## VICTORY OF TALLAPOOSE.

*The following additional accounts of the victory of Tallapoose, are taken from the Nashville Whig and Clarion Extras.*

FORT WILLIAMS, March 31.

*His Excellency Willie Blount.*

SIR—I am just returned from the expedition which I advised you in my last, I was about to take to the Tallapoose; and hasten to acquaint you with the good fortune which attended it.

I took up the line of march from this place on the morning of the 24th inst. and having opened a passage of 52 1-2 miles over the ridges which divides the waters of the two rivers, I reached the bend of the Tallapoose, 3 miles beyond where I had the engagement on the 22d January, and at the extremity of New Youca, on the morning of the 27th.—This bend resembles, in its curvature, that of a horse shoe, and is thence called by that name among the whites. Nature furnishes few situations as eligible for defence; and barbarians have never rendered one more secure by art. Across the neck of land which leads into it from the north, they have had erected a breast work, of the greatest compactness and strength, and from 5 to 8 feet high, and prepared with double rows of port holes very artfully arranged. The figure of this wall, manifested no less skill in the projectors of it, than its construction; an army could not approach it without being exposed to a double and cross fire from the enemy, who lay in perfect security behind it. The acres of this Peninsula, thus bounded by breast work, includes, I conjecture, eighty or a hundred acres.

In this bend the warriors from Oakfuskee, Oakchaya, New Youca, Hillabees, the Fish Ponds and Eufaula towns, apprized of our approach, had collected their strength. Their exact number cannot be ascertained; but it is said by the prisoners we have taken, to have been 1000. It is certain they were very numerous; & that, relying with the utmost confidence upon their strength—their situations—and the assurances of their Prophets, they calculated on repulsing us with great ease.

Early on the morning of the 27th having encamped the preceding night at the distance of 6 miles from them, I detached General Coffee with the mounted men, and nearly the whole of the Indian force, to pass the river at a ford about 3 miles below their encampment, and to surround the bend in such a manner that none of them should escape by attempting to cross the River. With the remainder of the forces I proceeded along the point of land which led to the front of their breast work; and at half past 10 o'clock, A. M. I had planted my artillery on a small eminence, distant from its nearest point about 80 yards, and from its farthest about 250; from whence I immediately opened a brisk fire upon the centre. With musketry & rifles I kept up a galling fire whenever the enemy showed themselves behind their works, or ventured to approach them. This was continued, with occasional intermission, for about two hours, when Captain Russell's company of spies, and a part of the Cherokee force, headed by their gallant chieftain, Col. Richard Brown, and conducted by the brave Col. Morgan, crossed over to the extremity of the Peninsula in canoes and set fire to a few of their buildings which were there situated. They then advanced with great gallantry towards the breast work, and commenced firing upon the enemy who lay behind it.

Finding that this force, notwithstanding the determined bravery they displayed, was wholly insufficient to dislodge the enemy, and that Gen. Coffee had secured the opposite bank of the River, I now determined upon taking possession of their works by storm. Never were men better disposed for such an undertaking than those by whom it was to be effected. They had entreated to be led to the charge with the most pressing importunity, and received the order, which was now given, with the strongest demonstration of joy. The effect was such, as this temper of mind foretold. The regular troops, led on by their intrepid and skilful commander, Col. Williams, and by the gallant Major Montgomery, were presently in possession of the near side of the breast work; and the militia accompanied them in the charge with a vivacity and firmness which could not have been exceeded, and seldom been equalled by troops of any description.—A few companies of Gen. Doherty's brigade on the right, were led on with great gallantry by Col. Bunch; the advance guard, by the adjutant general, Col. Sitler, and the left extremity of the line by Capt. Gordon of the Spies, and Captain M'Murry of Gen. Johnson's brigade of W. T. Militia.

Having maintained for a few minutes a very obstinate contest, muzzle to muzzle, thro' the port holes, in which many of the enemy's balls were welded to the bayonets of our muskets, our troops succeeded in gaining possession of the opposite side of the works. The event could no longer be doubtful——the enemy, although many of them fought with that kind of bravery which desperation inspires, were at length routed and cut to pieces. The whole margin of the River which surrounded the Peninsula was strewed with the slain, 557 were found by officers of great respectability whom I had ordered to count them, besides a very great number who were thrown into the River by their surviving friends, and killed in attempting to pass it by Gen. Coffee's men, stationed on the opposite banks. Capt. Hammonds, who with his company of spies occupied a honorable position opposite the upper extremity of the breast work, did great execution; and so did Lieut. Bean, who had been ordered by General Coffee to take possession of a small Island fronting the lower extremity.

Both officers and men who had the best opportunities of judging, believe the loss of the enemy in killed not to fall short of 800; and if their numbers were as great as it is represented to have been by the prisoners, and as it is believed to have been, by Col. Carrol and others, who had a fair view of them as they advanced to the breast works, their loss must even have been *more* considerable, as it is quite certain that not more than 20 can have escaped. Among their dead was found their famous prophet *Monahoee*, shot in the mouth by a grape shot, as if Heaven designed to chastise his impostures by an appropriate punishment. Two other Prophets were also killed, leaving no others, as I learn, on the Tallapoose.

I lament that 2 or 3 women and children were killed by accident.

I do not know the exact number of prisoners taken; but it must exceed 300—all women and children except three or four.

The battle may be said to have continued with severity for about five hours; but the firing and the slaughter continued until it was suspended by the darkness of the night.—The next morning, it was resumed, and 16 of the enemy slain who had concealed themselves under the banks.

Our loss was 26 white men killed, and 107 wounded.—Cherokees, 18 killed and 36 wounded.—Friendly Creeks, 5 killed and 11 wounded.

The loss of Col. Williams's regiment of regulars is 17 killed and 55 wounded, 2 of whom have since died. Among the former were Major Montgomery, Lieut. Sommerville and Lieut. Moulton, who fell in the charge made on the works.—No men acted more gallantly, or fell more gloriously.

Of the artillery company, commanded by Capt. Parish, 11 were wounded; one of whom, Samuel Garner, has since died. Lts. Allen and Ridley were both wounded. The whole company acted with usual gallantry. Captain Bradford of the 17th U. S Infantry, who acted as chief engineer, and superintended the firing the cannon, has entitled himself by his good conduct to my warmest thanks.

To say all in a word, the whole army who achieved this fortunate victory, have merited, by their good conduct, the gratitude of their country. So far as I saw, or could learn, there was not an officer or soldier who did not perform his duty with the utmost fidelity. The conduct of the militia on this occasion, has gone far towards redeeming the character of that description of troops. They have been as orderly in their encampments, and on their line of march, as they have been signally brave in the day of battle.

In a few days I shall take up the line of march for the Hickory ground; and have every thing to hope from such troops.

Enclosed I send you Gen. Coffee's report.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your obedient servant,
ANDREW JACKSON,
*Major General.*

## GEN. COFFEE'S REPORT.

FORT WILLIAMS, 1st April, 1814.

*Maj. Gen. A. Jackson.*

SIR—Agreeably to your order of the 27th ult. I took up the line of march at half past 6 o'clock, A. M. of the same day, with a detachment of 600 cavalry and mounted gun men, and 600 Indians, 500 of which were Cherokees, & the balance friendly Creeks. I crossed the Tallapoose at the little island ford, about 3 miles below the bend in which the enemy had concentrated; and then turned up the river, bearing away from its cliffs. When within half a mile of the village, the savage yell was raised by the enemy, and I suppose he was about to attack me. I immediately drew up my forces in line of battle, in open hilly wood land; and in that position moved on towards the yelling of the enemy. Previous to this I ordered the Indians, on our approach to the bend of the River, to march secretly and take possession of the bank of the river, and prevent the enemy from crossing on the approach of your army in his front. When within a quarter of a mile of the River the firing of your cannon commenced, when the Indians with me immediately rushed forward with great impetuosity to the bank of the River.—My line was halted and kept in order of battle, expecting an attack on our rear from the Oakfuskee villages, which lay down the river about 8 miles below us. The firing of your cannon and small arms in a short time became general and heavy, which animated our Indians; & seeing about 100 warriors and all the squaws and children of the enemy running about among the huts of the village, which was open to our view, they could no longer remain silent spectators. While some kept up a fire across the River, (which is about 120 yards wide) to prevent the enemy's approach to the bank, others plunged into the water and swam over the river for canoes that lay at the other side in considerable numbers, and brought them over, in which crafts a number of them embarked and landed in the bend with the enemy. Colonel G. Morgan, who commanded the Cherokees, Captain Kerr and Captain William Russell, with a part of his company of spies, were among the first that crossed the River.

They advanced into the village, and very soon drove the enemy from the huts up the river bank, to the fortification—from which they were fighting you.—They pursued and continued to annoy them during your whole action. This movement of my Indian forces left the river bank unguarded, and made it necessary that I should send a part of my line to take possession of the river bank. I accordingly ordered about one third of the men to be posted in the bend on the river bank, whilst the balance remained in a line to protect the rear. Capt. Hammond's company of rangers took post on the river; and during the whole engagement kept up a continued and destructive fire on those of the enemy that attempted to escape into the river, and killed a very large portion of those that were found dead under the bank above, as well as many others sunk under the water. I ordered Lieut. Bean to take possession of the island below, with 40 men, to prevent the enemy's taking refuge there, which was executed with promptitude, and which had a very happy effect, as many of the enemy did attempt their escape to the island, but not one was landed. They were sunk by Lieut. Bean's command ere they reached the bank. Attempts to cross the river at all points of the bend were made by the enemy, but not one escaped—very few even reached the bank; and that few were killed the instant they landed.—From the report of my officers, as well as my own observation, I feel warranted in saying that from 250 to 300 of the enemy were buried under the water, and were not numbered with the dead that were found.

My loss was 2 white men killed and 10 wounded, and 23 friendly Indians killed and 47 wounded—making in the whole of my detachment, 25 killed and 57 wounded. I left my position after you had gained possession of the bend, and the enemy's works, and after the few who survived had taken shelter under the banks of the river, and marched up through the New Youca village, crossed over and joined the main army at 7 o'clock P. M.

During the action all the men and officers of my detachment acted their several parts well—not one neglected to do the duty assigned to him, with great firmness. Q. Master Haskin attached himself to Capt. Hammond's company, & fired not less than 50 rounds at the enemy in the course of the day, and no doubt did much execution.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your very humble serv't.
JOHN COFFEE,
*Brig. General.*

*Copy of a letter from Col. Gideon Morgan, Commander of the Cherokees, to Wm. G. Blount, Esq. dated*

FORT WILLIAMS, April 1, 1814.

You have been informed of our departure from Fort Strother, and arrived at this place on the 21st March; on the 24th Gen. Jackson took up his line of march for the Tenopiska or fortified town on the Tallapoosee, commonly called the Horse-Shoe—in the evening of the 29th he encamped about six miles north west of it; the army next morning was divided into two divisions. The horse and Indians commanded by Gen. Coffee, crossed the river two miles below the town, with directions to line the bank in the whole extent of the bend, by the Cherokees and the friendly Indians—while the horse acted as a guard on the high ground, to guard our rear from an attack from the Oakfuskee Indians, who were expected from below. This precaution was, however, unnecessary, as their whole force had been concentrated the day before. Gen. Coffee had arrived on the opposite shore, about half a mile below the town, when Gen. Jackson's approach before the fortification was announced by the discharge of artillery, and in quick succession a brigade of infantry. The Cherokees immediately rushed to the point assigned them, which they did in regular order, and in a manner honorable to themselves; that is, the bank was in no place left vacant, and those fugitives who had taken to flight, fell an easy prey to their vengeance. The draft which Lieut. Rice encloses, will give you a better description of the place than I can, to which I refer you. The breast work was composed of five large logs, with two ranges of port holes well put together; artillery had no effect more than to bore it whenever it struck; nature had done much, but when completed by art, the place was formidable indeed; the high ground which extended about mid-way from the breast work to the river, was in some manner open, but the declivity and flat which surrounded it were filled with fallen timber, the growth of which was very heavy, and had been so arranged that every tree afforded them a breast work, forming a communication or covering to the next, and so on to the river bank, in which caverns been dug for their security and our annoyance. The breast work in its whole extent was lined with savages, made desperate from their situation. The 39th was drawn up on the left in a line extending from the centre to the river bank; the right was occupied by the militia.—The artillery on an eminence two hundred yards in the rear of the breast work, on which it kept up a steady and well directed fire, though without effect—in this manner the battle became stationary for some time, say one hour, when the Cherokees crossed the river by swimming and brought from the opposite shore a number of canoes, in which they crossed under cover of the town and their own guns; they halted under cover of the bank, and the canoes were sent back for a reinforcement. Understanding Gen. Jackson was about charging the breast work in its whole extent, I rode with all possible dispatch to inform Major Montgomery who commanded the left of the 39th on the river above. On my return about 150 or 200 Cherokees had crossed, and were then warmly engaged with the hostile Creeks. I then crossed with Major Walker and 30 others, and ascended the high ground which the Cherokees were then in possession of; we were here warmly assailed on every quarter except our rear, where we only kept open by dint of hard fighting. The Cherokees were continually crossing and our numbers increased in about the same proportion that the Creeks were diminished, who laid prostrate in every quarter; their numbers were vastly superior to ours, but were occupied in maintaining their breast work, which they appeared determined never to surrender.—About one hour after my arrival on the summit, I received a wound in the right side of my head, which had like to have terminated my existence. I however in a short time recovered, and heard the heavenly intelligence that the 39th had charged and were in possession of the breast works; this was an arduous undertaking, and the cool and deliberate manner in which it was effected, reflects the highest credit on this bulwark of our army. I shall not attempt a description—in the detailed official account, justice will no doubt be done them. The fight commenced 17 minutes after 10, and continued without intermission until dark—next morning some were killed, who it appears were determined never to quit their enchanted ground. On counting their dead, 557 were found on the field; many I know perished in crossing, and numbers were sunk in the river—The whole loss in killed could not be less than 7 or 800. The loss of the 39th, 72 killed and wounded. Major Montgomery, Lieut. Sommerville and Lieut. Moulton, were among the former. The loss of the Cherokees, eighteen killed and thirty-five wounded, many badly. The Cherokees have been permitted to return to their homes.

FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

## *REVIEW.*

The session of Congress, which has just terminated, has given birth to an unusual number of laws, a large proportion of them of a private nature.

We take the first leisure moment briefly to review the acts of a public nature, and exhibit in one view their general tendency.

The measure first in importance during this session, and by which the greatest sensation was created, as well on its enactment as on its subsequent repeal, was the general embargo on all the vessels in the waters of the U. States.—The policy which first dictated this measure, and that which afterwards induced its repeal, together with that of the non-importation act, have been so recently and repeatedly discussed on the floor of Congress, that it is not necessary for us to enlarge on it. We take the opportunity of saying, however, that the measure was loudly called for by the people at the moment that Congress convened, and we doubt not the President, in then recommending its adoption acted under the impulse of public feeling, as well as from an honest and sincere conviction of its probable effect, in arresting that intercourse with the enemy which was deemed essential to the support of his military posts in the vicinity and elsewhere, and his fleets on our coast. There was certainly a rational ground to hope that in this view the best effects would result from the measure. But, after an experiment of four months, although the measure might and did produce desirable effects, its repeal become unnecessary, because it could no longer be expected to injure the enemy more than it injured ourselves. It had already produced perhaps all the effect which could have been expected from it on the enemy's stations and fleets in our neighbourhood. Having been proposed, on its enactment, to continue in force more than a year, the enemy of course had made all the arrangements which were necessary, and been put to all the inconvenience to which he could have been subjected by it, by being compelled to provide for supplies from a distance for a full year in advance. A further continuance of this measure was unnecessary therefore in this view, unless the re-enactment of the law in January next was contemplated, which we have not heard hinted at by the most zealous adherent to the system. In the next place, as to the effect or operation of this measure on the supplies to the British army in the Peninsula, which was one motive for adopting it——the total change of circumstances in Europe, which gave to our enemy the keys of its most abundant granaries, had entirely neutralized the operation of our embargo in that quarter. This remark is forcibly exemplified by the fact that flour could, for some weeks antecedent to the repeal of the embargo, have been exported from Europe to the Eastern ports, and sold there at the current prices to a considerable profit to the importer. With such facts staring us in the face, who can doubt but the repeal of the restrictive system had become expedient? But, suppose we are somewhat mistaken; and that the measure was not at the time of its repeal, as we believe it to have been, entirely inefficient as a weapon of annoyance to the enemy. Were not the evils attendant on it, the shackles it imposed on the enterprize of our citizens, on the coasting trade particularly; the difficulty of its execution; its oppressiveness indeed on some class of our citizens—were not all these evils more than sufficient to counterbalance the almost imperceptible effect it produced on our enemy? We think they were; and we are therefore gratified at the rescision of the embargo, and with it of the non-importation system, which had become nevertheless unimportant from the operation partly of the same causes. There was another consideration that strongly recommended the repeal of these measures; over which, we know not why, a veil of concealment was studiously thrown during the discussions in Congress on its topic——*the necessity of providing a revenue.*

Let us raise the veil, and exhibit the fact. The alternative presented itself of repealing the restrictive system, or now imposing additional takes for the next year (1815) amounting, in case the war continued, to more than 5,000,000 annually, and more than doubling the present rates of internal taxation. Had an adherence to the restrictive system been necessary to an energetic prosecution of the war, these taxes would have been unhesitatingly resorted to. But it was not necessary—and the repeal of the non importation and embargo without weakening in any respect the force of our military arm, has obviated the necessity of imposing additional burthens on the people, which the continued prohibition of exports of the produce of their labor, would have rendered them, in some parts of the country at least, utterly unable to pay. We have not mentioned the concurrent advantages expected to be derived from opening our ports to the commerce of Russia and Sweden, whose Ministers, it is pretty well understood, had pressed our government very urgently on this head, as well as from the commerce of such other powers as should be amicably disposed & neutral between us and G. Britain.—To all these weighty arguments in favor of the course which was recommended by the Executive and which the government has adopted was opposed the objection of inconsistency.—To this we have only to reply, that consistency is a relative term, and is valuable or otherwise as it is applied to wisdom or to error. As a man who walks the street will, if he pertinaciously adheres to a straight line, sooner or later find his heels tript up or head broken by some of the obstacles in his way; or as a ship, whose steersman shall keep up in a hurricane all the sail he had set in a favoring breeze, will sooner or later founder in the vast abyss; so a nation, whose affairs are conducted without regard to the circumstances of surrounding nations with whom it has connections, hostile or amicable, will sacrifice, for the reputation of obstinate consistency, its best interests, if it do not hazard its existence.

Thus much respecting a measure on which the opinion of the republican party is perhaps more divided than on any measure which has been sanctioned by the Executive and a majority of the party; and which we therefore could not pass by without defending that opinion in regard to it which we incline.

We come now to other measures, next in importance, on which we are happy to say there was little or no division among the republican party, though they met with unvarying opposition on the federal side of both Houses of Congress. We allude to the measures for invigorating and extending our military operations. Of this character, acts have been passed, the objects of which were to encourage enlistments in the regular army, and thereby fill its ranks by offering increased bounties to recruits and on enlistments; to authorize the President to cause the 15 regiments of twelve months men to be enlisted for five years or during the war; to raise three regiments of riflemen, in addition to the force already authorized by law; to authorize the President to receive into the service certain corps of volunteers which had been organized under the volunteer law which had expired, and who were desirous to remain in service; to continue in service the ten companies of rangers employed on the Western and Northwestern frontier; to provide for the better organization of the army, for the consolidation of incomplete regiments, and for the dismissal of supernumerary officers; to appoint additional district paymasters, &c. These measures were all that appeared to require legislative interposition, unless we include under this head the acts to amend the general militia system, which will render much more useful that species of defensive force on which so much must always depend.

Several laws were also passed auxiliary to our naval establishment, and to the general system of maritime defence; among which were acts to authorize an increase of the maritime corps; to authorize the appointment of certain officers for the flotilla service; to allow a bounty of an hundred dollars for every prisoner brought in by our privateers; to authorize the building, equipment and employment of one or more floating batteries; to authorize rank to be bestowed on naval officers for distinguished good conduct; to regulate the pay of officers and seamen in the navy, &c. Among the acts to encourage and invigorate the naval establishment, may be also ranked the law, now for the first time passed, to grant pensions to the orphans and widows of persons slain on board the navy, and the act to grant pensions to officers and seamen serving on board revenue cutters, whilst employed in consort with, or in the duties of, our naval armaments. Nor ought we, under this head, to omit