

# THE MINERVA.

PUBLISHED (WEEKLY) BY WILLIAM BOYLAN.

TWO DOLLS PER ANNUM.  
Payable in advance.

RALEIGH, (N. C.) THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1809.

No. 696

## Foreign News.

### THE NEW ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

From Saturday night's Gazette.

Court at the Queen's Palace, the 24th of May, 1809.

PRESENT,

His Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

His Majesty was pleased, by his Council of the 26th of April last, to order that certain ports and places of the country, which have been lately styled the Kingdom of Holland, to be subject to the restriction to a strict and rigorous blockade, continued from his Majesty's former Order of the 11th of November, 1807; and that no vessels of the said United States, which have been cleared out between the 19th of July next, for any other permitted destination, in consequence of information of the said provisional agreement, and proceeding to any of the ports of the said Order of the 26th of April last, shall be molested or interrupted in her voyage by the Commanders of any of His Majesty's ships or privateers, unless such vessel have been warned not to proceed to any port of Holland aforesaid, and shall, notwithstanding such warning, be found attempting to proceed to any such port.

It is further ordered, that after the said Order of the 26th of April last, no vessel of the said United States, which shall have cleared out, or be found attempting to proceed to any of the ports of the said Order of the 26th of April last, shall be molested or interrupted in her voyage by the Commanders of any of His Majesty's ships or privateers, unless such vessel have been warned not to proceed to any port of Holland aforesaid, and shall, notwithstanding such warning, be found attempting to proceed to any such port.

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and the 11th of November, 1807, as altered by the said Order of the 26th of April last.

Provided also, that nothing in this Order contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to protect any vessel which shall attempt to enter any port actually blockaded by any of His Majesty's ships of war.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and the Judge of the High Court of Admiralty, and the Judges of the Courts of Vice Admiralty, are to give the necessary directions, herein as to them may respectively appertain.

STEPH. COTTRELL.

### WAR IN PORTUGAL.

Extract of a letter from Gen. Wellesley.

Oporto, May 12.

My Lord, I had the honor to apprise your Lordship, on the 7th inst. that I intended that the army should march on the 9th from Coimbra, to dispossess the enemy of Oporto.

The advanced guard and the cavalry had marched on the 7th, and the whole halted on the 8th, to afford time for Marshal Berresford with his corps to arrive upon the Upper Douro.

On the 10th in the morning, before day light, the cavalry and advanced guard crossed the Vouga, with the intention to surprise and cut off four regiments of French cavalry, and a battalion of infantry and artillery, cantoned at Albergaria Nova and the neighboring villages about eight miles from that river, in the last of which we failed; but the superiority of the British cavalry was evident throughout the day; we took some prisoners and their cannon from them; and the advanced guard took up the position of Oliveira.

On the arrival of the advanced guard at Vendas Novas between Santo Redondo and Grijon, they fell in with the out posts of the enemy's advanced guard, consisting of about four thousand infantry, and some squadrons of cavalry, strongly posted on the heights above Grijon, their front being covered by woods and broken ground. The enemy's left flank was turned by a movement well executed by Major General Murray, with Brigadier General Longworth's brigade of the Hanoverian Legion, whilst the 16th Portuguese regiment of Brigadier General Richard Stewart's brigade attacked their right, and the riflemen of the 95th, and the flank companies of the 29th, 43d, and 52d, of the same brigade, under Major Way, attacked the infantry in the woods and villages in the centre.

The attacks soon obliged the enemy to give way and the Hon. Brigadier-General Charles Stewart led two squadrons of the 16th and 20th Dragoons, under the command of Major Blake, in pursuit of the enemy, and destroyed many and took many prisoners.

On the night of the 11th the enemy crossed the Douro, and destroyed the bridge over that river.

It was important, with a view to the operations of Marshal Berresford that I should cross the Douro immediately; and I had sent Major General Murray in the morning with a battalion of the Hanoverian Legion, a squadron of cavalry, and two six pounders to endeavor to collect boats, and if possible to cross the river at Oventas about four miles above Oporto; and I had as many boats as could be collected brought to the Ferry, immediately above the towns of Oporto and Villa Nova.

The ground on the right bank of the river at this ferry is protected and commanded by the fire of cannon placed on the height of Sierra Convent at Villa Nova, and there appeared to be a good position for our troops on the opposite side of the river, till they should be collected in sufficient numbers.

The enemy took no notice of our collection of boats, or of the embarkation of troops till after the first battalion (the Buffs) were landed, and had taken up their position under the command of Lieut. Gen. Paget, on the opposite side of the river.

They then commenced an attack upon them with a large body of cavalry, infantry, and artillery under the command of Marshal Soult, which that corps most gallantly sustained, till supported successfully by the 48th and 66th regiments, belonging to Major Gen. Hill's brigade, and Portuguese battalion, and afterwards by the first battalion, of detachments belonging to Brig. Gen. Richard Stewart's brigade.

Although the French made repeated attacks upon them, they made no impression, and at last Major Gen. Murray having appeared on the enemy's left flank on his march from Oventas, where he had crossed, and Lieut. General Sherbrooke, who by this time had availed himself of the enemy's weakness in the town of Oporto, and had crossed the Douro at the ferry, between the towns of Villa Nova and Oporto, having appeared upon the right with the brigade of Guards, and the 29th Regiment, the whole retired in the

most confusion towards Amaranthe, leaving behind them five pieces of cannon, eight ammunition trunks, and many prisoners.

The enemy's loss in killed and wounded in this action has been very large, and they have left behind them in Oporto 700 sick and wounded.

I cannot say too much in favor of the officers and troops. They have marched in four days over eighty miles of most difficult country, have gained many important positions, and have engaged and defeated three different bodies of the enemy's troops.

On the night after the last action, when our parties were sent out to trace the course of the enemy they were blowing up their tumbrils, and destroying their ammunition.

In the battles in Portugal previous to the taking of Oporto, the British had 42 killed, 163 wounded, and 15 missing.

Names of the Officers wounded in the battles in Portugal, in May, previous to the retaking of Oporto—Lieut. Gen. Paget, lost his arm, but recovering; Capt. Hill, slightly wounded; Major Harvey, lost his right arm but doing well; Captain Hawker, and Lieut. Snipe, slightly; Lieutenant Monagan, do; Major Erskine, slightly; Captain Binning, do; Captain Owens, do; Lt. Louder, do; Maj. Stanhope, do; Captain Sweatman, do; Maj. Murray, severely; Lt. Hamilton, do; Captain Langreth, do; Lt. Tomkinson, do; Lieut. Woodgate, do.

Oporto, May 13.

Return of Ordnance, Ammunition, and Carriages—four pounders, one carriage good 2 eight inch, 1 six inch: French carriages, 4 serviceable, 35 unserviceable; 5000 barrels of English gun powder; 300,000 English musket cartridges; round shot—2000 nine pounders, 256 eighteen pounders, 508 twelve pounders, 656 eight pounders, 508 four pounders, 2000 three pounders; shells—100 six inch, 600 flannel cartridges—case shot—120 six-inch howitzers, wheels good—8 guns, 30 howitzers, 15 carts; 60 handspikes, 12 taraulins; 3000 French flints; 100 slow matches; 100 sponges; 30 copper ladles.

G. HOWARTH.

Brig. Gen. Royal Horse Artillery.

House of Lords, May 25.

AMERICA.

Lord Sidmouth wished to be informed whether it was intended to make any communications to Parliament respecting the state of our relations with America?

Earl Bathurst said, the negotiation being still pending, it was not intended to make any communication to Parliament. The arrangement which had been entered into by his Majesty's minister in America and the Government of the United States was unauthorized, the former having made concessions without demanding any of those conditions, the compliance with which ought to have been made the basis of granting such concessions.

Lord Sidmouth asked, if he was then to consider the arrangement made by his Majesty's Minister in America as wholly unauthorized?

Earl Bathurst answered in the affirmative.

Earl Grey thought from the expression used by the Noble Earl that some instructions had been given to Mr. Erskine to make certain concessions, which the latter might have misunderstood. From the arrangement as published in the newspapers, it seems, as if the measures adopted had been preconcerted, for every thing followed in such order and rule, that it was almost impossible to believe but what Mr. Erskine, of whose ability he had the highest opinion, conceived that he was acting strictly according to his instructions. It must be evident, that by his disavowal of this arrangement, the difficulties in the further negotiation with America would be materially increased, and when known in America, it might give rise to some imputations against the character and good faith of this country, under the impression that a trick had been resorted to for the sake of obtaining a little temporary advantage for ourselves. A fearful responsibility, therefore, rested upon ministers, and investigation might take place.

The Earl of Liverpool agreed that the disavowal of this arrangement must necessarily increase the difficulties in the negotiation with America; but that could not be imputed to ministers, as in making that arrangement, Mr. Erskine had not only acted unauthorized by his instructions but in direct contradiction to his instructions, he thought it necessary to state this distinctly as the Noble Earl appeared to have misunderstood his Noble Friend. Care would be taken in the Order, which would appear as soon as the course of business would allow that those vessels, which, in the mean time, had sailed in consequence of the confidence reposed in the arrangement made in America, should be excluded from the operation of that Order, and that those persons who had thus embarked their goods should not be losers. As to the discussion of the subject, Ministers would be anxious, when the proper time arrived, that every possible information should be given to Parliament.

LONDON, May 29.

A secret expedition sailed yesterday. The command is entrusted to Sir Gen. Craik, furd.

Saturday, the British merchants interested in the trade to the continent, had a meeting with the Board of Trade, when Lord Bathurst informed them, that the period during which American vessels would be allowed to enter the ports of Holland, would only extend from the 9th of June to the 20th of July. He also informed them that licenses for exportation would be granted, extending to three months and import licenses, for one month.

### THE ARMIES.

The dispatches received by government and by the Austrian ambassador, are not of so late a date as the last French bulletin. All the Austrian armies seem to be taking the direction to Hungary. Gen. Bellegarde is at Pilsen, and the archduke Charles behind the Badruze with about 120,000 men. The archduke Ferdinand remains at Warsaw, but will probably abandon it to strengthen the main Austrian army. Gen. Hiller, with 50,000 men, was on the borders of Moravia. The army of the archduke John falling back in good order, has recrossed the Tagliamento, and will proceed to Hungary. The brave Tyrolese, making incursions into the heart of Suabia, having pushed their parties almost to Augsburg and Munich. They have been at Memmingen, Nempton and Kaufheim. The French army is thus distributed:

The main body, under Bonaparte, is at Vienna. Bernadotte and Davoust are in Bohemia watching the archduke Charles and General Bellegarde. A battle was expected to take place at Pilsen. The duke of Dantzic's division, with the division under General Wrede, are marching from Saltzburg to attack Gen. Jellachich and the marquis de Castelar. Eugene De'aparnois is following the archduke John, who, if he had not been obliged to weaken his army by sending so large a force to Gen. Hiller, would probably by this time have been at Milan.

How well prepared Germany is for a revolt, may be seen by the access that has attended Schill—At first he had but a thousand men, but volunteers crowded to his standard from all parts; and we hear of him now in Hanover, and in Hesse, and in Brunswick, alarming the whole kingdom of Jerome Bonaparte, who has not the courage to go and meet him.

PARIS, May 19.

The Moniteur of this day states as follows: Yesterday evening Col. Gurthelen, Aid de camp to the Duke of Montebello, arrived at the Arch Chancellor's palace, with dispatches from the Emperor, with accounts that the French army entered Vienna on the 12th, when the following Proclamation was issued:

"SOLDIERS,  
"A month ago the Austrians passed the Inn. On the same day, and at the same time we have entered Vienna.

"Their nation, their general insurrection, their bulwarks, which have been raised by the power of the Princes of the House of Lorraine have not been able to withstand your presence. The Princes of that house have abandoned their capital; not as warriors of honor, but as as egotists who are pursued by their self reproaches. Flying from Vienna, their adieu to the inhabitants has been fire and murder. Like Medea, they have destroyed their own children.

"The people of Vienna shall be the object of your regard. I take the inhabitants of this town under my particular protection; but any disturbances or irregularities shall exemplarily punish.

"Soldiers I behave well to the people of the country. Let us take no pride in our successes; let us only regard them as a proof of divine justice, which punishes ingratitude and the want of faith.

"NAPOLEON."

MILAN, May 13.

A part of the army commanded by prince Eugene, is already on the Tagliamento.—The enemy flies with great rapidity.

ROTTERDAM, May 25.

The official Journal contains an account from Milan, dated, May 11, which states in substance that according to all reports, the Austrians on the 12th of May sustained a loss of full 12,000 in killed, wounded & prisoners, & that the French in following up their advantages were already at Udina. At the same time the blockade of Parmanova was raised. On the 12th the French head quarters were at St. Daniel.

STOCKHOLM, May 11.

ABDICATION OF THE KING OF SWEDEN.

The members, having produced their credentials from their Constituents, and the Diet being duly constituted, the states proceeded in a body, on the 6th inst. to pay their respects to his royal highness, the Regent, and to express their most grateful acknowledgements for the zeal, activity and patriotism he had evinced, in relinquishing the comforts and