A SEA FIGHT.

(Between a British and a French Frigate.)

From the London Gazette of March 23, 1813.

Copy of a letter from the Hon. Capt. Irby, of H. M. ship Amelia, to John Wilson Croker, Esq. dated at Spithead, the 22d inst.

SIR,

I beg leave to acquaint you, for the information of the Right Honorable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that when I was about to quit Sierre Leone river for England, in H. M. ship under my command, on the 29th Jan Lieut. Pascoe arrived there with the chief part of the crew of His Majesty's gun brig Daring, he having been obliged to run his vessel on shore, and blow her up at Tamara (one of the Isles de Loss) in consequence of having been chased by a French frigate, in Co. with two other ships, apparently frigates; he reported having left them at anchor off the Islands on the 27th. I immediately dispatched Lieutenant Pascoe in a small schooner to reconnoitre the enemy (he having volunteered his services) and on the 3d Feb. he returned, having ascertained their force to be 2 frigates of the largest class (L'Arethuse and L'Ruhis) and a Portuguese ship, their prize; they had nearly completed their water—and, after unloading the Portuguese ship, intended to give her up to the crew, and proceed themselves to sea to intercept our homeward bound trade. Conceiving that if I cruized off the Isles de Loss (in the event of their not having left them) I might be enabled to fall in with any of His Majesty's ships that might be coming down the coast, and also protect the vessels bound to Sierre Leone, of which I had received intelligence; I repaired to weigh, when a cartel arrived from the Islands with the master and boat's crew of the Daring, and the master and crew of another vessel they had taken, whose accounts corroborating Lieut. Pascoe's report, I left Sierre Leone river, and worked up to the Islands; standing in at day light on the 6th ult. towards the Island of Tamara, we joined the Princess Charlotte government schooner, who informed me one of the frigates was at anchor at a considerable distance to the northward from the other, which was apparently unloading the prize. I dispatched the sch'r to Sierra Leone, to leave directions to any ship that might arrive there to repair to me. Having neared the Island in the evening, the frigate to the northward weighed and stood out to sea; the other frigates had signals flying, and being observed at sun set with her topsails hoisted, I stood off for the night—and the next morning one of the frigates (I believe L'Arathuse) was just visible from the deck—it was then calm; on a breeze springing up about noon, she stood towards us. As I had hopes of drawing her from her consort, we continued standing out to sea till sun set, when not perceiving the other ship from the mast head, and the breeze failing, we shortened sail, wore and stood towards her. A little after 7, the enemy observing us near him, tacked & hoisted his colors. At 45 minutes past 7 P. M. being within pistol shot of his weather bow, both ships commenced firing nearly at the same time, which continued (remaining nearly in the same situation) until 21 minutes past 11, when she bore up, having the advantage of being able so to do, leaving us in an ungovernable state, with our sails, standing and running rigging cut to pieces, & masts injured. During the action we twice fell on board the enemy, in attempting to thwart his hawse, when he attempted to board, but was repulsed by the marines (which were commanded by lieut. Simpson) and the borders. Though I most sincerely lament the numerous loss of killed and wounded, which amounted to 141, yet it is the greatest consolation in reflecting that we were never once exposed to a raking shot, or the slightest accident occurred—all fell by fair fighting.

It is with the most poignant regret I have to mention the names of the senior and second lieuts. John James Bates & John Pope, and lieut. Grainger, of marines, among the slain; they fell early in the action. Having been more than five years in the ship, I have had ample opportunities of knowing their inestimable characters, and the consequent loss the service has sustained by their falling. It is with equal concern I have to mention Lieutenant George Wills, the junior lieutenant, who fell while carrying on the duty on the quarter deck, when I had received a wound which obliged me to quit it; and also that of the good and zealous officer, lieut. Pascoe, late of the Daring, who commanded the midship guns, on the main deck; Mr. John Bogue, late purser of the Thetis, (invalided) received a mortal wound below, after having been before wounded on the quarter deck.

When I have the misfortune to state such a severe loss, I trust it will be clear every person must have done his duty. I feel most grateful to my gallant officers and crew, as well as the supernumeraries late belonging to the Daring, for their cool, steady and persevering conduct, which was worthy the utmost success; but the superior force of the enemy (she carrying on her main deck heavy French 24 pounders) the considerable quantity of gold dust we have on board, as well as the certainty of the other frigate coming up, would have prevented me seeking a renewal of the action, if it had not been totally impracticable.

I should not omit to mention to their lordships the admirable conduct of Mr. De Mayne, the master, who placed the ship so ably at the commencement of the action, and his unremitting assiduity till the enemy kept away. My most grateful thanks are due to Lieutenant Simpson of marines, and John Collman, purser, who exerted themselves to the utmost. Having received the greatest assistance from Lieutenant Reeve, invalided, from His Majesty sloop Kangaroo, who was wounded more than once during the action, I have appointed him to act as first Lieutenant of the ship.

The crippled state of the ship, and deplorable condition of the wounded, having rendered the object for which I sailed from Sierra Leone abortive, having every reason to conclude that the state of the enemy must have been such as to have greatly foiled him in his intended operations, being much cut up about his hull, I thought myself justified in not remaining on the coast, and therefore proceeded with the intention of touching at Madeira, or the Western Islands, for refreshments for the sick, which the badness of the weather prevented, and arrived here this day.

I must not omit to report to their lordships the high sense I entertain of the humane and skilful attention of Mr. Williamson, surgeon, and Mr. Burke, assistant, as also that of Mr Stewart, late assistant surgeon of the Daring, to the wounded since this sanguinary conflict.

I should also, state, that although our numbers were apparently strong at the commencement of the action, yet from the length of time we had been on the coast, and much reduced by sickness, we had barely our complement fit for duty, and they much enervated.

Killed and Wounded.

Killed and since dead,	51
Wounded, dangerously,	16
Severely,	35
Slightly,	44
	146

(Signed) FRED. PAUL IRBY. Captain.
STEPHEN WILLIAMSON, Surgeon

The hearts of Englishmen sicken at the repeated demonstrations of our navy being on the decline, not from degeneracy in spirit, skill or discipline in our commanders and seamen, (for every instance of disaster that occurs shews them to be equally brave, skilful and zealous) but from ignorance and folly in the outfit of our ships and in the want of plan, energy and foresight in the naval administration. Constantly we hear either that our ships are inferior in their sailing, in their weight or metal, in their number of hands to that of the single ship of the enemy with which they have to contend, or that, with all our superiority of force, they are constantly out numbered. In all these respects those calamities occurred; in the instance recorded in the Gazette of last night, which we have copied, and we are sorry to find, that one or other of them constantly happens. Can we wonder at the circumstances after the clear and lamentable account of our naval architectural science given in the third report of the commissioners of naval revision, and which to this day has not given rise to the slightest amendment? It is a melancholy fact, that we are falling back, and that the enemy are advancing in naval power.

London Chronicle.

LONDON, March 24.

It is our painful duty this day to announce the capture of another of our frigates by the Americans. This distressing event took place on the 29th of December, off the Brazils. The Java of 33 guns, which was conveying Gen. Hislop and suite to Bombay, having fallen in with the American frigate Constitution, a desperate action ensued. After two hours fighting the British flag was struck, and the Java was taken possession of by the Americans, but in so shattered a state, that after taking out the crew she was burnt. The particulars of the engagement will be found in another column, extracted from a N. York paper.

We are satisfied that every individual in the country must feel humiliated at this succession of disaster, which thus mock and render nugatory, our naval superiority. Accidents, it was said, would occur in spite of every precaution: but how happens it that a series of these events called accidents should so closely follow each other? How happens it that 4 or 5 American frigates should be able to get out of port, pounce upon their prey, and return again to harbor without molestation. No human being will believe that this can be merely the effect of chance. Something must be wrong in the system which gives room for such a disgrace to the British flag, a degradation of the British name, & the useless sacrifice of so many brave men nor can enquiry take place too soon into the causes which have led to such melancholy events. It is puerile to say that ships of the line are now cutting down for the purpose of meeting the American frigates. We have surely ships of the line enough, without waiting for months to alter them into another shape, to sweep from the ocean the whole of the American navy. It is in vain to urge that a sufficient force is on the American station. The very recurrence of these losses, heart breaking as they are to every Briton, proves that there is a total insufficiency of plan and system in carrying on the war. It is impossible, after this new disaster, that the country will be satisfied without a thorough investigation into the causes which have brought upon us these calamities, and we rejoice to observe, that notice was given last night in the House of Lords, by Lord Darnley, of a determination to bring the consideration of this subject before Parliament.

Morning Chronicle.

From the London Statesman of March the 29th.

The American news is of considerable import, and we observe with peculiar satisfaction the expedition with which the bill for excluding British seamen from being employed on board American vessels, public and private, has passed the legislature. This measure is the more pleasing ominious to well wishers for the restoration of peace, as it is the consequence of an examination by a committee formed on purpose to enquire into the causes of the misunderstanding between the two nations.

From the London Times of March 22.

New York and Boston papers to the 24th ult. have this day come to hand, containing much interesting matter.—Among other important and curious articles with which we are furnished by the present papers, one of the most prominent, which we have, therefore, extracted at length, is the report of the committee of foreign relations, introducing a bill to prevent the employment of British seamen on board of American ships. Against the bill we can have no objection. It imposes a penalty of 1000 dollars on the commanders of men of war, and of 500 dollars on the masters of merchantmen, for every foreign sailor employed by them, to be recovered in the manner of a *qui tam* action by a common informer. We are far from saying that this, connected with other precautionary measures, may not form the basis of a fair arrangement for the *suspension* of our undoubted right of impressing our native born subjects. We will go further, and say, that the mere exemption of those seamen that, up to the present time, have actually been naturalized in America, is not a circumstance worth disputing about. We know the extent of the evil, and we know it cannot materially injure us. It is only against principles, against pretensions of indefinite extent, or of ruinous magnitude, that nations can be justified in contending by war.

But whilst we applaud the principle of the bill—for every step towards a real reconciliation of Great Britain and America deserves the gratitude of mankind—we can by no means assent to all the arguments contained in the accompanying report: but upon the whole the language of the report is more moderate and reasonable than we have been accustomed to hear from the supporters of the American executive. We wish we could have traced in it any latent sparks of that more comprehensive and nobler policy, before which the question of impressment sinks into insignificance. Why should the United States be backward to declare their detestation of the atrocious principles against which this country has so long and so honorably struggled? How comes it that they do not feel it to be their *duty* to range themselves on our side, in defence of the great cause of national independence, against one who has openly declared that he will acknowledge neither the rights nor even the name of neutrality? When nature, when reason, when policy all plead so powerfully for the intimate and cordial union of two nations sprung from the same high heroic stem. Oh! why should they suffer mere technical objections, and matters of casual inconvenience, to turn them aside from their honorable and brotherly career? In our last papers we had occasion to censure the weak policy of not putting forth our whole strength in the naval war with America; but the warm and vigorous prosecution of hostilities, whilst they unfortunately exist, is not in the least incompatible with the most sincere & earnest desire for an honorable peace.

The American papers inform us of the extraordinary honors which have been paid Coms. Decatur and Bainbridge. The former, on his arrival in his native City, (Philadelphia) was received by a military escort and complimented with addresses from the municipal authorities; the latter landed at Boston amidst salutes of artillery, and with every respect from the naval and military officers present, as well as from the delighted populace. To have so repeatedly conquered the English on their own element, intoxicates the new republicans with an exultation the more inordinate, as it was totally unexpected.

JOHN O'NEILL.

Extract of a letter from Mr. JOHN O'NEILL, who was taken at *Havre de Grace*, bravely fighting alone in the cause of his adopted country, to a gentleman in Baltimore—dated Havre de Grace, May 10.

"No doubt before this, you have heard of my *defeat*. On the 3d inst. we were attacked by 15 English barges at break of day. They were not discovered by the sentry until they were close to the town. We had a small breast work erected, with two 6 & one 9 pander in it; and I was stationed at one of the guns.—

When the alarm was given I run to the battery, and found but one man there, and two or three came afterwards. After firing a few shots they retreated, and left me alone in the battery. The grape shot flew very thick about me. I loaded the gun myself, without any one to serve the vent, which you know was very dangerous, and fired her when she recoiled and ran over my thigh.

I retreated down town, and joined Mr. Barnes at the nail manufactory, with a musket & fired on the barges while we had ammunition, & then retreated to the Commons, where I kept waving my hat to the militia, who had run away, to come to our assistance; they, however, proved cowardly, and would not come back. At the same time, an English officer on horseback followed by the marines, rode up, and took me with two muskets in my hand. I was carried on board the Maidstone frigate, where I remained until released three days since."

Public Sale.

By virtue of a Decree of the Honorable the Court of Chancery—

Will be sold at public auction, at 4 o'clock P. M. on WEDNESDAY the 9th day of June next, at Mr. Brown's tavern in Centreville, Queen Ann's county,

That valuable Farm, Mill & Mill Seat,

Late the property of William Taylor, Esq. lying in Queen Ann's county, within two miles of Centreville. The Farm contains 121 1-2 acres of valuable Land, well adapted to plaister of Paris and clover, and to the growth of wheat and corn.—From 30 to 35 acres are in timber—and there is a small dwelling house upon it.

The Mill-Seat contains upwards of 50 acres, about one half of which is upland, with some fire wood on it, and the residue is covered by the pond. The mill house is framed and weather-boarded with plank, thirty six feet in length and thirty two in breadth, with two water wheels, and constructed for three pair of stones, two pair of which are only in operation at this time.—There is a small dwelling house for the miller near the mill, and the stream is believed to be a never failing one.

The Farm and Mill Seat will be sold together or separate, as my best suit those inclined to purchase, who can view the premises before the sale, and can obtain any further information relative to the property, by applying to Henry Darden, Esq. near Centreville.

This property is strongly recommended by the fertility of the surrounding country, which is remarkable for its abundant productions of grain; and also by its vicinity to tide water, as there is an almost daily communication between Centreville and Baltimore, by packets. Thus offering to the proprietor a choice of employing the mill in merchant or country work, or both, or in any manufactory requiring the aid of water.

The terms of sale are that the purchaser shall pay one fourth of the purchase money in cash—one fourth in six, one fourth in twelve, and one fourth in eighteen months: Bonds or notes with security to be approved by the trustee, will be required. When the whole payment is completed a conveyance will be made by the trustee, and the title is believed to be indisputable. Immediate possession will be given.

JOSEPH H. NICHOLSON, Trustee.

Baltimore, may 4——6

At the same time and place,

The subscriber will offer for sale, one hundred acres of *TIMBER LAND*, lying about six miles from Centreville, adjoining Doct. Nicholson's Farm. It will be divided into lots of twenty five acres each, to suit purchasers. The terms of sale, which will be easy, will be made known on the day.

JOSEPH H. NICHOLSON.

may 4——6

Sale Postponed.

The Land lying and being in Dorchester county, originally advertised by Thomas Barnett, (attorney in fact for Elizabeth Allan) to be sold at public sale on the premises, on the 20th inst. is postponed until further notice, but is still offered at private sale. One, two and three years credit will be given, by the purchaser securing the payments to be punctually made, &c.

THOMAS BARNETT,
Attorney in fact for
ELIZA. ALLAN, Trustee.

may 18——m

N. B. The land alluded to is well known by the name of Hill's Point.

Union Bank of Maryland.

12th May, 1813.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE STOCKHOLDERS,

That an Election for Sixteen Directors will be held at the Bank, on *MONDAY, the 5th July next*, at 9 o'clock in the morning, and continue till 3 in the afternoon.

By order of the Board,
R. HIGINBOTHOM, Cash'r.

N. B. By the act of incorporation, not more than *eleven* of the present Board are eligible for the ensuing year.

☞ The Editors of the Easton Star, Frederick town Herald, Republican Gazette & Hager's town Herald, are requested to publish the above once a week for six weeks, and forward their account for payment to R. H. Cash'r.

may 13, (18)——6

The Subscriber

Will dispose of his stock of GOODS on hand, on reasonable terms, or in exchange for real property. The store may be occupied by the purchaser, which is one of the best situations in the place. Apply in Hillsborough, to

HENRY D. SELLERS.

may 18——3

Patent hand washing machine.

The subscriber has purchased the exclusive right to the above Machine of Talbot and Caroline counties, which he offers for sale at his dwelling, on Choptank river and the mouth of King's creek—also has authorised *James Wainwright*, of Easton, who makes them, to sell to the inhabitants of the above counties—Price $2 50 each—The utility and advantages in having one of those in a family, can be shewn by the subscriber, James Wainwright, or any of those that have purchased; all of whom are well satisfied.

1st.—It takes less than half the soap that the common way of washing does.

2d.—It takes very little more than half the labour.

3d.—It does not do half the injury to clothes as the common method, and garments of any kind are made clean in much less time. Small girls or boys can wash with it at their ease. Grain of any kind will be taken at a fair price.

BARNARD WILSON.

may 18——m

Coach, Gig, & Chair Making.

The subscribers beg leave to inform their friends and the public generally, that they have commenced, and are now carrying on the above business, in all its various branches, in the town of Denton, opposite the Court House. They have on hand, and intend to keep, a general supply of the best materials; and from the experience of H. Maddry in one of the most fashionable shops in the city of Baltimore, we flatter ourselves that we shall be able to execute all orders in the best and neatest manner, and on reasonable terms.—We solicicit a share of public patronage.

DOUGHERTY & MADDRY.

Denton, may 4——6

New Goods.

THE SUBSCRIBER HAS JUST RECEIVED,
A very General Assortment of
SPRING GOODS,

Which he offers for sale on the most reasonable terms.

J. B. RINGGOLD.

april 18——6

Easton Hotel.

The subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public generally, that he has opened his

HOTEL,

at the house formerly occupied as the BANK, where he hopes to merit a continuance of the custom he was so fortunate as to receive in that elegant establishment that was lately consumed by Fire.

THOMAS HENRIX.

april 6——m

Take Notice.

The subscriber begs leave to inform his friends and the public in general, that he has just returned from Philadelphia, with a complete and general assortment of materials in his line. He is in every way prepared to accommodate his customers in the best manner and on the shortest notice;—and by his strict attention to business, hopes to merit a share of public patronage.

JOHN W. SHERWOOD.

may 11——3

APPRENTICES

Wanted to the Earthen Ware business.

Two boys of 14 or 15 years of age of good dispositions and steady habits, would be taken at the above business on pleasing terms to parents if early application is made to the subscriber.

NICHS. S. JONES, *Baltimore.*

march 9——12

P. S. Any letters relative to the above, left with Mr. Edward Markland, Mr. Wm. Cox, or Mr. Caleb Brown, Easton, will meet with attention. N. S. J.

Ironsides,

Will cover a few mares this season at $20 the season, and $40 to insure a foal. The money for the season payable any time in November next, or any kind of merchantable produce will be taken at market price. He will commence his season on the 2d Monday of this month at Queen's Town, and continue till the first of August, under the superintendance of the subscriber.

Ironsides has no pedigree—and what would it avail him to have all the blood royal in England, Ireland and France, running in his veins, if he himself could not run? What good does blood royal do for either man or horse, when neither the man nor horse is qualified to perform in the duties assigned him? Suppose that Ironsides had of all the noble blood of the Sir Peters, the Sir Harries, the Sir Johns, the Heroes, Hot Spurs and Honeywoods, Arabians, and of all the rest of the noble order of blood descent, and that his father was King George, Prince Regent, King William, King Pippin, Archduke Charles, or Czar Peter, & that he had won all the King's money that was ever run for in England; if that he himself could not run nor perform the service, required? What then? Answer nothing? It is believed that worth makes the horse as well as that of the man. But Ironsides can run, he can beat any Stalion *with a Pedigree*, (Mr. W Knight's Palafox excepted) in the State of Maryland, over the Easton Course next Fall for five hundred dollars.

He was bred by Charles Hobbs, Esq. at Prospect Bay, he is an iron grey, 5 years old, not large, but very strong and handsome, and those foals of his get while a three and four years old, are like himself, exquisitely fine. He is a horse of uncommon strength of lungs, and of uncommon vigor; and can beat any Stalion of English or French descent, (the Moreau's not excepted, giving the above preference.) We say nothing of this ancestry and the last that we say is, that we know a part of his composition, and that is, that he is in part of Iron.

CORBIN LEE.

april 5, (may 11)——3

A Runaway.

Runaway from the subscriber on the 16th of this month, a young negro man by the name of *Perry*, sometimes calls himself *Perry Wilson*, he is very black, with a round face, about 5 feet 6 inches high—Perry is a well set fellow, with very white eyes. Whoever takes up the said fellow in this county, and brings him home shall receive ten dollars; if out of the county, and in the State, twenty dollars, and if out of the State, eighty dollars, or will have him confined in jail so that I can get him again, shall receive the above reward.

JAMES NABB.

Talbot county, may 18——m

Notice.

Was committed to the gaol of Caroline county, Maryland, on the third day of May inst. as a runaway, a negro man who calls himself *Isaac*, supposed to be about 26 years of age, 5 feet 6 inches high: his clothing when committed were a coarse shirt, a short round-about of kersey or linsey striped, and a pair of trowsers of the same kind, a pair of old shoes and wool hat; he also had a small bundle of other cloths with him. Has no particular marks—he is a chunky, well set fellow, very dark complexion, tolerably intelligent, and healthy—says he was sold to a negro trader by the name of Mr. Mims, by his master, a certain capt. Charles Tunnell, who he says lives near Accomac Court House, Virginia. The owner is requested to come and release him, otherwise he will be sold for his prison fees, as the law directs.

JAMES KEENE, Sheriff
of Caroline county.

may 5, (11)——8

Notice.

Was committed to the gaol of Frederick county, Maryland, as a runaway, a negro man who calls himself *Emanuel Geomes*. He is about five feet eleven inches high, stout and well made; about 30 years of age—His cloathing when committed were a blue cloth coat, a pair of black nankeen pantaloons, a flax linen shirt, a black fur hat, and half boots: Has a scar between his eyes, likewise one on his left hand, and says he belongs to Mr. Samuel Chase, of the city of Baltimore. The owner is hereby requested to come and release him, otherwise he will be sold for is prison fees, as the law directs.

MORRIS JONES, Sheriff
Fred'k county, Maryland.

April 23, 1813. (may 4—8)

Notice.

Was committed to the gaol of Frederick county, Maryland, on the 20th day of March last, as a runaway, a mulatto woman who calls herself *Nancy Brown*—She is about 25 years of age, about 5 feet high; her clothing when committed were a black frock, a yellow spotted shawl, a pair of shoes and stockings, all much worn; has a scar on her neck, occasioned, as she says, by a burn; says she was manumitted by Mr. James Armstrong, who resides at the head of M'Eldery's Dock, in the city of Baltimore. The owner, if any, is requested to come and release her, otherwise she will be sold for her prison fees as the law directs.

MORRIS JONES, Sheriff of
Frederick county, Maryland.

5th april, 1813 (13)——8

WRITING PAPER, SCHOOL BOOKS, &c.
For sale at the Star Office.