

ther with general Pike's brigade, for the purpose of making a descent on the Canada shore. I have to inform you now of the result, which has been victorious and glorious to the American arms, although peculiarly unfortunate to me. We arrived at the head of the lake Ontario on Tuesday morning, the 27th ult. and debarked the forces about a mile above York, the capital of Upper Canada; here we were met on the beach by about 500 British regulars and 250 Indians; we contended with them warmly for about one hour, when we succeeded in driving them before us, and made good our landing, with the loss of some brave officers, and about 40 men killed or wounded; we then formed immediately, moved up to York, and when arrived just at the opening of the main street, the enemy sprung a mine upon us, which destroyed about 60 of his own men, and killed or maimed about 130 of our men. This horrible explosion has deprived me of my left leg, and otherwise grievously wounded me. I was taken from the field, and carried on board the commodore's ship—where my leg was amputated, and I am now likely to recover. Two of my company were killed at the same time, and four or five more of my brave fellows were severely wounded—now out of danger.

"We have taken the capital of the enemy, and about a million and an half worth of public stores and other property. We have killed and wounded about 300 British and their savage allies, and have taken prisoners about 700 men. We have taken from them also several vessels of war, which were found in the harbor, and destroyed a 32 gun frigate then on the stocks.

"This is the severest blow the British have felt since the war, and is to them irremediable—it will teach them a lesson of American bravery which they cannot soon forget. The conquest of Upper Canada is no longer doubtful, as almost all the guns, munitions of war, and provisions, necessary to carry on the present campaign, were deposited at York, and have been taken by us. General Pike, however, the brave and gallant projector of this enterprise, fell in the very moment of complete victory, at the head of his column. We have suffered severely in loss of officers—2 captains and 14 lieutenants, having been killed, and 5 captains and 7 lieutenants wounded. My wound, they say, is a very good one, but it has maimed me for life.

"Lieut. Irvine received a bayonet through his right shoulder, at the moment of stepping out of the boat, but is doing very well—GILL and WARNER escaped unhurt.

"P. S.—My company distinguished themselves gloriously, and were noticed for their determined spirit."

#### NAVAL.

We have the account in so many different ways, we think it may be relied upon, stating that the French [Toulon] fleet has passed the gut of Gibraltar, destined probably for this coast. It is said to consist of 13 sail of the line, several of them three deckers, and a number of smaller vessels.

Charles Ludlow, Esq. late master commandant in the navy of the United States, has resigned his commission; and stated, at much length, in one of the New-York papers, the causes that led to this measure, which chiefly hinge upon the promotion of Lieutenant (now captain) Morris, of the *Constitution*, as was objected to by captain Lawrence, whose grade, however was preserved in the late promotions. Mr. Ludlow was a very valuable officer; and as our naval heroes appear to be "all so good that each may boast that he has no superior," it is desirable that the splendor of achievement may not blind us to the ability of others less fortunate in opportunity

to exhibit their worth. Mr. Ludlow had been fifteen years in the service—his resignation was very reluctantly accepted; but the promotion was made that, he thought, made it his due his own honor to insist upon it.

The capture of the *Guerriere* was undoubtedly a very brilliant affair, and as being the first battle, giving a new character to the navy, may be fairly regarded as the most important of our victories. Such events are very apt to induce governments to overstep the cold formality of rank, and often produce effects like that now recorded; yet mere rank should not always be the guide in promotions. The old congress, exulting at the surrender of *Burgoyne*, conferred on *Wilkinson*, who had acquitted himself excellently well in the various affairs that led to it, and who was honored by bearing the despatches from *Gates*, the rank of brigadier general, over the heads of many senior officers of his grade. Though flattered with this distinction, *Wilkinson* had the magnanimity, on perceiving its consequences, to resign the commission so freely bestowed (he could not otherwise be deprived of it) and thus, indeed, "deserved well of his country." The gallant *Morris* might add to his fame, and increase the high opinion all have of his merits, by imitating the example of that veteran officer.

The *Orpheus* frigate is actively employed off *New London*. She has lately captured several vessels, and compelled others to run on shore. Among the latter is the privateer *Holkar* of New York. After the *Holkar* was "beached" the British attempted to get possession of her by their barges; but they were beaten off with loss; and her specie and valuable goods were safely landed. She had made a very successful cruise. On board the *Holkar* were 25 British prisoners, who were brought ashore.

Licensed and neutral vessels are not yet molested by the British squadron off *New York*—and there are many arrivals and clearances at that port.

The ship *Acteon*, of and for Boston, from Cadiz, though protected by a "real genuine Prince Regent's license," was captured off our coast by the *La Hogue*, of 74 guns, and burnt. Her captain the "honorable Thomas Blandin Caple" plundered the brig *Charles*, also with a license, and would have burnt her—but thought it best to give her up to get rid of his prisoners; and she has arrived at Boston. He said he was determined to destroy every vessel that had a license; and "if the government [his own] would not put a stop to the use of them, the navy should do it." He is represented as a full-bred ruffian.

The *Plantagenet* 74 and 7 transports with a regiment of German troops on board, are stated to have sailed from Cadiz for Quebec, on the 6th of April.

The *Valiant*, rated 74 guns, now off *New York*, is said to carry ninety-two.

*Rapid growth*.—In about eight months our "first built frigates," manned by "bastards and outlaws" have grown into ships of the line—in the British papers. If it should so happen, and happen it may, that one of them shall take a ship of the line, we expect they will grow into first rates, of 120 guns, or thereabouts.

*Decatur* is about to proceed to sea with one gun less than the *Macedonian* had when he took that ship, and the armament of the *Macedonian* has been reduced four pieces. Guns, of themselves, are very harmless things. The usage of them, only, causes the damage.

The U. S. brigs *Syren* and *Enterprize* are to be stationed at Portsmouth, N. H. for the protection of the neighboring coast.

The U. S. sloop of war *Hornet*, appears as if ready to sail from *New York* on a cruise.

The *President* and *Congress* were spoken at sea on the 8th inst.

The *United States*, *Macedonian*, and *Argus* have come up from the Hook with the view of passing up the East River into the Sound.

The *Rolla*, of Baltimore, has captured an American ship belonging to Boston, bound to Kingston, Jamaica.

An Indianan, belonging to Philadelphia, not knowing of the war, entered Bridgetown (Barbadoes) for a supply of water, and was taken possession of.

The British brig *Harriot*, captured by the General Armstrong, and sent into *Porto Rico*, being short of water, was seized by the Spanish government and given up to the British.

The privateer Governor *Tompkins*, of New York, has captured the British packet from Gibraltar, off Cape St. Vincents, after a smart action of forty minutes.

*A slippery trick*.—Yesterday as the smack *Hiram*, captain Sisson, was coming in from the fishing banks off the Hook, she was boarded by a large boat from the *Acasta*, one of the British blockading squadron, with two officers and eight men. After the boat reached the smack and the officers stepped on board, the men put off and made for the shore, which they reached in safety, and left the boat on the beach, and the officers in the smack to find their way back to the frigate as well as they could.

We have the pleasure to state, (says the *National Intelligencer*) that effectual measures are in progress for the relief of our unfortunate countrymen, in captivity with the enemy. A cartel, by which all the system for the proper treatment, release and exchange of prisoners has been fixed, was agreed on and signed some days since, between general Mason, commissary general of prisoners, on the part of the United States, and col. Barclay, general agent for prisoners on the part of Great Britain.—By this, among other things, it is stipulated that two cartel vessels of the burthen of five hundred tons together, shall be constantly kept by each government in the service of removing prisoners of the two nations, to be released on account or exchanged. On our part, the two vessels have been already purchased, fitted and dispatched, to bring home our prisoners suffering in the West-Indies. The U. S. cartel *Anabotan*, capt. Smith, left this place for Jamaica on the 2nd inst. to touch in Hampton Roads, and take off British prisoners, and on the 13th inst. the U. S. cartel ship *Perseverance*, capt. Dill, sailed from Philadelphia for Barbadoes, to touch at New-York to take in British prisoners in like manner. Both vessels are to return with American prisoners to Providence in Rhode-Island—one of the stations agreed on for the exchange of prisoners of war.

#### BLOCKADE OF THE DELAWARE.

A detachment of 348 men, all volunteers except 15 or 20, have arrived at *Wilmington*, from *Philadelphia*, under the command of lieutenant-colonel *Rush*. The whole body, the 15 or 20 drafts excepted, are in full uniform, completely equipped. They are to be followed by another detachment, also to be encamped in the neighborhood of *Wilmington*, for the defence of that place and its vicinity. A full regiment is called for this service by brigadier-general *Bloomfield*. They were escorted into the borough by *Warner's* cavalry, *Rodney's* artillery, and *Shipley* and *Wilson's* infantry; to encamp at *Stanton*, 5 miles distant.

*Wilmington, (Del.) May 14*.—We learn from *Lewistown* that the *Poictiers*, has sailed from the *Capes*; and that a sloop of war is the only force now in the Bay. The *Neptune* passed *Lewistown*,

with a fine breeze on Monday, she was saluted by the sloop of war.

Since the above was in type, we have learnt the following by colonel Davis, (the commandant at *Lewistown*) and major Hunter, who arrived here yesterday afternoon in the *Dover* stage.

On Monday morning last the *Poictiers*, *Belvidere*, schooner *Paz*, and the smaller vessels, composing the Delaware blockading squadron, left their anchorage a little above *Lewis* and appeared to be going to sea; but, about seven miles below *Lewis*, they came too, and it was believed that their object was to get water from *Newbold's Pond*.—Col. Davis, on perceiving this, immediately sent off a detachment of 150 men, to prevent them from landing, which fortunately reached the Pond before the English were able to land. The enemy being thus deprived of getting water unless at the risk of fighting for it, gave up their interred enterprise, and put off from the shore. The barges were hoisted on board the *Poictiers* and *Belvidere*, and they immediately put to sea—supposed for *Bermuda*, for a supply of fresh water, which they have long wanted. Immediately after this, the buoys which the enemy have lately placed in the Delaware, were taken up by our boats. In the course of the day the *Spartan* entered the *Capes*; but, luckily not before we had succeeded in taking up the buoys.

#### BLOCKADE OF THE CHESAPEAKE.

A *Norfolk* paper of the 14th says, that the enemy's force collected in *Lynhaven Bay* amounted to 18 sail, [other accounts have magnified them to 30.] We have since received various reports of their movements. Some stating they are anchored as if expecting an enemy, and others, that the greater part have gone to sea. Admiral *Warren* has assuredly received some information or direction that has caused this concentration of force—probably, advices of a French fleet being at sea; of which we have many rumors.

We had some hundred of reports about the enemy being in the *Potomac*. To guard against a surprise, such arrangements have been made at *Washington* that intelligence of their entry into that river will reach the city in twenty-two hours.

Persons who have been on board the enemy's fleet say, it is admiral *Warren's* design to attack *Washington*—as well as *Baltimore*. He wants Congress to hear "the thunder of his cannon." But is excessively malignant against *Baltimore*—WHY?

We hear of many incidents descriptive of the savage character of the British in their proceedings at *Havre de Grace*, &c. Men and officers were wontonly villainous and deliberately cruel and base.—They knowingly deprived women and children of all their clothing except what they had on their backs, and destroyed such as they did not please to take away. At *Havre de Grace*, a lady with an infant at the breast, horror-struck by the outrageous proceedings around her, sat down in her house to wait the result. The babe was nestling in her bosom. The savages entered like blood-hounds on their game. They assailed her with the language of devils and attacked her furniture like furies. They despoiled her and her child of their clothes, though entreated to spare them; and one villain actually tore from her neck, and carried away, the handkerchief that covered her bosom. Are these the "religious" and "liberty-loving" English?—the "magnanimous" nation whose praise is shouted through the land?

*Fredericktown and Georgetown*.—Further particulars. A little breast work had been thrown up at *Fredericktown* and one small cannon mounted, and 70 or 80 militia, under col. *Veazy*, were collected for the defence of the place, on the morning of the