

We learn that James Marlin, jun. esq is the Candidate for Caswell district.

The Superior Court, which commenced its session on Monday, adjourned yesterday. Judge Hall presided.

As the impressment question is now the only text for war, we would direct public attention several articles, on this subject, in the preceding page.

Vacancy on the Bench. The Governor has fixed on the 22d instant for the meeting of the Council of State, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Judge Harris.

MR. GASTON'S CIRCULAR. To the Freemen of the Counties of Johnston Wayne, Greene, Lenoir, Jones, Carteret and Craven, Composing the Fourth Congressional District.

BY an Act of the last Congress, passed a few days before their adjournment, the first session of the next Congress is directed to take place on the fourth Monday of May. This circumstance has rendered it the duty of the Governor to summon the Freemen of the State together, at an unusual season, to choose their Representatives in the National Legislature.

In ordinary times, the choice of an individual, who shall correctly represent your opinions and faithfully promote your interest to the Great Council of the Nation, is an act by no means unimportant. But in these days of danger and disaster, in a season of War, when we are actually suffering evils of no common magnitude, and are treated with others far more alarming—it becomes one of the most solemn and responsible which a Free People can be called upon to execute.

I present not myself to you in a presumptuous confidence that I am fitted for the appointment, nor dare I amuse you with promises of the services I may perform. It is with a thorough self-felt sense of my defects and imperfections—but with a disposition to devote myself such as I am to the cause of my country—that I feel myself bound to obey the call which has been made upon me, and to declare my readiness to repair to the arduous station of your Representatives, should you think proper to assign it to me.

I seek not to wound any man's prejudices, and am far from desiring to awaken party animosities. But believing it my duty to do so towards you in the spirit of sincerity, I will state in as few words as are consistent with respectivity, my leading opinions upon that momentous subject, which not only absorbs all others, and irresistibly engages every man's attention. Alas! to the injuries committed on my Country and disclaiming to be the apology of any Foreign Nation—unwitnessed that we have well founded causes of complaint against each the great Belligerents of Europe. I reverence could not but view the selection of Great Britain for our enemy, while the relations of friendliness were courted with France, as an act of extravagance and rashness, astonishing and unaccountable. It was forbidden by our Interest. Whether we regarded the immediate advantages of a particular commerce or the more distant yet far more valuable benefit of National security. From the honor and fair character of the Nation, nothing could be more abhorrent. The various frauds and the grossest outrages—the open and shameless violations of a treaty, the plunderings, confiscations, imprisonments, and burnings, the most contemptuous treatment and foulest language to the part of the French Emperor, seemed but to strengthen the anxiety to conciliate his friendship. While wrongs, serious indeed in themselves but which on comparison almost dwindled into nothing, rendered his adversary our foe! If the declaration of war is to be lamented, there is little of consolation to be found in the manner of its prosecution.

Seamen's Rights and a Free Trade were sought to be protected, not on the element where they had been assailed, but by the invasion of Canada. The scheme was not more objectionable than the attempts to execute it have been calamitous and disgraceful! Our gallant little navy, the remnant of better days and sounder policy, the natural protectors of commerce and of the mariner; that little navy, but for which the word 'war' would bring the image of shame to the cheek of every American, was remembered only that it might be slighted, until it fought itself into ruin and encouragement. From the continuance of the War I see nothing to hope, and every thing to fear. All trade is now destroyed but what is permitted by the enemy. In every transaction of life, by the wealthiest as by the poorest in society the most distressing embarrassments are felt. We are shortly to be bowed down with an oppressive load of taxes; and for our children is to be accumulated a Debt of countless Millions to harass and crush them for ages. The union of the States is endangered by a War, avowedly for sea and commerce, yet against the almost undivided voice of that Section of our People, who, as seamen abound and commerce was thriving, while a more intimate connexion is threatened, and in the nature of things is almost inevitable, between us and the Tyrant, into whose scale our weight has been thrown, whose embrace is death; the common enemy of Man and of Nations. With these impressions and these opinions I bow myself the earnest anxious FRIEND of PEACE. It is among the first of my earliest wishes to see Peace once more restored to my Country. Its speedy return is the more solemnly desired from an apprehension that the longer the unfortunate contest is continued—the more will be provoked those angry passions and that mutual spirit of exasperation which infinitely increase the difficulties of reconciliation.

The difference between the United States and our Enemy is now understood to be confined to a single point—one, which I have enumerated in the catalogue of our wrongs, was assuredly not the cause of War, as it had not even been the subject of negotiation between the two governments, since the unfortunate rejection by us of Mr. Monroe's arrangement. Great Britain advances a claim to search our merchant ships on the high seas for British Sailors; while by us it has been insisted that the Flag shall protect every man on board. Each has professed a readiness to accede to such arrangements as will prevent the principle contended for from being injurious to the rights of the other. If it should be necessary to prosecute this War in order to obtain for native Americans a practical and reasonable security against Impressments, much as I deplore its commencement, condemn its progress, and dread its continuance, my conscience will permit, and my feelings demand of me, for this purpose to give it my support. But I will not as a Man, and as a Christian I dare not, yield my consent to shed the blood or waste the treasure of my countrymen upon an abstract question of doubtful right, nor in the quixotic effort to exonerate foreign Seamen from the duties, however burdensome, which are demanded of them by their Sovereigns. At whatever risk or cost, I am prepared to protect my Country and every section of it from attack, but I am not disposed, for undefined purposes of aggression or invasion, to aid in schemes of foreign conquest, not congenial with our habits and institutions, nor conducive to the speedy attainment of a just and honorable Peace.

I am respectfully, Fellow Citizens, Your friend and obedient Servant, WILLIAM GASTON.

Newbern, March 15th, 1813

Extract of a letter from Norfolk, dated March 22. Three gun boats, commanded by Capt. Stewart, went down on Saturday evening, and on their approach two of the frigates slipped or cut their cables and were towed down to the line of battle ships, one with 9 and the other with 7 boats a head.

WILMINGTON 26th March, 1813. The following correspondence was received from Lewistown last evening by the Dover Mail.

HEAD-QUARTERS, Lewis, March 22d, 1813.

SIR, As the Governor of the State of Delaware, and the commander of its military force, I improve the earliest time afforded me, since my arrival at this place, of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 16th inst. directed to the Chief Magistrate of Lewis.

The respect which generous and magnanimous nations, even when they are enemies, take pride in cherishing towards each other, enjoins it upon me as a duty I owe to the state over which I have the honor at this time to preside; to the government of which this state is a member, and to the civilized world, to enquire of you, whether upon further and more mature reflection, you continue resolved to attempt the destruction of this town? I shall probably this evening receive your reply to the present communication and your determination of executing or relinquishing the demand mentioned in your letter of the 16th inst. If that mind is still insisted upon, I have only to observe to you that a compliance would be an immediate violation of the laws of my country and of eternal suzerainty of the nation of which I am a citizen: a compliance therefore cannot be accorded to.

I have the honor to be, sir, Your most obedient servant, JOSEPH HASLET, Governor of the State of Delaware.

His Britannic Majesty's Ship Poitiers in the mouth of the Delaware, 23d of March, 1813

SIR, In reply to your letter received to day by a flag of truce in answer to mine of the 16th inst. I have to observe, that the demand upon Lewis is not in my opinion ungenerous nor wanting in that magnanimity which the nation ought to observe to another with which it is at war. It is in my power to destroy your town, and he requires I have made upon it as the price of its security is neither distressing nor unusual. I must therefore persist; and whatever sufferings may fall upon the inhabitants of Lewis, must be attributed to yourselves by your not complying with a request easily acquiesced in.

I have the honor to be, sir, Your most obedient servant, J. P. BERESEFORD, Commandr. and commanding U. S. M. Squadron in the Delaware. To the Hon. JOSEPH HASLET, Governor of the State of Delaware.

PITTSBURGH March 19. Letters have been received in town from the Head Quarters of the North Western Army, as late as the 6th inst.—Nothing of importance had occurred.—The expedition sent to destroy the Queen Charlotte, lying in the ice near Malden, failed in accomplishing the object intended—when the troops had approached within a short distance of the place, the ice was found broken up so that they could not proceed. The fort and stockade were completed, and the men had comfortable quarters. It was no presumed, that the army would leave the Rapids for some time.

We regret to perceive that most of those prints with which we are proud generally to agree, do not consider the acceptance of the Russian Mediation as sincere on the part of our government. Without intending to enter ourselves as the defenders of the administration against the charge of insincerity, we look only to what is their POLICY. For what object shall they continue the war? Surely for none which cannot with more reasonable probability be obtained in part, if not in whole, by negotiation, and to which they must resort if the war is continued three years. The changed and changing state of Europe have (independently of the actual revolution of the orders in council) but too rest many matters of dispute, and certainly invite a reflecting statesman to pause. It is not

recommended that the administration should take counsel from its fears, and pitch up a disgraceful peace; the exalted character of the Mediator forbids a supposition that any thing dishonorable to this nation will receive his countenance. The administration has then no other object in view than the subject of impressment.—Can there be a man who will not admit that a subject of so much difficulty and delicacy can be better arranged by negotiation than by the sword? To give full effect to the negotiation, which it is believed, will grow out of the mediation, the people of Virginia and North Carolina must do their duty. We repeat, that a radical change in the representation is necessary to insure—to put beyond all doubt, a safe and an honorable peace.—Norfolk Ledger.

From the N. York Evening Post. A great mistake.—The legislature of this state (says the New-York Gazette of this morning) have proposed to subscribe 50,000 dollars to the 16 million loan. Now to speak in newspaper phrase we are happy to inform our readers that this is altogether incorrect; the Senate have voted to subscribe such a sum towards carrying on this wicked war, but the House have not concurred in the suicidal measure nor will they—the subject was to have been taken up to-morrow.

An axe wanting a handle, came upon a time into a wood, making his moan to the great trees that he wanted a handle to work withall, and for that cause he was constrained to sit idle—therefore he made it his request to them that they would be pleased to grant him one of their small saplings within the wood to make him a handle; who mistrusting no guile, granted him one of their smaller trees to make him a handle. But now becoming a complete axe, he fell to work within the same wood; so that in process of time there was neither great nor small trees to be found in the place where the wood stood.

GEN. MOREAU'S AID.

A Gentleman recently arrived from St. Petersburg states, that Lt. Col. Rapatel, Aide-de-Camp to Gen. Moreau, had arrived there from America. This officer resided a few weeks in London, on his way to the Baltic; and it was reported at the time, that he was the bearer of an unconditional offer of service from Gen. Moreau to the Emperor of Russia and the Crown Prince of Sweden, in any effort they were disposed to make for the deliverance of Europe. Colonel Rapatel had several interviews with Ministers during his residence here, and it is said, furnished most satisfactory proofs of the willingness of Gen. Moreau to take the field against the common enemy at the head of a certain description of force, and commence operations in a particular part of Europe which he specified. There were circumstances, as we understand, which rendered it impossible for the British Government to accede to the General's proposition at that moment and Col. Rapatel proceeded to Gottenburg. At the Swedish Court he was received with the utmost possible distinction, and Bernadotte, to whom he delivered letters from Moreau, offered him a command in the Swedish army, then preparing for the intended expedition. Rapatel, however, pursued his journey to St. Petersburg, passing through and minutely inspecting the Russian armies on his way, and was admitted, with Sir R. Wilson & other distinguished foreigners, to the conferences of the Russian Generals. On his arrival in the Russian capital, Col. Rapatel was presented to the Emperor Alexander, who instantly made him an offer of his purse, and conferred upon him the rank of Colonel in the Quarter Master General's Department of the Russian army; and he is now busily occupied in organizing an entirely new Commissariat, upon the French and English system.—It is understood that in future, until the Russian Officers are accustomed to the duties of a vigilant and active Commissariat, these functions will be performed by such English, German, or French Officers, as may wish to enter the Russian service; the whole to be under the superintendance, ad interim, of Sir R. Wilson and Col. Rapatel. The services of the former are well known—the latter has served in the whole of Gen. Moreau's campaigns.

From the Examiner, (a London paper) of Jan. 3

Capt. Crozier's account of the loss of the Macedonian, will be seen in the Gazette.—He appears to have done his duty; and had it not been that superficial people have been so long in the habit of boasting of the invincibility of British seamen, no one would have deemed it extraordinary that a vessel of superior force in every respect should capture an inferior one. The Americans it should be remembered, are from the same stock, and are made of the same stuff as ourselves; they are equally active and bold; and give them a trifling superiority, they will of course avail themselves of it as we would do. There is no disgrace, therefore, in the matter; except indeed that which may attach to our industry, in not having provided vessels of equal force to meet our new enemies.

A Manager at a certain Theatre, having occasion to call on his attorney the morning prior to the representation of a favorite piece, very politely presented him with a box order, requested his attendance in the evening to see the piece performed.—The Gentleman of the Law readily accepted the order, telling the Manager he might rely on his attendance. The Manager, shortly after this called for his account, to his great astonishment, on looking over it, saw the following:—“These hours and a half's attendance at the Theatre. 15s. 4d!”

DIED.

At Lumberton, on the 29th ult. after a very short and painful illness, the Hon. Edward Harris, one of the Judges of the Superior Courts of Law and Equity.—At his father's, near Wilkesborough, on the 15th February, after a severe spell of sickness, John Jones, Clerk and Master in Equity. His remains were interred in the family burying ground the day after, attended by a number of disconsolate relations, his Masonic brethren, and a great concourse of sympathizing acquaintances.

At Königsberg, Gen. Count Lottbissiere Inspector and Commanding General of the French artillery.—He was succeeded by General Elbe, who also died three days after, both from fatigue.

COMMUNICATION.

Departed this life in Rowingham county, on the 28th February, at Spring Garden, the former residence of James Galloway esq deceased, his son Thomas Galloway, in the 21st year of his age, much beloved in his life for the integrity of his conduct and his amiable and conciliating deportment, and equally lamented in his death by his numerous friends and acquaintances.

Postscript.

New York, March 24

The Hornet has arrived at this port. The Hornet captured the brig of war Peacock—Captain killed, and vessel sunk. The Peacock is rated in Steel's list 18 guns. Private letters confirm the above.

March 26.

Another Glorious Victory.

The sloop of war Hornet, Captain LAWRENCE, arrived at this port yesterday morning from a cruise of 145 days during which she captured the British brig Resolution, of ten guns, and the British sloop of war Peacock, Captain Peake, of twenty guns. The following particulars of this action will show that the honor of the American name has been gallantly sustained by captain Lawrence, and his brave officers and crew.

After Commodore Boscawen left the coast of Brazil, on the 6th of January last, the Hornet continued off the harbor of St. Salvador blockading the Bonne Citoyenne, until the 24th, when the Montague, 74, hove in sight and chased her into the harbor, but night coming on she wore and stood out to the southward. Knowing that she had left Rio Janeiro for the express purpose of relieving the Bonne Citoyenne and the Packet, which the Hornet had blockaded for fourteen days, Capt. Lawrence thought it most prudent to change his cruising ground, and stood to the eastward with a view of cruising off Pernambuco; and on the 4th of February captured the English brig Resolution, of ten guns, from Rio Janeiro bound to Maranhao, with coffee, jerked beef, fustic and butter, and about 23,000 dollars in specie. As the brig sailed dull, and Capt. L. could not spare hands to man her, he took on the money and set her on fire. He then ran down the coast for Mocha and crossed there a short time, from thence ran off burinam. After cruising off that coast from the 15th to the 22d of February, with an intention a vessel he stood for Demarara, with an intention should be not be fortunate on that station, to run through the West Indies, on his way to the United States. But on the morning of the 24th discovered a brig to leeward, to which he gave chase; ran into quarter less fight, and not having a pilot was obliged to haul off; the fort at the entrance of Demarara river at this time bearing S.W. distance about two and a half leagues. Presently giving up the chase he discovered a vessel at anchor, off the bar with English colors flying, a private brig of war. In beating round Cariboo Bank in order to get at her at half past 3 P.M. he discovered another sail on his weather quarter, inspecting down for him. At 20 minutes past 4 she hoisted English colors, at which time captain L. discovered her to be a large man of war brig, beat to quarters and cleared ship for action; kept close by the wind, in order if possible to catch the weather gage. At 5.10 m. fighting he could weather the enemy he hoisted American colors and tacked.—At 5.25 m. in passing each other, exchanged broadsides within half pistol shot. Observing the broadsides in the act of wearing, Capt. L. bore up, received his starboard broadside, ran her close on board on the starboard quarter and kept up such a heavy and well directed fire, that in less than 15 minutes he surrendered, being literally cut to pieces, and hoisted an ensign, union down, from his fore rigging, as a signal of distress. Shortly after his mainmast went by the board.

Dispatched Lt. Shubrick on board, who soon returned with her first Lieutenant, who reported her to be his Britannic Majesty's late private Peacock, commanded by Captain William Peake, who fell in the latter part of the action. That a number of her crew were killed and wounded, and that she was sinking fast, having then six feet of water in her hold.

Dispatched the boats immediately for the wounded, & bro't both vessels to anchor. Such shot holes as could be got at, were then plugged. For guns thrown overboard and every possible exertion used to keep her afloat, until the prisoners could be removed, by pumping and baling, but with little effect, and she unfortunately sunk in five and an half fathoms water, carrying down 150 of her crew, and three of our brave fellows, viz. John Hart, Joseph Williams and Hannibal Boyd. Lieut. Carpenter, Midshipman Cooper, and the remainder of the Hornet's crew employed in removing the prisoners, with difficulty saved themselves by jumping in a boat that was lying on her bows as she went down—four men, of the 13 mentioned, were so fortunate as to gain the foretop, and were afterwards taken off by the boats.

Previous to her going down four of her men took to her stern boat which had been much damaged during the action, who it is hoped, reached the shore in safety; but from the heavy sea running at the time, the shattered state of the boat, and the difficulty of landing on the coast, it is feared they were lost. Capt. L. was not able to ascertain from her officers the exact number killed, ed. Capt. Peake and four men were found dead on board. The master, one Midshipman, Carpenter and Captain's Clerk, and twenty nine seamen were wounded; most of them very severely; three of whom died of their wounds after being removed, and nine drowned. Our loss was trifling in comparison. John Place, killed. Samuel Coulson and John Dalrymple, slightly wounded; George Coffin and Lewis Todd, severely burnt by the explosion of a cartridge. Todd survived only a few days. Our rigging and sails were much cut. One shot through the fore mast; and the bowsprit slightly injured. Our hull received little or no damage.