suspended and prepared to hear impartially what may be presented. It is confidently believed, that he acted with bravery and prudence in the late transaction, and that the cause of the disaster can clearly be traced to a different source. The request is considered as reasonable in any event. The man who has fallen fighting for his country, or who has been taken captive, ought not to be condemned until he can be heard by himself or friends.

A resolution was yesterday introduced into the House of Representatives by Mr. Grundy, contemplating an extra session of Congress to commence in May next; but was rejected by a majority of 17 votes—every federalist, we believe, voting against it, and of course a great majority of the republicans for it.

The objection avowed by the mover and supporters of the resolution, was to fix an early day for the meeting of Congress to provide for the deficiencies of the revenue of the year 1814, since it appeared evident to them that sufficient time did not remain to act on the subject at the present session. The opponents to the motion were of two classes: the opposition, usually so termed, who are anxious for the introduction of taxes, and for the repeal of the non importation act; and a part of the Republicans, some of whom think the public service requires immediate modification of the non importation act, others who are anxious that the tax bills should be introduced, and some who think that both ought to pass. Much diversity of opinion prevailed and not a little warmth was displayed in debate.

We do not by any means consider the decision which was had to be conclusive; we do not, because many who voted against it intimated their disposition to vote for an extra Session, but not at the present, because such a vote would operate forthwith to postpone the consideration of the suspension law and of the tax bills until the next session.

We cannot omit on this occasion to express the regret we feel at seeing a division among the republicans of the House, at a time when union is more than ever necessary to resist the arts of their political opponents, and to carry on the operations of the government with effect. It is perfectly evident to us, that the tax bills involving a voluminous mass of details, cannot be acted on at the present session, allowing the freedom and latitude of debate which usually characterize the proceedings of the House, and we very much doubt whether the act for suspending the non importation act can pass, if it pass at all, at the present session. We respect the honorable motives which actuate those gentlemen who are desirous, by their votes, to pass the necessary laws for fixing on a firm basis, the public credit, although we cannot offer the same tribute to those who are opposed to taxes, who will one and all vote against them, and yet are extremely solicitous to tug them head and shoulders into the House.

Let the Republicans in Congress, and their brethren in the nation, those who feel themselves responsible for the due execution of the measures of government, for the success of the war, and consequently for the support of public credit, unite in that course which a majority of them shall approve. Thus united, they have nothing to fear from their political opponents. Mutual concessions are necessary to unity of action. With it, every thing is possible; without it nothing is practical. Nat. Int.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Boston, dated February 8.

Mr. Allen, the late British consul and now agent for prisoners, has this day received an order from the marshal to re-imprison Worcester within three days, and not go out of the limits of town. Evening Post.

### MILITARY EXPENSES.

A writer in the New-York morning Star, has made a very accurate calculation of the expenses of the present army of the U. S. & subjoined thereto the augmented sums, necessary for the pay and support of the grand army of 55,000 men, contemplated to be raised. The conclusion, as drawn from the reports of the Secretary at War, and the recent laws of Congress, make the gross sum of forty one millions, six hundred and ninety eight thousand, five hundred and ninety dollars, per annum; or should the war last for five and a half years, which he considers as highly probable, to the enormous sum of two hundred and twenty nine millions, three hundred and forty two thousand two hundred and forty seven dollars.