

Copy of a letter from Com. Taylor to the Secretary of the Navy.

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Sir—I have the pleasure to inform you of the capture of the British sloop tender (E. G. I.) which for some time had been employed by Commodore Betsworth for the purpose of carrying the provisions &c. H. I. was with officers and 11 men, with a 39 brass howitzer.

This service was performed in a most gallant and manly manner by 500 men, under the command of the commanding officer, 1 midshipman mortally wounded and 2 seamen killed. I am happy to say we suffered no injury, which is to be attributed to the superior management of Sailing-master Percival, and the coolness with which his men fired, for which they all deserve well of their country.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. LEWIS, Com. U. S. Flotilla.

Hon. Wm. Jones, Sec. of the Navy.

P. S. The capture was on Sunday the 4th instant.

Friday, July 9.

GALLANT EXPLOIT OF VIRGINIAN MILITIA.

The following extract of a letter, addressed to the Governor, by a gentleman of the first respectability, dated, Surry, July 8th, 1813, shows the latest movements of the enemy, and the destruction of one of his vessels, occasioned by the desperate opposition of a small detachment of militia:—

Several of the enemy's vessels, in descending the river, came to, opposite the mouth of Leno's Creek, in which there were several vessels; two of which they captured and burnt, the evening before the last, there being no militia stationed at the time on the creek. Information had, however, been given to one detachment, which moved down in the night, and yesterday morning early, a warm engagement, for a short time, took place between the enemy and a few of this county (Surry) militia, who had volunteered and crossed Leno's creek, which is the dividing line between Isle of Wight and Surry. About twenty-three or four, exclusive of officers, were opposed to seven barges, and other vessels. One of their schooners being aground, every effort was made by them to save her; but notwithstanding the fire from one of her barges, and other vessels, they were compelled to set fire to her and she was burnt. After which, all the barges (seven in number) were compelled to retreat. During the engagement, several of the enemy were seen to fall, and one of them has floated on shore. The militia received no injury whatever.

Copy of Col. Beatty's report to Gen. Taylor.

Craney Island, June 25.

Sir—Some movements on the 21st inst. among the British shipping lying near Newport-Neuse, seemed to indicate an early attack on this Island, and in the course of the next morning, on the 22d inst. they landed two miles from this, from the best accounts that can be ascertained from deserters, about 2500 troops of various descriptions. The object of this movement was, no doubt, with a view to approach this post on the west side of the Island, across the water in that direction, which at low water is passable by infantry—soon after their landing, they approached about 45 or 50 boats full of men, which directed their course from the shipping, as above stated, to the north side of the Island.

The British troops at the same time (that were previously landed) made their appearance on the main land, with a view of attacking the west and north positions of the island at the same moment. Two 24 pounders and four 6 pounders were advantageously posted under the direction of Maj. Faulkner of the artillery, which being so well served by Capt. Emmerson, Lieut. Howl and Go-twin, who displayed that cool and deliberate conduct which will at all times insure success to the cause in which they are engaged. Lieut. Neale of the Constellation, during our defence, conducted himself with active zeal and courage, which will at all times add a lustre to the name of an American naval officer. Capt. Brock of the ship Manhattan, conducted himself with great activity and judgment in defence of the place, which will no doubt give him a distinguished part in the success of the day. Great praise is also due to the conduct of Serjeant Young and corporal Moffit of Capt. Emmerson's company, for the active part they took in the management of the two 6 pounders.

Much credit is due to Capt. Tarbell

of the Constellation for the aid he gave in defence of the island, in forwarding from his ship one hundred and fifty sailors and marines, with the officers commanding the same, which no doubt contributed greatly to the successful defence of the Island. Indeed, both officers and soldiers of every description showed a degree of zeal for the defence of the place; and when opportunity may offer, we confidently hope they will not be wanting in duty.

The loss of the enemy cannot be less than 200 in the course of the day—a number of which were killed on the land side by our artillery. But it is known that 4 or 5 of their barges were sunk, one of which, the Antipede, said to be 32 feet long, working 24 oars, belonging to Adm. Warren's ship, was taken and brought in with 22 prisoners, and a small brass 3 pounder, a number of small arms, pistols, and cutlasses.

Besides the loss in killed, there must have been at least 40 deserters brought in, in the course of the day and dispersed through the country.

It is with pleasure I have to state to you that not a man was lost on our part; the only wound made use of by the enemy in the course of the day, were the Congreve rockets, a few of which fell in our encampment, though without injury.

I am, sir, with great respect, your humble servant,

H. BEATTY, Lt. Col. Com'dg.

Copy of a letter from General Taylor, to the Secretary of War

HEAD QUARTERS, Norfolk, 4th July.

Sir—I have the honor to transmit Col. Beatty's report of the attack on Craney Island, on the 22d June last. His multiplied and pressing avocations have prevented the completing it till to day.

The whole force on the Island at the time of the attack, consisted of 50 riflemen, 445 infantry of the line, 91 state artillery, and 150 seamen and marines, furnished by Captain Tarbell. Of these 43 were on the sick list.

The courage and constancy with which this inferior force in the face of a formidable armament, not only sustained a position in which nothing was complete, but repelled the enemy with considerable loss, cannot fail to merit the approbation of their government and the applause of their country. It has infused into the residue of the army a general spirit of composition, the beneficial effects of which will, I trust, be displayed in our future combats.

I cannot withhold my grateful acknowledgments to Com. Cassin, Capt. Farbell and the officers and crew of the Constellation and gun-boats, who have in every instance aided our operations with a cordiality, zeal and ability, not to be surpassed.

I have the honor to be, &c.

ROBERT TAYLOR, Brig. Gen. Com'dg.

Hon. John Armstrong, Secretary of War.

CHESAPEAKE & SHANNON.

BALEN, JUNE 30.

Capt. John Upton, late commander of the privateer Cossack, of this port, arrived at Boston on Monday, in the brig Victory, a licensed vessel, from Liverpool N. S. Capt. Upton left Halifax on the 29th inst. The brig Porcupine from France had arrived at Halifax. Capt. Broke was recovering. From Captain U. we learn (what has before been rumored) that the conduct of the enemy on board the Chesapeake, after her capture, was such as would disgrace even his majesty's red allies of the wilderness. Capt. Upton boarded at the same house with the surviving midshipmen and other officers of the Chesapeake, and from them he learnt the following particulars:

After the enemy had complete possession of the ship, and the men were ordered from the tops, Mr. Berry, a midshipman, who commanded the mizen top, had got half way down the mizen shrouds, to surrender himself as prisoner, when two sailors rushed up and seized him by the collar, attempted to throw him overboard, but he got within the shrouds, when they seized him by the heels, and pitched him on to the deck. Being stunned by the fall, he lay senseless; when he came to, he was cut over the head with a cutlass, which nearly terminated his existence.

Mr. Livingston, another midshipman, after receiving a musket ball through his body, was run through his body three times, notwithstanding his repeated cries for quarter (and

after the enemy had possession of the ship)—he lived long enough to express his indignation at the brutality of his enemies, and expired in a few hours.

Three men were killed in the hold, after the capture of the ship; and they even fired into the cockpit among the wounded and the dying. Eleven of the Chesapeake's officers were confined in a small place, 9 feet by 6, with a guard at the door, till their arrival at Halifax, and only one or two permitted to come out at a time. Men were shot at in coming out of the tops to surrender themselves—and other instances of barbarity took place disgraceful to a civilized people. Captain Upton was particularly requested by the surviving midshipmen to make these facts known to the public; and when they return to their country they will undoubtedly give a full and authentic statement of these horrid transactions.

The conduct on board the Chesapeake after capture, is a contrast to the generous behaviour of our ships in such situations. We hope that our brave seamen will still scorn to imitate savages.

FOREIGN NEWS.

RECEIVED BY THE WAY OF HALIFAX

CATHOLIC EMANCIPATION.

LONDON, MAY 6.

The following is the purport of the bill for this purpose, now before the Parliament:—It enables Roman Catholics to sit in either House of Parliament, to hold all civil and military offices, upon their taking and making a certain declaration and oath, instead of the oaths of allegiance, abjuration and supremacy, and the declarations against transubstantiation and the invocation of saints required by the present laws—EXCEPT the office of Lord High Chancellor, Lord Keeper or Commissioner of the Great Seal of Great Britain, or Lord Lieutenant, or Lord Deputy, or Chief Governor, or Governors of Ireland, Roman Catholics are also to continue disqualified to hold or present to any office, benefice, place or dignity, belonging to the established church, or Church of Scotland; or any ecclesiastical court of jurisdiction, or to the Colleges of Eton, Westminster, or Winchester, or any college or school, or royal or ecclesiastical foundation within this realm, otherwise than they are by laws now existing qualified to hold or present to.

Mr. Canning has proposed several supplementary clauses, not hostile to the bill, but merely as addenda; which with the bill, are ordered to be printed.

A Gottenburg mail which has just arrived, brings the unfavorable intelligence, that a rupture between Sweden and Denmark is unavoidable; each power has withdrawn its agents from the court of the other.

Count Bernstoff, Danish Ambassador, has left this country on his return to Copenhagen, having failed in his pacific overtures, which is no way surprising, considering the extravagance of the demands of the Danish government. These are said to have been—to guarantee Norway to Denmark; to restore her captured islands & her fleet; to pay an indemnity for its capture, and the damages sustained in Zealand. To make over to her the Hanse Towns, and to grant her a subsidy to enable her to take possession of them.

On the 22d ult. the second Swedish expedition sailed from Carlsham with a fair wind having 10,000 troops on board. The Swedish merchants expressed great regret at the almost certain prospect of a war between that country and Denmark.

Government has received official advices from Gen. Stewart, dated at Berlin the 23d ult. of the surrender of the important fortress of Thorn by capitulation to the arms of the allies. The garrison are made prisoners of war; the Bavarian troops were allowed their parole.

MAY 7.

The troops of Saxe Wiemar, Goth and Heilburghausen surrendered by capitulation to the Prussians; they were marched to Gen. Blucher's head quarters at A tenburgh, and immediately volunteered their services against the enemy. The important fortress of Spandau has capitulated, and private letters mention several other places taken possession of by the allies.

The Danes have sent some Gun-Boats up the Elbe as far as Zollins pecker; and have voluntarily offered food, and their troops to assist at Hamburg.

MAY 8.

There is a confident report of a great disturbance having taken place at Amsterdam; and that it was not quelled without great difficulty.

Mr. George H. Rose goes as minister from this country to Sweden.

Serious disturbances are said to have broken out at Palermo; troops had arrived there from Malta, and three line of battle ships are said to have been moored with their broadsides to the town, ready to act as occasion might require.

Two French frigates made their escape from Brest on the 21st ult.

Another change in ministers' minds on the subject of American Licences is announced.—They have now resolved to grant them only to the ports north of Rhode-Island; whereas those which they had began to issue, respected any port not under blockade.

HAMBURGH, MAY 4.

The situation of our city is very critical; Echmuhl is at Harburgh with 9000 men; but we are competent to meet him. An attempt was made to ford the river, which they would have accomplished had the east wind continued; but fortunately the wind changed, and the depth of the stream rendered it impossible.

The French army on the banks of the Saale, extends from the limits of Franconia to Magdeburgh, and the number is computed at 80,000 men. The Russians are in prodigious force, supported by the Prussians; the whole extending in a line from Altenburg to Dessau and Berlin; and within this range, are in co-operation, the Imperial Generals Wizingerode and Wittgenstein and the Prussian commanders Lestock, De York and Blucher—Kutasoff is sick at Bazen, where he is attended by the physicians of the Emperor and King of Prussia.

MELIGOLAND, MAY 6.

We have just received information of a desperate conflict in the neighborhood of Halie; where the French were defeated by the allies with the loss of 6000 men. In consequence of which the Russians and Prussians are now in force on the left bank of the Saale, below Mersburgh.

DRESDEN, APRIL 25.

Austria will certainly join the allies; a congress of the German body, under sanction of the Emperor Francis, is confidently spoken of with a view of establishing his authority, and the ancient German constitution.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Saturday, July 3.

The engrossed bill establishing the town of Mobile a port of entry, was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Benson laid upon the table a resolution to the following effect, with an intimation that he should call for its consideration on Monday:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed by this House jointly with a committee to be appointed by the Senate, to consider what business is necessary to be done before the adjournment of Congress, and to report at what time the two Houses may adjourn.

Mr. Ingersoll, after a number of pertinent remarks on the present defects of the law providing for the punishment of piracy, and on the jarring decisions made by the Judiciary officers thereon and also on the present vexatious and difficult mode of taking depositions to be read in the courts of the U. States, offered two resolutions for enquiry into the propriety of amending the laws in these respects. These resolutions he proposed to lay on the table, to be called up at the next session of Congress. On the suggestion of the Speaker, that this course was contrary to the rules, according to which a postponement beyond the session is tantamount to a general or indefinite postponement, the House refused to consider the resolutions, which now of course lie on the table.

The bill to impose a duty on licences to distillers of spirits, was first taken up—and the amendments made in committee of the whole were severally agreed to.

Mr. Taylor moved to amend the bill by striking out the second section thereof, imposing a duty on the capacity of the still, and in lieu thereof inserting a section imposing specific duties on the quantity distilled, at the rate of ten cents for every gallon of spirits from foreign materials of first proof, and so upwards to 25 cents for the highest proof, and every gallon distilled from domestic materials, 7 cents for the lowest, and so up to 18 cents per gallon on the highest proof.

After some conversation, the question on the amendment was taken, and the result proved to be as follows:

For the amendment, 89.

Against it, 89.

There being an equality of votes on this amendment, the Speaker decided the motion in the negative.

Several attempts were made by Mr. King of Massachusetts and others, forther to amend the bill so as to render its provisions more favorable to spirits distilled from foreign materials; but were unsuccessful.

On motion of Mr. Bradley, the following proviso was attached to the bill:—Provided, That there be paid upon each still employed wholly in the distillation of spirits but one half of the rates of duties above mentioned, according to the capacity of the still.

The bill was then on motion of Mr. Bibb, ordered to lie on the table.

The bill from the Senate, to relinquish the claims of the United States to certain goods, wares and merchandise, captured by private armed vessels, was twice read, & referred to the committee of ways and means.

The House spent some time in committee of the whole, on the bill for laying a direct tax, and having risen at the usual hour, the committee obtained leave to sit again.

Monday, July 5.

Mr. Benson's motion for the appointment of a joint committee to enquire into the day at which it would be proper to adjourn, was taken up & agreed to. Messrs. Benson, Grundy, Hiramman, Telfair and McCoy were appointed the committee.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill laying duties on licences to distillers of spirituous liquors.

A motion was made by Mr. Pitkin to re-commit the bill to the committee of Ways and means with instructions to report a section or sections, allowing a drawback on the exportation of spirits distilled from foreign materials; and the question being taken on this motion, it was negatived.

For the motion 42, Against it 108.

Mr. King of Mass. then moved to re-commit the bill to the same committee with instructions to equalize the duties of the stills employed in distilling from both foreign and domestic materials.—Motion lost.

The question on the engrossing of said bill for a third reading was decided as follows:

For the engrossment 99

Against it 51

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Nelson in the chair, on the tax bills. The bill to lay and collect a Direct Tax within the United States, was then taken up, discussed, amended & reported to the House, and the committee obtained leave to sit again on the remaining bills.

The House then proceeded to consider the report of the committee of the whole on the Direct Tax bill; but adjourned before having gone through the same.

Tuesday, July 6.

Mr. Troup, from the military committee reported the bill from the Senate for establishing an invalid corps, without amendment; and it was referred to a committee of the whole.

The engrossed bill to lay a duty on licences to distillers of spirituous liquors, was read a third time.

[This bill proposes a duty on licences to distillers, as follows: For the employment of a still or stills employed in distilling spirits from domestic materials, for two weeks, nine cents for each gallon of the capacity thereof, including the head; for one month, eighteen cents; for two months, thirty two cents; for three months, forty two cents; for four months, fifty two cents; for six months, seventy cents; for one year, one hundred and eight cents for each gallon of its capacity as aforesaid. For a licence for the employment of a still or stills in the distillation of spirits from foreign materials, for one month, 25 cents for each gallon of its capacity; for three months, sixty cents; for six months, one hundred and five cents; for one year, one hundred and thirty five cents for each gallon of its capacity. And for every boiler, however constructed, employed in distilleries by steam, double the amount on each gallon of its capacity, which shall be payable for said licence if granted for same terms and to employ the same materials for a still.]

The bill was passed without debate 85 to 49.

Messrs. Alston, Franklin, Kennedy, King, Macon, Mumfry, Pickens, and Van Vleet were for the bill; and Messrs. Cullpeper, Gaston, Pearson and Stanford against it. General Forney was absent.

The House then proceeded to consider the amendments reported by the committee of the whole to the bill for laying & collecting a Direct Tax within the U. States.

After some discussion and questions on some of the amendments—

Mr. Post moved to re-commit the bill to the committee of Ways & Means—Negatived.

Considerable further discussion took place, and several amendments were proposed, some of which were adopted and others rejected, which consumed the remainder of the Congressional Day; and

The House adjourned without having gone through the bill.

Wednesday, July 7.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill for laying and collecting a direct tax within the U. States.

Other amendments thereto were proposed which were variously disposed of. Numerous amendments having been proposed, the previous question was called for, and determined in the affirmative, 83 to 78. A question of order was raised, viz. whether the agreement raised the previous question in this case.