The troops with which the great Frederick commenced the Silesian war, had never heard the report of a hostile gun; but in the battles of Molwitz, of Prague, of Rosback, and Leuthen, they practised those lessons which had been taught in the peaceful fields of Berlin and Potsdam. When he was preparing for his first campaign, the Austrian minister wished to dissuade him from the enterprize, by inspiring him with fear for a contest; his parade battalions would have to encounter the veteran troops of his mistress, whose valor and discipline had been proved in the fields of actual danger. "Your majesty's troops are very fine," said he, "but you must recollect that ours have seen the Wolf."

"You think my troops are fine (said Frederick), I will convince you that they are good." The succeeding battle of Molwitz, shewed that troops that can manœuvre, well, though they may never have seen an enemy, are able to cope with veterans, and conquer in spite of blunders of their generals. The king committed a mistake in his disposition, which could not have been rectified by marshal Shewrin, if the discipline of the troops had not been perfect.

I have recommended camps of discipline to instruct those who are already capable of bearing arms, but the career of military instruction for our youth should commence as soon as their mental and bodily powers have acquired sufficient strength. Professorships of tactics should be established in all our seminaries, and even the amusements of the children should resemble those of the ancient Gymnasia, that they may grow up in the practice of those exercises which will enable them to bear with ease the duty of the camp and the labors of the field.

It will no doubt be urged as a reason for continuing the old plan, that the poorer class of our citizens cannot spare five or six weeks in a year from their farms to learn military duty; I know that they cannot without being paid—but is not our government able to pay them? if it is not, they ought to make themselves so by laying additional taxes. But I am persuaded that the money that is devoted to other objects may be more usefully and certainly consistently appropriated to this purpose. Under our present circumstances, the 6000 regular troops we have are very proper, but I think that 100,000 disciplined militia would be better, and that the money which is spent on the former would soon effect the discipline of the latter.

I am far from thinking a fleet unnecessary, and there is no man who attaches more importance to the improvement of our country by canals and roads. I do think, however, that these should be the first objects on which our revenue should be expended; and I recollect that every man in Rome was a soldier before they had a fleet or an Appian or Flaminian way. The defence of every despotic government is a standing army. Despots, therefore, very properly make it the first object of their care and expence. The safety of a republic entirely depends on the discipline of its militia, and we very inconsistently make it the last object of our attention. The general government have lately turned their thoughts to the militia, and have resolved to arm the whole of them. You, my dear sir, need not be told, that a system of instruction should be commenced as soon as the arms are delivered; and that even with this system, the arms should only be occasionally put into the hands of the men, until they had learnt to value them and take care of them. Unless this precaution is used, the millions of dollars which the arms will cost had much better be expended upon the gunboats, on which the eloquent author of the attempt to arm the whole of the militia has lavished so much bitter invective and sarcasm. It would certainly be better to apply the money, that is intended to arm the whole, to discipline and arm a part of the militia. And it ought to have occurred to Mr. Randolph, than whom no man is better acquainted with history, that Carthage possessed arms as well as Rome, but not, like the latter, a disciplined militia. Rome therefore survived the slaughter of Trebia, Thrasymene and Cannæ, whilst the fate of Carthage was determined by the single defeat of Zama. The loss of men, compared with the population was nothing; men in abundance were left, but no soldiers. Let her militia be disciplined, and the independence of America would be preserved against a world united.—The loss of her capitol and succession of defeats might distress but would not ruin her. As long as she has men enough to form an army, Liberty would have a temple. In Greece, as long as Greece was free, every man was a soldier. Hence it happened, that those small republics could be conquered only by extirpation. In the disastrous Sicilian expedition, a third of the citizens of Athens perished, and yet she survived to reap new laurels, whilst the proud empire of Carthage was humbled in the dust by a single defeat. The immortal victories of Marathon, Salamis & Plates were achieved by a disciplined militia; and the Roman legions, which conquered the world, were nothing more. Amongst these republicans, nothing would be thought more disgraceful than to be ignorant of the tactics then in practice, or to be unable to manage with dexterity the sword, the spear and the shield. Our youth practice with no other arms but the pistol, and learn no other warfare but such as is to serve them in a contest with their fellow-citizens. With these principles and this sort of education, they will possess only the courage of ostentation, and will brave death in what is called the field of honor, but fly at the sight of the enemy.

Being called to a distant part of the territory, I must conclude this long letter, without having finished all the observations which I intended to make.—The subject shall be resumed on my return, and the particular motives communicated which induced me to address myself particularly to you.

I have the honor to be,
Dear Sir, Your friend,
And humble servant.
WILLIAM H. HARRISON.

His Excellency Charles Scott,
Governor of Kentucky.

LATE AND IMPORTANT FOREIGN NEWS.

[*The following was issued from the Star Office on Thursday last, in an Extra, it is now published for the information of distant subscribers.*]

NEW-YORK, Sept. 23.

On Saturday Evening the very fast sailing ship Magdalen, captain Sketchley, arrived here in 28 days from Liverpool. The editors of the New York Gazette have received London papers to the 20th, Liverpool to the 22d and Lloyd's List to the 17th August, all inclusive.

At no former period, have we been put in possession of more highly important intelligence—the repeal of the French Berlin and Milan Decrees, and the probable rescinding of the British Orders in Council.

The French decree, and the official letter to general Armstrong, were published in the French governmental paper (the Moniteur) on the 9th ultimo, and in all the London papers the 18th, with the remarks of the Courier, a London ministerial paper are, with other interesting news, published in this evening's Federal Gazette.

It was understood in England, that a new minister had been appointed for the United States—and, it is asserted in one of our London papers, that the French Emperor, (who says "he loves the Americans") has also named a minister for this country.

The fast sailing brig Wheeler, left London on the 17th of August, in great haste, for New York—as her departure was immediately after the receipt of the French news, it was supposed she had been despatched by Mr. Pinkney, our minister at London.

Price of English Stock, August 20—3 per cent consols for money 68 1 2 5-8—3 per cent reduced 69 1-8 3-4—Omnium 1 3-4 7-8 dis.

REPEAL OF THE FRENCH DECREES.

PARIS, August 9.

Copy of a letter from the Minister of Foreign Relations to Mr. Armstrong.

Sir, PARIS, Aug. 5.

I have laid before his Majesty the Emperor and King, the Act of Congress of the 1st of May, extracted from the paper of the United States, which you had transmitted to me. His Majesty could have wished that this act, and all other acts of the United States that may concern France, had been always officially notified to him.

The emperor applauded the general embargo laid by the United States on all their vessels, because that measure, if it has been prejudicial to France, contained at least, nothing offensive to her honour. It has caused her to lose her colonies of Gaudaloupe, Martinique, and Cayenne. The Emperor did not complain of it. He made this sacrifice to the principle which determined the Americans to impose the embargo, and which inspired them with the noble resolution of interdicting themselves the use of the seas, rather than submit to the laws of those who wish to become its tyrants.

The Act of the 1st of March removed the embargo, and substituted for it a measure which must have been particularly injurious to the interests of France. That Act, with which the Emperor was not acquainted for a considerable time after interdicted to American vessels the commerce of France, whilst it authorised a trade with Spain, Naples and Holland, that is to say, with countries under French influence, and denounced confiscation against all French vessels that should enter the ports of America. Reprisal was a matter of right, and commanded by the dignity of France, a circumstance upon which it was impossible to make any compromise. The sequestration of all the American vessels in France was the necessary result of the measures taken by Congress.

At present the Congress treads back its steps. It revokes the Act of the 1st March. The ports of America are open to French commerce, and France is no longer interdicted to the Americans. In short, the Congress engages to oppose such of the belligerent Powers as shall refuse to recognize the rights of neutrals.

In this new state of things, I am authorised to declare to you, sir that the Decrees of Berlin and Milan are revoked, and that from the 1st of November they will cease to be in force, it being understood that in consequence of this declaration the English shall revoke their Orders in Council, and renounce the new principles of blockade which they have attempted to establish: or, that the United States, conformably to the act which you have just communicated, shall cause their rights to be respected by the English.

It is with the most particular satisfaction that I inform you of this resolution of the Emperor. His Majesty loves the Americans. Their prosperity and their commerce enter into the views of his policy. The independence of America is one of the principal titles to the glory of France. Since that epoch the emperor has felt a pleasure in aggrandizing the U. States—and in all circumstances, whatever can contribute to the independence, the prosperity, and the liberty of the Americans will be regarded by the emperor as conformable to the interests of his empire.

London, August 20.

A cabinet council was held on Saturday at the the Foreign Office. The subject for deliberation was supposed to relate to the French Emperor's late decree.

A letter, dated Paris Aug. 11, says, "We have a hope of obtaining the release of a great part, if not all, the American property, and ships seized in the ports of France,"

Another letter from Dunkirk, notices the practical application of the new indulgences to Americans, and announces in a postscript to the letter, that two ships from the United States had been released from sequestration.

The following extract of a letter was posted at Lloyd's on Saturday:—

"Dunkirk, Aug. 20, 1810.

"The American vessels which had been detained here are ordered to be released." [No author mentioned.]

It was reported at Dover, that the opposite ports of France were open to neutral flags, laden with colonial produce.

German papers arrived last night to the 8th, Dutch Journals to the 12th inst. and Paris papers to the 12th are also received.

There appears to be little doubt that the Russians have been defeated by the Turks, a variety of accounts, from different quarters, concurring in that statement; but the extent of the loss which they sustained is variously estimated.

The King of Denmark has declared himself a candidate for the succession to the Swedish throne.

ENGLISH MINISTERIAL REMARKS.

From the Courier.

"It is to be remarked, that Bonaparte affects to prescribe conditions to the revocation of his decrees—he considers America as pledged to oppose us if we refuse to acknowledge the rights of neutrals; that is, to go to war; and he desires it to be understood, that in consequence of his rescinding his decrees, Great Britain is to revoke her orders in council, and abandon her new principles of blockade. Now he knows full well that America has made no such pledge; that she has prescribed to herself a line of conduct to be pursued in the event of our refusing to rescind our Orders in Council. She pledges herself to do nothing more than to stop all intercourse with us. As to the new principles of blockade, we have exercised none which we shall be at all inclined to abandon—and we have given sufficient proof of this in the very first act of our government after they were informed of his new decree. We have declared the canal of Corfu to be in a state of blockade; and have thus shut the entrance into the Adriatic. Of these new principles of blockade, if new they are, he has himself furnished us with a justification. His decrees excluded us from every port and every part of Europe; from Hamburg, with which we were certainly not at war—from the ports of Prussia—from Austria. He cannot keep in every part of Europe a sufficient French force to shut out our naval force. But he makes use of his influence or preponderance over the European powers to exclude. We cannot have before every port in Europe a sufficient naval force to keep it in strict and actual blockade, but we have the preponderance on the ocean, and we adopt a system of reprisal and retaliation founded on the strictest justice.—Glad would we have been if we had suffered France to enjoy all the advantages of commerce through neutral trade, whilst we were suffering every injury that could result from his decrees.—But would any man have advised so absurd a policy? Would any man suffer his country to perish because the measures necessary for its preservation might press upon neutral commerce, which Bonaparte had previously violated? There is no contract without a reciprocal obligation, and if neutrals did not oblige the other party to adhere to the law of nations, they could not complain of us for not adhering to it. Before the Berlin decree, Bonaparte had adopted new any extraordinary means for distressing our commerce, means which had produced the order in council of May, 1806, during the ministry of Mr. Fox, by which order, the coast, from the river Elbe to Brest, was declared in a state of blockade. But neutrals were still permitted to approach the said coast, and enter the said rivers, except the coast and ports from Ostend to the Seine. No sooner had Bonaparte succeeded against Prussia, than he took possession of Hamburg, confiscated all British property and issued his Berlin decree. All the measures we have adopted have been the consequences of measures previously adopted by him.

"If he revokes his decrees, our orders consequent upon those decrees will be revoked also; but if he suppose that we shall abandon any part of the old maritime law, he will find himself completely mistaken. He has said that from and after the 1st Nov. his decrees are revoked; and our government taking notice, that the enemy has announced his decrees to be no longer in force from and after the 1st Nov. may notify that from the 1st November our orders in council, adopted in consequence of those decrees, will cease."

The following Letter has been sent to P. Sansom, Esq. Chairman to the Committee of American Merchants:

Council office, Whitehall, Aug. 8, 1810.

SIR,—The Lords of H. M. P. Council, having issued an Order for entirely suspending, until further order, the provisions of Sect. 42 of the General Quarantine vessels arriving from any of the ports of Europe without the Streight of Gibraltar, or from the Continent of America, or the islands adjacent thereto, or from the Western Islands, with any of the articles enumerated in the first class, including cotton, wool, goat skins, rags, feathers, or hair of any sort, should be permitted to report and enter without being subject to quarantine, under the terms and conditions therein mentioned—I am directed to transmit to you a duplicate of the said order, for the information of the merchants concerned in the trade to and from the continent of America. I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

STEPHEN COTTRELL.

IMPORTANT FRENCH DOCUMENTS.

PARIS, August 7.

His majesty issued on the 5th of August, at the Palace of Trainon, the following decree:

Art. I. The duties upon the importation of the undermentioned goods and merchandize are settled as follows:

By metrical quintal: the cottons of Brazil, Surinam, Demerara and Georgia, long staple, 800 francs; Levant cottons, imported by sea, 600 frs.; the same by land, through the offices at Cologne, Coblentz, Mayence and Strasburg, 300 frs.; cottons from all other places, those from Naples excepted, 600 frs.; those from Naples, the old duties. Raw sugar, 300 frs.; clayed or loaf sugar, 400 frs. hyson teas, 900 frs.; green teas, 600 frs.; all other teas, 150 frs.; indigo, 900 frs.; cocoa, 1000 frs.; cochineal, 2000 frs.; white pepper, 600 frs.; black do. 400 frs.; common cinnamon, 1400 frs.; fine do. 2000 frs.; cloves, 600 frs.; nutmegs, 2000 frs.; mahogany, 50 frs.; Pernambucco wood, 120 frs.; Campeachy do. 80 frs.; dyewoods, ground, 100 frs.

Art. II. When the custom house officers suspect that the declarations concerning the species of qualities are false, they shall send specimens to the director-general of our customs, who is to cause them to be examined by commissaries who have a knowledge of these branches, attached to the ministry of the interior; and who, in every such examination, shall be assisted by two manufacturers or merchants, chosen by the minister of the interior.

If it shall appear that the declarations are false, all the merchandize shall be seized and confiscated.

The king of Sweden arrived at Leipsic on the 31st ult. and thence, after a short stay, proceeded on his way to Berlin. It is rumoured in the German papers, that he intended to proceed to the Baltic. His progress in that direction, on a sudden, and at the moment of a critical juncture in the affairs of Sweden, is altogether unaccountable.

Many intelligent native American merchants, resident in London, are of opinion, that the neutral rights of their flag will in future be recognized by France, and they concur, on the authority of advices, from France, in the sentiments expressed in the proceeding extract from Paris. August 17.

A private letter from Paris, which we have inserted, repeats the rumour, that the release of American property is part of the commercial system of Napoleon.——Globe.

PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE.

Paris, August 9.

The decree you will receive with this letter has been published here, and may be considered of much importance.—Bonaparte is convinced that he cannot do without colonial produce; and that after his prohibitions by decrees, and after all his attempts to prevent its introduction by douaniers, it will find its way into his empire through the north, if it cannot creep through the south. The consequence of this has been, that the northern kingdoms have deriven all the advantage from the revenue they have thus acquired by its admission through their ports, paying duties at their custom houses. Bonaparte is at present known to be in want of money, and he has no other means of filling his coffers, emptied by the expensive war in Spain. Under these circumstances, this plan has been adopted for the purpose of replenishing them. This indulgence, we fear, must not be calculated upon for any length of time, for as soon as the emperor finds his revenue sufficiently increased, which they do not doubt will be shortly, he may put another prohibition upon the introduction of colonial produce.

This theme, we understand, has been for a long time in contemplation, and it is upon that subject that the chamber of commerce has held so many meetings. That the trade would have opened in this manner, we had no conception till the decree appeared. This is supposed to have delayed the emperor's journey to Holland, but now it is settled that he will take his departure immediately, to arrange the affairs of that country.

The release of all American property is talked of, though we do not know how to credit it; and it will be a matter of much difficulty, since the sales have already begun. It is mentioned that another minister is to be sent to the U. States for the purpose of inducing that country to reconciliation with France, and to a war with England; but I apprehend this is merely a speculation, founded upon the proceeings so favorable to commerce in neutral vessels.

This decree has produced a powerful sensation here, though indeed the immense duties will act in a great degree as a prohibition of the introduction of the articles. August 20.

A flag has arrived from Boulogne at Dover, with an officer and dispatches, which were put on board the admiral's ship in the Downs, supposed to relate to the exchange of prisoners. The ultimatum of our government upon this subject was delivered by Mr. M'Kenzie, to the French negociator on the 1st inst. and a fortnight was allowed for consideration. The period expires on Tuesday. It is hoped the answer is favorable.

☞ It was also reported that the opposite ports of France were open to neutral flags laden with colonial produce.

Foreign Office, Aug. 18.

The King has been pleased to cause to be signified by the Marquis Wellesley H. M. Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to the Ministers of friendly neutral powers residing at this Court, that the necessary measures have been taken for the blockade of the Canal of Corfu, and that from this time all the measures authorised by the law of nations, and respective treaties between his majesty and neutral powers, will be adopted and executed with respect to all vessels which may attempt to violate said blockade.

RUSSIAN DEFEAT.

Vienna, July 21.—Several mercantile houses in Bucharest and Orsowa have received letters which confirm the news of the bloody battle, which lasted 16 hours, between the army of the Grand Vizier, and that of the Russians, at 4 leagues distance from Schumla—The Turkish cavalry, commanded by English officers, decided the victory.—There is every appearance that the Russian army will again retire towards the Danube.

refuse his right wing to the enemy, and make all his efforts with his left. Mannstein, who, on both occasions commanded the front line of the right wing, disdaining the inactive situation in which he was placed, advanced upon the enemy—it was necessary that he should be supported, and in this service was employed those battallions which at Kolin would have given the victory to the Prussians, and at Prague have rendered the victory less bloody to the conquerors by some thousands. The fatal effects of disobedience in the instances will a be fine lesson to the American officer, and shews, that the discipline in the army of a modern despot cannot attain the perfection in which it existed in the armies of the ancient republics. It is asserted by historians, that a Spartan soldier whose sword was raised to strike an enemy, would withdraw his arm upon the signal of retreat, believing that obedience to his general was the first of military duties.

SMUTTY WHEAT.

In Young's annals, vol. x. page 231, we have the following experiments, which may be useful to the farmers of this State, whose fields are subject to raising smutty wheat:

Sowed fourteen beds with the same wheat seed, as black with smut as ever I saw any.

No. 1, sown dry, nothing done to it had	377 smutty ears.
2, washed well in clean water, had	325 do.
3, do. in lime water, had	43 do.
4, do. in lye of wood ashes, had	31 do.
5, do. in arsenic and salt mixture	28 do.
6, steeped in lime water 4 hours,	12 do.
7, do. in lye 4 hours, had	3 do.
8, do. in arsenic 4 hours, had	1 do.
9, do in lime water 12 hours, had	6 do.
10, do in lye 12 hours, had	0 do.
11, do. in arsenic 12 hours, had	4 do.
12, do. in lime water 24 hours, had	[illegible]
13, do. in lye 24 hours, had	[illegible]
14, do. in the arsenic 24 hours, had	[illegible]