

Foreign.

CANADA.

GENERAL ORDERS.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Quebec, 8th Feb 1818.

His excellency lieutenant general Sir George Prevost, Bart. governor in chief and commander of the forces in British North America, having seen in the Boston Gazette of the 28th January last, a publication purporting to be a copy of general orders issued by the American government, in the following terms, namely:

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington City, 8th Jan, 1812.

GENERAL ORDERS.

The following officers of the army and militia of the United States, made prisoners of war at Detroit, Quebec, and elsewhere have been duly exchanged for the officers' non-commissioned officers, drummers and privates taken on the 14th day of July, 1812, viz brigadier general William Hull, colonels Duncan Mc Arthur, James Findly, and Lewis Cass; Lieutenants Colonel James Miller, John R Fenwick, Winfield Scott, and John Christie; Major James Taylor; captain Nathan Heald, John Whistler, Henry B. Greavart, Josiah Spelling, Robert Lucas, Abraham F. Hall, Peter Ogden, William King, Joel Cook, and Return B. Brown; first Lieut. Charles Lardee; second Lieutenants James Dalliba and Daniel Huginitt; and each and all of the aforesaid officers are hereby declared exchanged, and as free to act against the United Kingdom of Great Britain, Ireland and their dependencies thereof, as if they had never been captured.

By order of the Secretary of War,

T. H. CUSHING, Adj. Gen.

His excellency considers himself called upon in the most public manner, to protest against the present exchange of the above named officers from non-commissioned officers, drummers and privates taken on the 14th day of July, 1812, under their hands while prisoners of war, his excellency having expressly refused to accede to the exchange of the officers above named as proposed to him by the general Dearborn in his letters of the 26th December and 2d January last, under the authority of the American government upon the identical terms contained in the order of the 18th of January before referred to. His Excellency feels himself compelled hereby to declare, that he still considers these officers prisoners of war on their parole, and that should the fate of war again place any of them at the disposal of the British government, before a regular and ratified exchange of them takes place, they will be deemed to have broken their parole and to be thereby subject to all the consequences sanctioned by the established usages of war in like cases.

The detachment of the first regiment of Royal Scots, captured by the United States frigate the Essex on board the Samuel and Sarah transport, who are stated in the said order of the 18th of January to have been duly exchanged for the officers of the American army therein mentioned, had been previously, as far back as the month of September last regularly exchanged for the crew of the United States sloop Nautilus, and a sufficient number of other seamen belonging to the United States navy, as appears by an official communication to his excellency of the 7th of September from his excellency lieutenant general Sir J. C. Shepley, K. B. commanding forces in Nova Scotia, confirmed by a letter from Mr. Mitchell, the American agent of prisoners at Halifax, to the honorable James Monroe, American secretary of state, dated the 23d of November last, transmitted to his excellency by major general Dearborn, in his letter of the 2d of January last. The release of the said detachment by such exchange, was published in general orders on the 29th September last, at Montreal, and also communicated to major general Dearborn in his excellency's letter of the 11th of January last, as the ground of his refusal to accede to the before mentioned proposal of that officer.

To avoid however every possibility of mistake, or error upon this subject, and to prevent any further misunderstanding respecting it, his excellency has thought proper to direct major Murray, agent for the exchange of prisoners of war, to proceed with a flag of truce to the American head quarters, and should he be satisfied upon enquiry that the officers' non-commissioned officers and men of the detachment of the first regiment of Royal Scots, have not been considered by the American government as regularly exchanged for the crew of the United States sloop Nautilus, and other seamen belonging to the United States navy as before stated, major Murray is then authorized to please from parole an equal number of officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the regular troops of the American army, made prisoners of war at Detroit, Niagara or elsewhere, as may be agreed upon between him and major general Dearborn.

But his excellency cannot admit the right as some of the American government, in the order before referred to, to arrange and class the exchange of prisoners of war in such manner as may best suit their convenience or advantage; all exchanges of prisoners of war must be ratified by both parties before the release of them becomes valid, and wherever it is practicable the exchange is to be conducted on the scale of parity of rank and service—officers grade for grade—sergeant for sergeant, soldier for soldier, regular for regular, and militia for militia; and that adopted to the exchange in the foregoing order, can only be admitted in cases where the regular exchange by rank and service cannot take place, and then only by the mutual concurrence of both parties.

EDWARD BAYNES, Adj. Gen. North America.

Domestic.

NORFOLK, March 9.

Capt. Hancock, late of the ship William Wilson of Baltimore, has furnished us with information of which the following are the heads—He sailed from Lisbon on the 28th of Dec; on

the 29th, spoke the British privateer Mars of N. London; Capt. Bulkeley, had taken prizes, one of which was burned. On the 31st fell in with and was boarded from the French Frigate La Gloire, Capt. Ragustin. Capt. H. his passengers and crew were ordered on board the frigate, with his papers, and the baggage of the crew and passengers, much of which was plundered. The commander of the frigate gave orders to scuttle the William Wilson, which was done accordingly, and she went down. The cause alleged, was trading with the enemies of France, which His Imperial Majesty did not allow. Capt. H. remained on board the frigate until the 4th of January, during which time he had great cause to complain of the treatment to himself and passengers; he was plundered of all his money except two dollars. On the 4th of Jan. the frigate captured a Portuguese barque from Brazil, bound to Lisbon. On board this barque, Capt. H. with many others, to the number of 47, were put with a very scanty allowance of water and provisions, although they had taken an ample supply from Capt. H's ship. The French commander gave the barque in charge of Capt. H. ordered him to proceed to Norfolk. On the 8th of February, in lat. 36, long 74, was captured by His Britannic Majesty's ship St Domingo, adm. Warren, carried to Bermuda, and then put on board the Marlborough adm. Cockburn. Capt. H. came up yesterday from a cartel under the orders of Lt. Cairns of the Marlborough.

The following is extracted from a letter received by a gentleman in Norfolk from his friend at East River, March 11, 1813.

"We are this day all under arms; the enemy occupies Mobile Bay, and one of their launches and two tenders chased a pilot boat into the mouth of East River this morning. The little fleet of sharp vessels that lay in Severn have all moved into East river, and some of them as high up as they can get. Two large British steamers about 300 tons each, armed, having together about 100 men are moored across the river before my door; it is expected an attempt will be made to cut them out this night. We have on duty one company of artillery with two field pieces, and three companies of infantry, placed in a situation to act with the armed vessels in case of an attack.

Capt. Sinclair with his flotilla, commands the mouth of the Piankank river he ran into that place two nights ago, and found anchored there a large suspicious looking schooner; he ordered 1 of his boats to fire a shot ahead of her, she immediately returned a broadside; a sharp action commenced; the schooner cut her cables and got off, but in a dreadful shattered situation, her hooby hatch, quarter boards, rails and many other pieces, with an officer's military hat were found afloat in the morning, and we have a report to day that a schooner has been seen sunk off Gwyn's island, with her yards standing.

The British have captured within these 3 or 4 days, within New Point Comfort and Gwyn's Island, 3 or 10 vessels, some of them with 5 or 60 barrels of flour, and report says a vessel with 50 barrels of pork, from George Town bound to Norfolk, said to belong to Mr. Mason and for the navy, has also been captured.

Two frigates a brig, and some other vessels are stationed opposite Hungers; they appear to be fixing stations extending to the mouth of Potomac and the Tangiers; and I suspect for the purpose of opening a trade with the Tangiers port in the provision line."

Our last accounts from Norfolk are to the 16th. There were then in the Roads 3 ships of the line and two frigates. No attack had at that time been made on Norfolk, but the inhabitants were under great apprehension, and such as can be removing their families and effects. The most extensive dry good merchants are all packed up, and mean to transport their goods in wagons to Petersburg and Richmond. It is expected Norfolk will be deserted by the female part in a few days.

N. REG. March 20.

Yesterday Two of the enemy's frigates anchored off Newport News, where they command the mouth of James river.

A tender from the fleet, yesterday captured off the Point of Shoals, one ship two brigs and three schooners, all loaded; one of them was the Sally laden with flour and tobacco, and another the East River Packet Accommodation; and a small light schooner.

A gentleman who was taken on board of one of the above vessels, states that the enemy are informed of all the vessels now in James River, and the strength of the Fort at Hoods.

COMMUNICATION.

Congress rose on the third day of the present month; this is the twentieth; during all this time an attack has been daily expected on the town; the 54th, or Norfolk Borough Regiment, has been frequently under arms; it is at this moment under orders to assemble at one hour's notice, to unite with the detachment under the command of Brigadier General Taylor. The Honorable THOMAS NEWTON, the representative for this district, was a steady advocate for the war, in every stage of its progress in the national councils; Mr. Newton is a Major in the 54th regiment, the Colonel and the other Major of that regiment have been and are now in service under General Taylor, in other commands; the 54th regiment has been and now is without a Field Officer; the duties of Colonel and Majors are performed by Captains! These are facts. It belongs to Mr. Newton and his friends to account for them.

Norfolk, 20th March, 1813.

Domestic History of the War.

Extract of a letter from a Lady in Ogdensburg, to her brother in Albany, dated Feb. 20.

Dear Brother,

You are undoubtedly anxious to hear the particulars of the attack upon our village. In addition to the few lines I wrote you that day, I would inform you that I did not leave the house until the British were close to it, and not till after they had shot a great number of balls into it, I took no

using this one but some money and my table spoons, and ran as far as possible with a number of other women—our retreat was the distance of about 15 miles—The next day I returned, and our house was plundered of almost every thing and my husband a prisoner on the other side. You can easily imagine my feelings than I can describe them.—They did not leave a single article of clothing for myself or husband, not even a handkerchief—they took all my bedding but left the beds; they broke my looking-glass and even my knives. Thus situated I determined to go over to Canada, and accordingly went to a flag of truce that was then in the village for permission which I obtained. I went to one of my acquaintances on the other side, where I was favourably received. I applied to the commanding officer, for the purpose of ascertaining whether I could procure any of my clothes; he answered me that I should have them, but did not trouble himself to make any enquiry. My journey was not lost, I procured the release of my husband, who was paroled, and returned with me. Most of the houses in the village were plundered; there were but five men killed on our side, and four taken prisoners.

I wish you to send some cloth that will make a suit for my husband, and as well as a little calicoe for my gown for myself.—You need not be particular, my price is at a low ebb.—The request I should not make, but there are no goods in the village, nor even in the country.

You will be astonished when I tell you, that we were not contented with what the Indians and soldiers could plunder during the battle; but after we were the women on the other side made a cross and took what was left.

Political.

From the Philadelphia Register.

To supply the wants of the Treasury, occasioned by the war, we then engaged in, Congress passed a law to authorize a loan of 11 millions of dollars, at 6 per cent and in case the loan did not readily fill, authorized the issuing of Treasury Notes, payable at the Treasury at 12 months, and receivable at the Custom houses in payment of the revenue; and before the books were opened, all the supporters of the administration were loud in their prognostications of its being immediately filled; but how was the fact? A few individuals, from motives of patriotism, and some officers of the government subscribed, in the whole U. S. a sum not amounting to two millions—The Bank who were almost all asking favors of the state governments, were squeezed over and over, and a large deficiency at last supplied by the issue of Treasury Notes.

Congress not daring to risk their popularity by laying taxes to support the war, have again recourse to a loan; but aware of the difficulties experienced last year, have left the terms discretionary with the minister—How far his conduct has been discreet, the following observations may give some idea:

The only motives from which subscriptions can be expected, are patriotism and interest. On the first the experience of last year shows, there is little dependence to be placed; to avail himself of the latter, Mr. Gallatin has held out an appearance of giving 7 per cent interest—that is, for every \$100 paid in, the lender receives a certificate of stock to that amount, bearing interest at 6 per cent, and an annuity of \$1 for 13 years.

Now an annuity of \$1 for 13 years (interest being 6 per cent) is worth 8.8526

To which add the stock, 100

Gives the value in present money \$108.8526

Which at 6 per cent, is equal to a perpetual annuity of \$6.531.

The dealers in stock, aware of this, have reduced the price of the last year's loan to 92 per cent, whereas its true comparative value is 99.37 per cent, operating a loss of 8 per cent, on that stock in one year.

If Mr. Gallatin has offered these terms in consequence of assurances from capitalists that the loan shall be filled, perhaps no farther evil will arise; but if this should not be the case, and if the loan should not fill, what must be the consequence? The money must be had, cost what it may; the Secretary must raise his offer. Hence, those who subscribe first will meet an immediate loss in the value of their stock, by all the difference of the terms given to the last subscribers, and will not the mounted men keep back from subscribing on that very account?

FROM THE N. Y. EVENING POST.

Mr. Coleman—I have seen in your paper an invitation again this year, to the citizens to lend the U. States a further sum of \$16,000,000 for which an interest of 7 per cent is offered for 13 years and 6 per cent is offered afterward; and the old pledge of the eight million annuity and the public faith are tendered as security. Will you have the goodness to inform me through the medium of your paper, how much will remain of this 8 million annuity, after paying off the old funded debt, the Louisiana stock, the 11 million loan of last year, the 5 million of exchange bills issued last year, and the 10 millions authorized by law to be issued this year? And further, whether even this 8 million a year will be collected from the impost and tonnage duties when there is no trade! I suppose you understand these matters, and can tell me how much revenue is now due, from these sources, and how much Mr. Secretary Gallatin calculates will become due on the importations for the year 1813? I ask these questions not so much on my own account as that of my friends who may be taken in by the sinking credit of the nation in the same manner as I have been. I can get only \$90 now for the certificate of \$100 the treasury gave me last year, by which I have lost 10 per cent, in less than 12 months. I therefore feel very little inclination to subscribe to this loan, unless I can be sure that Mr. Gallatin will hereafter come into the market and undersell me again; a proceeding I consider the more unfair, because he cannot plead a rise in

the market rate of interest, in as much as the funding stock of this city, resting solely on the credit of the corporation and bearing only 6 per cent interest sells ready at two per cent above par.

Since interest will necessarily increase in security diminishes, it is incumbent on you as a good citizen to shew, if the fact be so, how these millions of exchange bills, which are to be paid in preference to all other creditors, can be paid out of the duties now bonded and which according to Mr. Gallatin's statement, will be bonded in the course of the next year, and yet leave all those revenues, so faithfully pledged, untouched in the treasury, to meet the claims of pre-emption of the funded debt of the United States. If there be any magician in the pay of Mr. Gallatin, capable of so explaining this, as to rescue the public credit from confusion, and insure to the subscribers that their principal is safe, that the interest will be paid, and that Mr. Gallatin will appear, in your paper, and if he satisfies me, I will take another cut.

A Subscriber to the Last Year's Loan.

FROM THE SAME PAPER.

Non-Importation.—By our Washington news, it appears that the bill for the repeal of the non-importation act has passed the house as amended, and has gone up to the Senate for concurrence. As the repeal of the non-importation act is a cabinet measure, and the government Gazette is now drilling the members of the Legislature, in order to prepare them to act upon the bill once more; we should not be surprised if the expunged section should be restored in the Senate, and the original bill should yet pass before the end of the session. The government must have money, and any measure, however objectionable, will be resorted to to obtain it.

The following conversation we understand lately took place at Washington:

Member of C.—Mr. Secretary, is it absolutely necessary to raise the non-importation this session?

Secretary.—If you expect I shall find the money you must provide some way to raise it. You pledge de impost to pay de old national debt—You pledge it to pay de Treasury notes. You pledge it to pay de loan, and you pledge it to carry on de war; and at de same time you make one law de destroys dat impost altogether.

Member.—Well if the non-importation is raised, will dat bring money enough?

Sec. I do not say it will. I know it will not. De taxes must be laid, and at directly so or you must not expect dat I can find de money to pay de armies, de navies, de interest of de loans and great many approbations besides, dat you made de session.

Mem.—But will it be politic to lay the taxes?

Sec. POLITIC! dat one odd question. You ask me how we must get de money, you make de war, you raise grand armies, build great ships, appropriate thousands and tens of thousands, and now ask if it is politic to lay de taxes. You should ask one such question two tree, four year ago, before you had pledged yourselves and de nation to carry on de war. If you will be one grand nation, and spend great deal of money, you must pay taxes and de sooner you begin de better. Don't you see de expenses riling up like one grand snow ball, and not one single dollar in my house to melt dem down? You may, I say again provide some way to raise de money, or you must stop making approbations, and your war must cease for de want of argent. If you expect to carry on war without money, you must find one more able financier dan your humble servant.

FROM THE CHAMBERSBURG REPOSITORY.

The Militia.—As it is contemplated by the legislature of Pennsylvania to revise and amend the present militia law, the writer would beg leave to point out an error in the present system, which though of magnitude, he has not observed hinted at in the numerous and able petitions addressed to the legislature on the subject: the evil of members of congress eligible to offices among the militia, is what he alludes to.

In a government like ours, where elections are frequent, and rotation in office essential, every man is liable to be elevated to a seat in these popular bodies. In times of party heat, like the present, men are often selected for candidates, more for their sociability and familiarity of manner, than their weight of judgment. To be a member of congress, it appears, is a ready passport to the highest commission in the militia—and thus men

Who never set a squadron in the field, Or the division of a battle knew More than spinsters,

have the disciplining of our militia—men whose elevation in the world depends on the breath of the multitude—on the swiftness of their conduct. Few men thus situated, can deport themselves as becomes their station, and as it is necessary for the due subordination of an army. But to demonstrate the position, it is only necessary to relate the following anecdote:

A number of the men of the 2d regiment of riflemen, of Gen. Fannehill's brigade of volunteers, bantered the rest of the army to run a foot race. They were taken up by some individuals of the regiment, and bets to a considerable amount were taken on. Those of the first regiment produced a private of their regiment as their champion—and those of the second regiment (the banterers) brought forward their colonel! These champions stripped, and ran the race through a lane formed by the men—to the amusement of some, the disgust of others, and the detriment of subordination. The colonel was beat—as it was said for the first time.

All this might do well enough in a militia muster or review; but in an army it is truly ridiculous and pernicious. After this affair the reputation of such condescension became a bye word. If it was asked—Why does general such a one do this, or colonel such a one do that? The answer was—"O! he was elected to congress this fall, he cannot offend his neighbors."—The general, and two out of the four colonels of this brigade, were members of congress!