

6th inst. when the British, 5 or 600 strong, appeared in 18 barges, to attack the place. Two black men were landed, who informed col. *Veazy* that admiral *Cockburn* had directed them to say, "that if the militia would not fire upon the boats, he would only burn the vessels and store houses." To this proposition, so communicated, several advised *Veazy* to comply; but he indignantly rejected the counsel. Yet *Cockburn's* envoys had hardly delivered the message when the firing began, three cheers being given by both sides. The barges, all carrying at least one great gun, poured forth such a shower of shot, langrage, grape, rockets and musket balls, that *Veazy* was left with only 35 men, to resist them; and they maintained the unequal contest for nearly three quarters of an hour; every man remaining firmly at his post till a retreat was directed by their commander—which was not done until a very superior force had landed and approached close to them; it was then effected, in the face of the foe, in good order, with only one man wounded. Having now nothing to interrupt them, the British, with *Cockburn* at the head, proceeded to the village, and deliberately applied the flaming brand to the houses. The screaming women and children excited the mirth of these *Winnebagoes*—deaf to the most humble entreaties to spare the cottages of the poor, *Cockburn* stood, like *Satan* on his cloud when he saw the blood of man from murdered *Abel* first crimson the earth, exulting at the damning deed; treating the suppliant females with the rudest curses and most vile appellations—callous, insensible, hellish. The ruin complete, the savages crossed to *Georgetown*, and in like manner destroyed that place, with many houses in the vicinity. It is a satisfaction that some of the wretches paid the forfeit of their crimes—a good number of them were killed and wounded, nine in a single boat; but the whole loss is not known. The property destroyed is estimated at from 70 to 80,000 dollars. While at *Fredericktown* the admiral frequently spoke of *Baltimore*, and swore he would never rest until he had burned every house in it.

Extract of a letter from a lady near *Havre de Grace* to her brother in *Philadelphia*, dated May 7.

Since I wrote you last, *Havre de Grace* has been visited by a terrible bombardment. It commenced on Monday the 3d at day-light. Such a scene I never before experienced. On the report of guns we immediately jumped out of our beds; and from the top of the house could plainly see the balls and hear the cries of the inhabitants. We ran down the road, and soon began to meet the distressed people, women and children, half naked; children enquiring for their parents, parents for their children, and wives for their husbands. It appeared to us as if the whole of the town was on fire. I think this act, committed without any previous warning, has degraded the British flag.

The enemy robbed every house of every thing valuable that could be carried away, leaving not a change of raiment to one of ten persons; and what they could not take conveniently, they destroyed by cutting in pieces or breaking to atoms. The admiral himself was present at this work of destruction, and gave orders for it to his officers. Mrs. *Rodgers* (wife to the commodore) Mrs. *Pinckney*, and Mrs. *Goldsborough*, took shelter at Mr. *Pringle's*. When a detachment was sent up to burn that elegant building, Mrs. *Goldsborough* told the officer that she had an aged mother in it, and begged it might be spared. The officer replied that he acted under the admiral, and it would be necessary to obtain his consent. Mrs. *G.* returned, with the officer and detachment, and obtained the permission that the house should

be spared; but when she reached it, she found it on fire, and met two men, one with a sheet, the other with a pillow-case crammed full, coming out, which she could not then notice, but ran up stairs, and found a large wardrobe standing in the passage, all in a flame. William *Pinckney*, who was with her, and two of the marines, by great exertion saved the house; but some of the wretches, after that, took the cover from the sofa in the front room, and put coals in it, and it was in flames before it was discovered.

A beautiful *Madona*, which the commodore had been offered one thousand dollars for, they were about destroying, but the admiral ordered them to desist; at which they were so angry that they wrapped it up in the burning sofa cover, and left it as a mark of their valor.

An officer put his sword through a large elegant looking glass, attacked the windows, and cut out several sashes. They cut hogs through the back, and some partly through, and then let them run.—Such wanton barbarity among civilized people, I have never heard of.

The whole squadron left our waters yesterday, to our unspeakable joy.

Several companies of militia and volunteers have arrived at *Baltimore*, from the interior, for the defence of the city, since our last; and the citizens, except those who have been drafted, are relieved from garrison duty. Brigadier-general *Miller*, who commands the drafted militia and volunteers, will have a stationary force of 2000 men; which, with the physical strength of the city is supposed sufficient for any emergency. Defensive measures are still pursued with alacrity, and on a scale commensurate with the object.

HEAD-QUARTERS, 3d Division, May 14.

DIVISION ORDERS.—The major-general has great pleasure in presenting his compliments to brigadier-general *Stricker*, and through him, to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the third brigade, and to the Marine corps, for their honorable conduct during the late threatened invasion of the enemy. In every instance he found the brigade and the Marine corps prepared at all points for action, obedient to orders—ardent in their country's cause, orderly in their behaviour—respectful to their officers, and possessing a discipline rarely to be met with in any except regular troops. The major-general also expresses his satisfaction to brigadier-general *Stansbury*, for the aid furnished from the 11th brigade. He now offers to all, his thanks for the alacrity and zeal they displayed on that occasion, and he feels confident they will, at all times, be ready to meet their invaders with equal ardor and promptness.

The major-general tenders his thanks also, to captain *Gordon* of the United States navy, and major *Beall*, of the United States army, for their cheerful and active co-operation.

By order of major general Smith,

ISAAC McKIM, 1st A. D. C.

The following memorial, designed to be presented to the general assembly of Maryland, is placed in the hands of a committee of citizens, in order to obtain the signatures of the inhabitants thereto.

TO THE HONORABLE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

The memorial of the inhabitants of the city and precincts of *Baltimore*, respectfully sheweth:

That, on the recent appearance of a hostile fleet at the mouth of the *Patapsco* river, from which an attack on the city of *Baltimore* was apprehended, the major-general of the district and the city coun-

cil, proceeded to examine into the state of the fortifications and other means of defence, then in readiness for the protection of the city, and to supply deficiencies by the most prompt and vigorous measures in their power.

Your memorialists lament to state, that, on examination it was found that the fort was unfinished, and the garrison small; that there was a great deficiency of arms and every other munition of war, and in short, that the city was wholly unprepared for defence against any respectable force that might attempt its invasion. In this situation of affairs it became necessary to act with promptness and decision, and not incur the dangers incident to the delays, which would necessarily be occasioned by a previous application to the general government; soldiers and men were ready to fly to arms, but money was wanting to purchase the latter. In this emergency, the several banks of the city, consulting the public good, as they participated in the common danger, readily granted a loan to the mayor and city council, on their solemn pledge to reimburse, the same with their funds; arms, tents, knapsacks, and other military equipments have been procured;—armed barges and watch-boats built and manned; workmen and laborers were employed in erecting new and completing the old batteries and fortifications; and in fine, every means were industriously used to put the city in the best possible state of defence, and they have the consolation to believe that, by their unremitting efforts, they will have nothing to apprehend from an invading foe.

Your memorialists state, that the expenditures for the foregoing purposes were made and are making under the directions of the major-general, by a committee of intelligent and highly respectable citizens, appointed for that purpose by the mayor and city council; and, as they were unavoidable, and a considerable proportion for purposes and objects peculiarly within the province of the general government to provide for, your memorialists confidently rely upon it, for reimbursement, so soon as their accounts can be liquidated, and for the residue they humbly conceive they have a just claim to indemnity from the state of Maryland, the general welfare of which so materially and essentially depends on the safety of *Baltimore*.

They therefore pray your honorable body to make provision by law, for the payment out of the funds of the state, for such portion of the said debt incurred or to be incurred in the defence of the city of *Baltimore*, as may not be refunded by the general government; and they ask this with the more confidence, as your memorialists will have to contribute so large a portion thereof: but as your honorable body, may not, at the present session, have it in their power to take their prayer in this behalf into consideration, and grant the relief asked, your memorialists pray that in the mean time, the mayor and city council may be enabled to redeem their pledge to the banks, and that, for that purpose, a law may be passed authorising them, the said mayor and city council, to levy and collect a tax, on the real and personal property within the city and precincts of *Baltimore*, as well on the property now subject to taxation by law, as that which is not, to be applied towards the repayment of the said loan, or so much thereof as may not be reimbursed by the general government or the legislature of this state.

And your memorialists, &c.

TO THE HONORABLE THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE.

The subscribers, in behalf of the inhabitants of *Havre-de-Grace*, beg leave to represent—

That in the recent conflagration of that place, by

a cruel and merciless enemy, a number of the inhabitants are made to suffer the most extreme distress. They have not only lost their homes and their implements of industry, but their very beds and clothing of their wives and children, and the stock of provisions they had heretofore laid up from the fruits of their industry, are all destroyed. Others to whom these distressing truths are known, and who at other times have been ready to extend the hand of charity where required, are themselves sufferers; so that relief can only be expected from places, which have as yet escaped the terrible ravages of the enemy and are able to save the afflicted from misery and despair. The subscribers have been appointed a committee to solicit subscriptions from the benevolent and well disposed citizens of *Baltimore*, to be applied solely to the relief of those sufferers at *Havre-de-Grace*, on whom the late misfortune and the hand of adversity press with peculiar severity; and they humbly solicit the interference and aid of your honorable body in promoting the object of their mission in such manner, as may be deemed most effectual, for which and for the many generous and benevolent acts which distinguish the city of *Baltimore*, they will pray that heaven may continue to shield you with its protection, and shower upon you its mercies.

SAMUEL HUGHES,
MARK PRINGLE.

Baltimore, May 14, 1813.

NOTICE. The town of *Havre-de-Grace*, in Harford county, having lately been visited and nearly destroyed by a cruel and merciless enemy; whereby many of its inhabitants are now reduced to houseless wretchedness and pressing want. A deputation from thence has lately made a very feeling address, to the mayor and city council of *Baltimore* for relief; but as the constituted authorities of the city have no charter privileges which enable them, in their public capacities, to render the much wanted aid, it is requested that such citizens as feel alive to human misery, and are inclined to mitigate it in the above instance, will meet at the council chamber on Thursday, the 20th instant, at half past nine o'clock, in order to take into consideration the proper measures to be pursued.

Lancaster, (Pa.) May 15.—On Thursday last, the infantry company commanded by captain *Humes*, and the rifle corps commanded by captain *Shippen*, marched from this borough for *Elkton*, Maryland; having volunteered their services, to assist in repelling the attacks of our barbarous enemy, and the foul disturber of the human family.

American Prizes.

WEEKLY LIST—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 184.

"The winds and seas are Britain's wide domain,
"And not a sail, but by permission, spreads!"
British Naval Register.

418. Privateer schooner *Richard*, — guns, captured by the *Holkar* of New York, and sent into *Savannah*.

419. Privateer sloop *Dorcas*, taken by ditto,—armament, &c. destroyed, and given up to exchange the prisoners.

420. Brig *Edward*, 8 guns, from *Brazil* for *London*, laden with 180 tons of cotton, &c. a valuable prize, sent into *Salem*, by the *Alexander* of that port. The *Alexander* had also captured a brig of 16 guns, laden with dry goods, gun powder, &c.

421. Schooner —, taken by the *Alexander*, her valuable articles taken on board the privateer, and then given up to the prisoners.

422. Brig —, from *Jamaica* for *Halifax*, laden with rum, sent into *Portsmouth*, N. H. by the *Fox* privateer.