

THE CAROLINA FEDERAL REPUBLICAN.

[VOL. III.]

NEWBERN, SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1812.

[NUMBER 158.]

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HALL AND BRYAN,

AT THE PRICE OF DOLLARS PER ANNUM, PAYABLE HALF YEARLY IN ADVANCE.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED AT SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS A SQUARE, THE FIRST WEEK, AND THIRTY-FIVE CENTS FOR EACH CONTINUATION.

NEWBERN PRICES CURRENT.

MERCHANDISE.	quan. rated.	from D C.	to D C.
Bacon, - - -	Lb.	10	
Beef, - - -	Barrel	8	8 50
Butter, - - -	lb.		25
Bees-Wax, - - -		20	
Brandy, French	gallon	3	
do. Apple		62	
do. Peach		1	1 25
Corn, - - -	bushel	40	45
Meal, - - -			60
Cotton, - - -	lb.	10	12
Coffee, - - -		16	18
Cordage, - - -		20	25
Flour, - - -	barrel	7	7 50
Flaxseed, - - -	bushel	80	90
Gin, Holland	gallon	1 75	2
do. Country		1	
Iron, - - -	lb.	6	7
Pine Scantling,	M		8
Plank, - - -		10	12
Square Timber,		21	24
Shingles, 22 inch,			1 45
Staves, W. O. hhd.		17	18
do. R. O. do.		10	12
do. W. O. bbl.		8	10
Heading, W. O. hhd.		20	22
Lard, - - -	lb.	10	12
Molasses, - - -	gallon		60
Nails, at the factory	lb.	12	15
Tar, - - -	barrel		1 50
Pitch, - - -		2	
Rosin, - - -		1 85	2
Turpentine, - - -		1 40	
do. Spirits,	gallon		25
Pork, - - -	barrel	12	13
Rice, - - -	bushel	2	2 40
Rum, Jamaica,	gallon		1 80
do. W. I.			1 15
do. American,		75	80
Salt Alum, per 100	bushels	70	
Sugar, - - -	cwt.	12	13
Tobacco, - - -		3	

FRANCIS V. CONWAY.

TAKES the liberty of informing his friends and the public in general, that he has lately been appointed.

Notice.

and will be thankful to all those who may think proper to entrust him with the sales of their property.

Besides a faithful discharge of his duty towards the interests of his employers, all Goods, &c. sent to his Auction Store for Sale may remain free of Storage for twenty days, and if not sold within that time, the owner must expect to pay the customary prices of Storage.

He occupies the store lately occupied by Mr. Adam Bantz as an Auction Store. Dec. 7, 1811.

BANK OF NEWBERN.

A Dividend of five per cent, on the Stock of this Bank, has been declared for the half year ending on the 31st of this inst. The same will be paid to the Stockholders on their legal representatives any time after the 3rd of January, 1812.

M. C. STEPHENS, Cashier.

Dec. 21, 1811.

NEWBERN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY

A Dividend of five per cent, on each share has been declared for the half year ending the 30th inst. The same will be paid to the Stockholders on application to the Bank of Newbern, on or after the 3d of January, 1812.

SAMUEL GEROCK, Secy.

Newbern, Dec. 28, 1811.

NOTICE.

HAVING frequently received injuries by some of those that follow Ducking, Hunting, Cutting Wood, and in other ways trespassing on my land, I now forwarn all persons from Hunting either with dog or gun on my land, without my permission.

FREDERICK FOY.

Dec. 1

BLANKS,
OF ALL KINDS
FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE.

WASHINGTON CITY, December 21.

The following message from the President of the United States, enclosing Governor Harrison's two letters to the Secretary at War, on the subject of the late engagement with the Indians on the Wabash was laid before Congress on Thursday.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

I lay before Congress two letters received from Governor Harrison of the Indiana Territory, reporting the particulars and the issue of the expedition under his command, of which notice was taken in my communication of November 5.

While it is deeply lamented that so many valuable lives have been lost in the action which took place on the 7th ultimo, Congress will see with satisfaction the dauntless spirit and fortitude victoriously displayed by every description of the troops engaged, as well as the collected firmness which distinguished their commander on an occasion requiring the utmost exertions of valor and discipline.

It may reasonably be expected that the good effects of this critical defeat and dispersion of a combination of savages which appears to have been spreading to a greater extent, will be experienced not only in a cessation of the murders and depredations committed on our frontiers but in the prevention of any hostile incursions otherwise to have been apprehended.

The families of those brave and patriotic citizens who have fallen in this severe conflict, will doubtless engage the favorable attention of Congress.

JAMES MADISON.

Washington, December 13.

[Here follows the first letter, dated Vincennes, November 19, which, from its great length we are obliged to abridge, retaining, however, all the most important details. Governor Harrison commences with detailing his march up the Wabash, and the manner in which his forces were formed, which is interesting to most readers. He proceeds—]

During the whole of the last day's march parties of Indians were constantly about us and every effort was made by the interpreters to speak to them, but in vain—new attempts of the kind were now made, but proving equally ineffectual, a captain Dubois of the spies and guides, offering to go with a flag to the town, I dispatched him with an interpreter to request a conference with the Prophet. In a few moments a message was sent by captain Dubois to inform me that in his attempts to advance, the Indians appeared on both his flanks, and although he had spoken to them in the most friendly manner they refused to answer, but beckoned to him to go forward and constantly endeavored to cut him off from the army. Upon this information I recalled the Captain, and determined to encamp for the night and take some other measures for opening a conference with the Prophet. Whilst I was engaged in tracing the lines for the encampment, Major Daviess who commanded the Dragoons, came to inform me that he had penetrated to the Indian field, that the ground was entirely open and favorable—that the Indians in front had manifested nothing but hostility and had answered every attempt to bring them to a parley with contempt and insolence. I was immediately advised by all the officers around me to move forward. A similar wish indeed pervaded all the army—it was drawn up in excellent order and every man appeared eager to decide the contest immediately. Being informed that a good encampment might be had upon the Wabash, I yielded to what appeared the general wish, and directed the troops to advance, taking care however to place the interpreters in front with direction to invite a conference with any Indian they might meet with. We had not advanced above 4 hundred yards, when I was informed that three Indians had approached the advanced guard and had expressed a wish to speak to me, I found upon their arrival that one of them was a man in great estimation with the Prophet. He informed me that the chiefs were much surprised at my advancing upon them so rapidly—that they were given to understand by the Delawares and Miamies whom I had sent to them a few days before, that I would not advance to their town, until I had received an answer to my demands made through them. That this answer had been dispatched by the Putawatamic chief Winemac, who had accompanied the Miamies and Delawares on their return, that they had left the Prophet's Town two days before with a design to meet me, but had unfortunately taken the road on the south side of the Wabash. I answered that I had no intention of ac-

tacking them until I discovered that they would not comply with the demands which I had made—that I would go on and encamp at the Wabash, and in the morning would have an interview with the Prophet and his chiefs, and explain to them the determination of the President—that in the mean time no hostilities should be committed. He seemed much pleased with this, and promised that it should be observed on their part.

I then resumed my march; we struck the cultivated grounds about five hundred yards below town, but as these extended to the banks of the Wabash there was no possibility of getting an encampment which was provided with both wood and water. My guards and interpreters being still with the advanced guard, and taking the direction of the town, the army followed and had advanced within about 150 yards when 50 or 60 Indians sallied out and with loud exclamations called to the cavalry & to the militia infantry, which were on our right flank, to halt. I immediately advanced to the front, caused the army to halt, and directed an interpreter to request some of the chiefs to come to me. In a few moments the man who had been with me before made his appearance. I informed him that my object for the present was to procure a good piece of ground to encamp on where we could get wood and water—he informed me that there was a creek to the north west which he thought would suit our purpose. I immediately dispatched two officers to examine it, and they reported that the situation was excellent I then took leave of the chief and a mutual promise was again made for a suspension of hostilities until we could have an interview on the following day. I found the ground destined for the encampment not altogether such as I could wish it—it was indeed admirably calculated for the encampment of regular troops, that were opposed to regulars, but it afforded great facility to the approach of savages. It was a piece of dry oak land, rising about ten feet above the level of a marshy prairie in front (towards the Indian town) and nearly twice that height above a similar prairie in the rear, through which and near to the bank ran a small stream clothed with willows and other brush wood. Towards the left flank this bench of high land widened considerably, but became gradually narrower in the opposite direction, and at the distance of one hundred and fifty yards from the right flank, terminated in an abrupt point.

[The Governor here made the necessary dispositions for encampment, and had the respective companies disposed in order of battle, in case of surprise, and every precaution taken to prevent such an event.]

On the morning of the 7th, I had risen at a quarter after 4, and the signal for calling out the men would have been given in two minutes, when the attack commenced. It began on our left flank—but a single gun was fired by the centinels or the guard in that direction, which made not the least resistance, but abandoned their officer and fled into camp, and the first notice which the troops of that flank had of the danger was from the yells of the savages within a short distance of the line—but even under those circumstances the men were not wanting to themselves or the occasion. Such of them as were awake or were easily awakened seized their arms and took their stations—others that were more tardy, had to contend with the enemy in the door of their tents. The storm first fell on capt. Barton's company of the 4th U. S. regiment, and capt. Geiger's company of mounted riflemen, which formed the left angle of the rear line. The fire upon these was excessively severe, and they suffered considerably before relief could be brought to them. Some few Indians passed into the encampment near the angle, and one or two penetrated to some distance before they were killed. I believe all the other companies were under arms and tolerably formed before they were fired on. The morning was dark and cloudy—our fires afforded a partial light, which if it gave us some opportunity of taking our positions was still more advantageous to the enemy, affording them the means of taking a surer aim; they were therefore extinguished as soon as possible. Under all these discouraging circumstances, the troops (nineteen twentieths of whom had never been in an action before) behaved in a manner that can never be too much applauded. They took their places without noise and with less confusion than could have been expected from veterans placed in a similar situation. As soon as I could mount my horse, I rode to the angle that was attacked—I found that Barton's company had suffered severely and the left of

Geiger's entirely broken. I immediately ordered Cooke's company and the late capt. Wentworth's, under lieut. Peters, to be brought up from the centre of the rear line, where the ground was much more defensible, & formed across the angle in support of Barton's and Geiger's. My attention was then engaged by a heavy firing on the left of the right wing, where were stationed the small company of the U. S. riflemen (then however armed with muskets) and the companies of Baen, Snelling and Prescott of the 4th regt. I found major Daviess forming the dragoons in the rear of those companies; and understanding that the heaviest part of the enemy's fire proceeded from some trees about 15 or 20 paces in front of those companies, I directed the major to disengage them with a part of the dragoons. Unfortunately the major's gallantry determined him to execute the order with a smaller force than was sufficient which enabled the enemy to avoid him in front, and attack his flank. The major was mortally wounded, and his party driven back. The Indians were however immediately and gallantly dislodged from their advantageous position by capt. Snelling at the head of his company. In the course of a few minutes after the commencement of the attack, the fire extended along the left flank, the whole of the front, the right flank, and part of the rear line. Upon Spencer's mounted riflemen, which was posted on the right of the rear line it was excessively severe: Capt. Spencer and his first and 2d lieuts. were killed, and capt. Warwick was mortally wounded—these companies however still bravely defended and maintained their posts, but Spencer had suffered so severely, and having originally too much ground to occupy, I reinforced them with Robb's company of riflemen, which had been driven, or by mistake ordered from their position on the left flank towards the centre of the camp, and filled the vacancy that had been occupied by Robb with Prescott's company of the 4th U. S. regt. My great object was to keep the lines entire, to prevent the enemy from breaking into the camp until day light, which would enable me to make a general and effectual charge.—With this view I had reinforced every part of the line that had suffered much; & as soon as the approach of morning discovered itself, I withdrew from the front line Snelling's, Posey's (under lieut. Albright) and Scott's, and from the rear line, Wilson's companies, and drew them up on the left flank, and at the same time I ordered Cooke's and Baen's companies, the former from the rear and the latter from the front line, to reinforce the right flank; foreseeing that at these points the enemy would make their last efforts. Maj. Welles, who commanded on the left flank, not knowing my intentions precisely had taken the command of these companies and charged the enemy before I had formed the body of dragoons with which I meant to support the infantry; a small detachment of these were however ready, and proved amply sufficient for the purpose. The Indians were driven by the infantry at the point of the bayonet, and the dragoons pursued and drove them into a marsh where they could not be followed. Capt. Cooke and lieut. Larabee had, agreeably to my order, marched their companies to the right flank, had formed them under the fire of the enemy, and being then joined by the riflemen of that flank had charged the Indians, killed a number, and put the rest to a precipitate flight. A favorable opportunity was here offered to pursue the enemy with dragoons, but being engaged at that time on the other flank, I did not observe it until it was too late.

I have thus, sir, given you the particulars of an action which was certainly supported with the greatest obstinacy & perseverance by both parties. The Indians manifested a ferocity uncommon even with them—to their savage fury our troops opposed that cool deliberate valor which is characteristic of the christian soldier.

[The governor then enters into a minute recital of the merits and services of every officer and company,—speaks in the highest terms of the valor and good conduct of both the regulars and militia, and recommends to government the propriety of providing for the families of those who fell in the action, many of whom are in indigent circumstances. All the officers who fell, except capt. Baen, have families, some of them very large.]

With respect to the number of Indians that were engaged against us, I am possessed of no data by which I can form a correct statement. It must however have been considerable, and certainly much inferior to our own; with respect