

the governor would not exchange, unless they had U. S. men for English men of war's men. Several families had left New-London, and it was expected every moment, by some, that the English would destroy that place.

The legislatures of Maryland and Virginia are now holding extra sessions on the business of the war. We have copies of the communications to the legislatures from the executives of these states, but the late hour at which they were received, prevents their insertion in the present number. The General Assembly of Maryland has been convened to furnish the means of defence, in the appropriation of monies, &c. That of Virginia was called with a view to repeal the late act for raising a number of troops for state defence; it appearing to the executive that the measures taken were commensurate with the object.

MILITARY.

We have the pleasure to add many interesting particulars connected with the capture of York. The letter from the gallant captain Moore, of the "Baltimore volunteers" is highly honorable to himself and his valuable corps; and gives us the best account of the affair yet received, shewing the great importance of the enterprise, and affording us data whereby to estimate its effects on the enemy. Major-general Dearborn's is worthy universal attention.—"A SCALP," says he, "was found in the executive and legislative council chamber, suspended near the speaker's chair in company with the mace." The "mace" is the emblem of authority; and the scalp's position near it is truly symbolical of the British power in Canada. Horrible and infamous wretches! But the reign of the murderers is nearly at an end.

Colonel R. M. Johnson's regiment of mounted riflemen raising in Kentucky, is reported more than 600 strong. They expect to march on the first of June.

We now begin to see the fruition of our hopes in the gallant exertions of the western people and their beloved chieftain Harrison, whose official despatch, inserted below, will warm the heart of every American. The bonds of the unholy alliance between the British and the savages received a sensible blow in the capture and destruction of the stores at York; and Harrison, at the scalp-collecting Malden, will sever the barbarous tie between the "defenders of the faith," and the murderers of the wounded. The frontier will soon be relieved of the lurking savage and more wicked English, and Harrison's brave force be able to operate with that effect we have hoped, and at all times, believed it would. But the deeds recorded are the best commentary on the valor of the west.

A young man, aged only 22 years, was shot at Greenbush, on the 3rd inst. in pursuance of the sentence of a court martial, for desertion. He had enlisted three times, and as often violated his engagements.

NORTH-WESTERN ARMY.

The official letter from gen. Harrison so much varies the result as given in the following letters, that we were at first disposed to omit them, though prepared for the press—but as they contain many interesting things not noticed by the general, we have concluded to insert them; as designed before the official account reached us.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of Ohio, to the Editor of the Weekly Register, dated Chillicothe, May 11.

"I herewith communicate you information from Fort Meigs, of the most important nature. The express mail arrived yesterday morning from Franklinton and Upper Sandusky, bringing a number of

letters from the latter place, from two of which the enclosed extracts were immediately published.—One is from Mr. Creighton, the probably successful candidate for this congressional district; the other is from captain H. Brush, of the Chillicothe guards. The information they communicate is derived from Gen. Harrison's letter to governor Meigs.

"The enemy's batteries which were carried by general Clay, lay on the opposite side of the river from the fort, and the plain mentioned in Mr. Creighton's letter, the one opposite fort Meigs, laid down in a small map I sent you. The batteries carried by colonel Miller lay on this side the river.

"The want of discipline and subordination in the militia, is, indeed, truly lamentable. It is most clear that it is owing to this cause we have now to lament the loss of so many brave countrymen. It would seem the Kentuckians remain ignorant in spite of experience. Had the force under general Clay contented themselves with performing the duty assigned them by general Harrison, and spiked and destroyed the enemy's artillery, and retreated immediately to the fort, the victory had, indeed, been most glorious! A well ordered sally from the fort, could have routed the enemy, and dispersed them in disorder. Although our loss is most severe indeed, I feel much satisfaction in the reflection that no blame can be attached to Gen. Harrison. The loss of the Kentuckians is entirely owing to their own imprudence. The result, otherwise, is highly honorable to the commanding general, and fully justifies the high expectations which had been formed of his skill and experience.

"Should the enemy still continue the siege, it can only be for the purpose of preventing reinforcements, and it is hoped they may remain a few days longer. Mounted companies of volunteers are going on from all parts of the country, composed of the first rank of society. It is impossible yet to ascertain the force now on the march, but I think I may safely set them down at from Three to Five Thousand! They draw arms, &c. at Franklinton and Delaware. A fine company of United States infantry, just recruited, marched from this place on Sunday (9th) under the command of captain Chunn. At the same time three companies of militia, of this town, marched also. They will all be mounted on U. States' horses at Franklinton. These reinforcements, which will join Harrison in a few days, will enable him to lay siege in his turn, if the temerity of the enemy may not, as suggested by capt. Brush, put Malden into his hand at the Rapids. When the reinforcements now on the march to join the army arrive, we may look for some important movement.

"Some person 'well inclined to the British interest' has put a *hoax* upon the venerable governor of Kentucky. A letter was handed him by express, purporting to be from Harrison, directing him to suspend the raising of two regiments designed to reinforce him, which regiments were then organized. In pursuance of Harrison's (supposed) instructions,†

*In place of Gen. McArthur. Mr. Creighton is elected.—En.

†The forged despatch, here alluded to, represented general Harrison as strong enough to maintain his position, without the aid of the contemplated reinforcements; and the following order was in consequence issued.

Frankfort, May 1st, 1813.

Colonels JAMES COX and SAMUEL CALDWELL. I have this moment received a letter from major-general Harrison, dated on the 21st ult. in which I am requested to suspend any measures that may

the troops were disbanded; and a day or two ago an express from Harrison went on to Kentucky to hurry them on!

"Some singular circumstances have transpired respecting the express mail being opened and letters being taken out and broken open, by a gentleman—the agent for the general-post-master, who established the express mail. He has been arrested by order of general Harrison, and is now in this place waiting his trial. Suspicion is strong of communication with the enemy.

"A spy has been detected a few days ago in Urbanna, and put into jail. Others are suspected and closely watched."

This letter to the editor also contained two handbills issued at Chillicothe, on the 10th inst.—the following is the most minute:

Copy of a letter from Wm. Creighton, jun. esq. dated UPPER SANDUSKY, May 8.

I wrote to you a few days since from this place. Troops are coming in daily—we now can muster about 500 strong. We expect by to-morrow night to be 1000 strong: the governor is here, and all in high spirits, and anxious to march for Fort Meigs. An express has this moment arrived from gen. Harrison, with despatches for this post, dated the 5th inst. On the 26th ult. the enemy's columns shewed themselves opposite to Fort Meigs. On the 27th, some Indians crossed the river in the rear of the fort. On the 1st, 2d and 3d of May, the enemy opened their batteries and kept up an incessant and tremendous fire, from 5 1-2 and 8 1-2 inch howitzers, one 24 pounder and several lighter pieces. The shells and balls, during that period, showered in the fort, but little execution was done: only eight or ten men killed, during that period in the fort. Silas McCulloch, a brave and gallant man, is among the slain. On the night of the 3d, the enemy erected a gun and mortar battery, on this side the river, within two hundred and fifty yards of our lines, but were soon forced to take a more respectful distance. About 12 o'clock on the night of the 4th, an officer arrived in a boat from general Clay, to inform the general of his approach, and that he would reach Fort Meigs in about two hours.

General Harrison determined on a general sally, and sent an officer to general Clay, directing him to land 800 men some short distance above, to attack and carry the enemy's batteries, spike their cannon and destroy the artillery. General Clay was unfortunately delayed longer than he expected in passing the Rapids, and the detachment destined to make the attack did not reach the landing until near nine o'clock—this however, did not prevent them from making the attempt, and never was any thing more

have been commenced to furnish a reinforcement of militia of any description, mounted or dismounted, to the army under his command, unless I may have received instructions to that effect from the Secretary of war.

Not having received any communications from the war department on this subject, I deem it my duty to direct you to disband the troops under your command. As they have put themselves to the expense and inconvenience of preparing for a tour of six months, it would be extremely burthensome to hold them again in suspense. You will, therefore, consider yourself and regiment exonerated from further service under the law and in pursuance of which you were organized.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, sirs, your most obedient servant, ISAAC SHELBY.

Cols. James Cox and Samuel Caldwell.

May 1st, 1813.

completely successful. the four batteries were immediately taken possession of, and their defenders driven off, and their cannon spiked. The work was done, but that confidence which always attends militia when successful, proved their ruin. Although there was time sufficient to return to the boats before a reinforcement arrived to the enemy, they remained upon the ground, in spite of the repeated calls which were made from the fort to bring them back to their boats, and suffered themselves to be amused and drawn into the woods by some feint skirmishing, while the British troops and an immense body of Indians were brought up: a severe action then took place. The British immediately intercepted the retreat of our men to the plain and the river, where they would have been under cover of our cannon: about 150 only out of nearly 800 effected their escape to the boats. When the balance of general Clay's force made its appearance and attempted to land above the garrison, their flank was attacked by a large body of Indians.

General Harrison immediately ordered out a detachment consisting of a part of the 19th United States regiment, about 100 twelve months volunteers and some militia; they however succeeded in driving the enemy entirely off, pursuant to the plan general Harrison had formed.

An attack was then made upon the batteries on this side of the river, conducted by colonel Miller, of the 19th regiment, with part of his regiment, the aforesaid volunteers, and the few militia; this attempt was successful. The enemy were driven from their works—a number killed, and two British officers and 41 privates brought into camp.

This attack was intended to be simultaneous with that on the other side, and it was nearly so. Notwithstanding the loss sustained by the Kentucky militia, the events of the day have been honorable to the American arms. The detachment under col. Miller, suffered very little; and had the militia been contented with executing what they were ordered to do, every object which had been contemplated by general Harrison would have been accomplished.

General Harrison writes confidently of his ability to maintain his position. I hope in a very short time we shall be able to relieve him. Poor Kentucky! My heart bleeds for the loss of her gallant sons!—She has bled freely, yes, profusely during this war.

Further particulars.—Clay and his Kentuckians spiked eleven pieces of cannon—their assault was irresistible, and many of the enemy were killed and the victory was complete; but they refused to retire as directed, and suffered. It is believed that many of those missing have escaped and retreated toward Fort Defiance; but we fear another slaughter. We trust that the accounts are much exaggerated, as they usually are; and hope our loss will be greatly diminished when the facts are more clearly ascertained, lessening the cost of a victory that has certainly relieved Fort Meigs, for all the British cannon were destroyed.

It appears that only 10 men had been killed in the Fort. Brigadier-general Tecumseh is said to have been killed. The Indians were retiring after the battle.

THE ENEMY REPULSED.

[A dispatch of prior date to the following, supposed to contain the earlier transactions of the siege, has not yet reached the department of war, as will appear from passages of general Harrison's letter.]

Copy of a dispatch from major-general William H. Harrison, to the secretary at war, dated Head-Quarters, Lower Sandusky, May 13, 1813.

SIR—Having ascertained that the enemy (Indians