

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE
IMPORTANT EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE

The ship *Minerva*, Capt. Hussey, has arrived at New York from Liverpool, whence she sailed on the 24th. In company with the picket-ship *York*. The intelligence wears an important and ominous aspect—particularly from France. The Spanish Refugees have made their first demonstration, and have been signally defeated.

FRANCE.—The tone of the various letters and other advices from Paris, is not exactly the same; but there is a general agreement as to the prominent facts, which render it very evident that the present government treats a volcano.

From a Correspondent of the *London Morning Herald*.

Paris, Thursday, Oct. 31.
Tranquillity has been restored, and confidence is returning, but the crisis is but postponed. After effecting the revolution of July last, the people retired from the scene, leaving the subsequent arrangements to those whom they deemed more competent to the task. Led to believe that manoeuvre and trick were about to be used to screen from justice the Ministers who had signed the ordinances which had provoked the revolution, the same men re-appeared on Monday night last, and proved unequivocally that they were as capable of a new effort as on the evening of the 27th July. Persuaded that there was no intention to cheat justice of its victims, they once more retired.

Having been an eye witness of the whole of the transactions, I can aver that the persons held in check by the immense military force arrayed at the Palais Royal during the last two nights were not the men of whom I have above spoken, and who effected the revolution.

The French Government must take care to keep good faith with the people. No cause for doubting their sincerity must be afforded by Ministers. I am sure they are frank and candid, but they must not only be pure, but unsuspected. If their purity and impartiality shall remain unquestioned—if the confidence of the people be once more reposed in them, I shall still rely on the justice, perhaps the magnanimity of the men of the 27th, 28th, and 29th of July; but if the slightest appearance of shuffling be perceived or imagined about them, I shall apprehend much worse than the immolation of the four victims.

The transfer of the Ex-Ministers from the Chamber of Vincennes to the Petit Palais du Luxembourg (announced to take place this day) has had its influence too.

The Morning Herald gives the following: The intelligence in the French papers is of importance. Paris, so lately a prey to commotions, which seemed to threaten at one time to compromise the very existence of the Government itself, is now restored to the most perfect quiet and obedience to the law. This happy result is the joint fruit of the devotion and vigour of the National Guard, and the personal firmness of the King. The crisis was by all accounts, one which required all the energies of the friends of order and the existing state of things. For several days—in deed from the day that it became generally known that the Chambers, the Ministry and the King had declared themselves friendly to a mitigation of the punishment of the ex-Ministers, a feeling had begun to develop itself among the populace at Paris, strongly derogatory of the contemplated indulgence. This feeling found its first vent through the revolutionary journals; then it was proclaimed through small assemblies of the people, but at length it became the cry and rallying word of the mob of the capital. Tumultuous movements were the consequence, and in the streets of Paris, which have so lately witnessed the overthrow of a monarchy by similar instruments, they became a matter of deep concern, and no small alarm to the government. Upon the nights of Sunday and Monday last the populace assembled in great numbers in the public squares, and under the vaulted windows of the King. They did not content themselves with shouting and singing, but their object was to overawe the government, and deter it from pursuing the course of mercy which it has prescribed in the case of the unfortunate tenets of Vincennes. The authorities were then taken by surprise, and did not immediately take repressive measures, but upon the night of Monday, the National Guard, the great bulwark of good order, and the liberties of France, interposed, and completely dispersed the disturbers without much resistance. These latter then took the road to Vincennes, but were diverted from their attack against the prisoners by the firmness of the Governor of the Castle, and eventually dispersed themselves. Since that night there has been no serious disturbances. The King, throughout these trying circumstances, has shown himself worthy of the high office to which he has been called. Though himself the creature of popular choice, he has not been intimidated by popular clamour, but has distinguished himself by the firmness of his conduct, and by the factious discord. He has refused to accept the resignation of two of his Ministers, who wished to relieve him of the unpopularity of their names, and other measures, lest it should seem unbecoming, or yielding to the mob, and has placed himself at the head of the National Guard, determined to enforce the respect due to his office at all events. The King has triumphed, and the popular party is weakened; but the advantage of a victory, which, under other circumstances, a Monarch might take for enlarging his prerogative, cannot be apprehended in these, as the National Guards, whilst they constitute his strength, are also a guarantee that he does not abuse his power. Upwards of 200 of the mob are in the hands of the police, and among them is said to be a member of the family of Prince Metternich. It was said that agents of the ex-monarch were the principal promoters of these disturbances. The National Guard was about to be further enlarged, so as to embrace every Frenchman at all removed from the ranks of the poor.

The Chamber of Peers were to meet on the 11th of next month, and it was understood that the trial of Polignac and his fellow prisoners would be proceeded in without delay. With respect to Spain, the accounts in these papers are unfavorable to the Constitutionalists. The Queen of Spain had presented Ferdinand with a daughter, born upon the 10th of October, and which received the name of Maria Isabella Louisa. The Duke is also styled "Princess of the Asturias," which shows that the King is determined to treat the Salic law as of no force, and to exclude his brother Don Carlos from the succession. This gives great offence to the Carlists. Disturbances were said to have taken place in Silesia.

THE NETHERLANDS.—The *Messenger des Chambres* of Friday, Oct. 23, contains the following item, which, it is true, shows that the Belgic revolution was still in successful progress:—
A telegraphic despatch, sent to the government by the Prefect of the North, on the 19th, states,

The Belgians occupy Antwerp. All Belgium is now free from the Dutch troops. MOVEMENTS OF THE SPANISH REFUGEES.—The Paris papers of the 21st, contain the following bulletin from the Liberating Army in Spain:—
On the 14th October, at 3 o'clock, the brave Col. Valdes marched into Urducha, with a force consisting of 400 men.

He was received throughout the country with shouts of "Liberty forever!" and the acclamations of joy at his approach were unanimous.

On the 15th he reached Zugarramurdi, where he met with the same reception. The inhabitants display in every direction the greatest enthusiasm at his arrival.

A detachment marched towards Vera. Upon its arrival the inhabitants hastened to crowd round the "liberating soldiers," and the most cordial feelings of fraternity exists between them.

In consequence of the vast number of patriots who have just joined the corps of the refugees, Col. Valdes has been obliged to devote the entire day to the organization of the force now under his command.

He will resume his march upon Yruon on the 17th.

His glorious enterprise could not commence under more favourable auspices—and they presage a decided victory.

All good Spaniards, anxious to contribute their aid for obtaining the liberty of their country, are hastening to quit France, and range themselves under the banner of the intrepid Valdes.

The signal has been given. Spain summons all its children to its deliverance, and no doubt they will not be deaf to its voice.

Zugarramurdi, Oct. 16.

From the *Courier Francais*, Oct. 21st.

There is much talk at the Exchange of a telegraphic despatch, sent from Bayonne by the Sub-Prefect, announcing in substance, that the corps of Gen. Valdes, amounting to 800 men, had been surprised and completely defeated, 50 only having escaped to take refuge in France. It is probable that there is some exaggeration in this account, and that it has been got up to favor some speculation in the public funds. It is not impossible, after the late events at Bayonne, that the Sub-Prefect would not be favourably disposed towards the Constitutionalists, and that he may have received too credulously the first vague rumors which came to the frontiers.

The truth appears to be, that on the 16th, Valdes occupied the villages of Urducha and Zugarramurdi. Eight hundred royalist troops were four leagues distant, and made no offensive movement. On the 17th a skirmish took place between Valdes and the royalist troops; place between the Constitutionalists fled to the French territory, which they soon quitted, to rejoin their companions at Zugarramurdi.

The hostile conduct of the Marquis de St. Priest towards his country, has received a recompense at the Court of Ferdinand. The Prince has heaped honors and pensions upon the Ambassador, who was unwilling to mount the national cockade. He has conferred upon him a Peerage, with the title of Duke of Almazan; and, notwithstanding the loss of his Treasury, he has given him a pension of 6,000 reales (30,000 francs), and a command of 9000 reales in value, nearly 15,000 francs.

Upon the foregoing statement, one of the Paris correspondents of the *Morning Herald* writes as follows, on the afternoon of the 21st:—

"The news so industriously circulated yesterday by the banker of the Court of Spain respecting the arrival of a telegraphic despatch, announcing the destruction of the Spanish Constitutionists under the command of Valdes is entirely false—no telegraphic despatch of this nature having reached government yesterday. The Monitor of this day relates it only as a report circulated, and by no means as a despatch that had arrived. There is, however, some levity in its part in countenancing such a report. The Constitutional and Le Temps alone had the good sense of refraining from the announcement of this false despatch.

But this morning a real telegraphic despatch arrived, which announces the arrival of other Spanish chiefs having entered the Spanish territory. Valdes still preserves his position at Zugarramurdi. Forty men of his column returned to the French territory to provide themselves with arms they stood in need of, and which they could not procure in Spain.

Gurrea was to have entered on the 17th by way of Iaca Milans, Baiges, Grase, and San Miguel, were to have entered Catalonia at the same time. Thus, is the invasion completed. The efforts of all Spaniards are going to concur in the liberation of their native country. All the Journals of Paris have suffered themselves to be misled by the imposture of Mr. Aguirre.

The two last preceding extracts corroborate each other; but the following article being later, seems to put the matter at rest. It is published in a postscript of the *Morning Herald*, from the *Messenger des Chambres* of the 22d.

It was for the good of the Spanish Constitutionalists that we yesterday pointed to their disorders, and that we preached unto them. Wishing heartily the progress and triumph of their cause we should have desired, for the moment, that they had renounced establishing a civil war, being well assured that the majority of the public mind in the Peninsula is little disposed to adopt their principles in their full extent. Tied by diplomatic engagements shrinking from the idea that its condensation might occasion a civil war in a neighboring country, which it would be difficult to check afterwards, in the midst of effervescence of passion amongst the various parties, the French authorities had given orders to stop the refugees on this side of the frontiers. But all these means have given them the blow that were to strike them were useless. The town of Bayonne had almost experienced an insurrection of its inhabitants, and of the National Guards, against the authorities, both civil and military.

The gate of the Marine Promenade was opened, the Spanish Liberals precipitated themselves through that outlet, went to form a junction at Ville Francaise, and on the 14th, crossed the frontiers at Ainhue, led by Valdes and Ego, from 800 to 900 men in number. Ego's veterans have sadly confirmed both our anticipations and our fears. After some success, which inflamed their hopes, this troop has been surprised and destroyed. A telegraphic despatch from Bayonne states that scarce 50 men have escaped from the disaster. May such a lesson not discourage the refugees, but make them feel the necessity of moderation and concord, may it teach them to concert their measures better, to secure to themselves support in the interior, and prepare the elements of success by the communication of ideas and sentiments! They will then, perhaps, meet with more sympathy in their own country, and, perhaps, as we said yesterday, the measure forced to be necessary will soften calamities, and reconcile all parties.

The defeat of Valdes is confirmed by news received to-day, but it is said that Mina is determined upon entering Spain in order to collect the remnants of the division of Valdes, or to penetrate still farther into the country, with more numerous and better disciplined forces, or finally to counterbalance, by this demonstration, the moral effect produced by a first check. Valdes (who was said to have been taken or killed) succeeded in making his escape, with a few of his men. It is to be hoped that this "chief will for the future, yield to the old military experience and personal consideration of Mina.

Bourg-Madame, Oct. 13.—Our village has become the rendezvous of the Spanish refugees. Those individuals, driven from their country by the persecution of the Count d'Espagne have come to seek an asylum in France. Their principal point of meeting is at Perpignan, from whence they proceed to the most distant part of the department. The conduct of the refugees is in general calm and moderate, and they are well received in this place where exists great sympathy for their misfortunes.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Parliament was to assemble on the 26th of October, and the King, it was understood, would deliver his speech in person, on the 2nd of November.

According to the *Weekly Register*, serious disturbances had broken out in Kent. The working people were in a state of starvation, in consequence of the lowness of the wages. In some instances, companies of 200 to 250 had gone to the houses of farmers, and ordered them to destroy their threshing machines, threatening, in case of refusal, to do it themselves, and burn their corn stacks into the bargain. Some 3000l. had been raised for their assistance, but the distress, and also the excesses, still continued.

Cobbett gives notice that the next Register will be twice the usual size, "for the purpose of having room for that *plan of Parliamentary Reform* for which I believe the people of England will take a stand, and without which I am convinced that England will never again be quiet."

The *Paris National* of the 20th Oct. observes—"The affair of the recognition of the great Powers, to which rather too much importance had been attached, is terminated at last. The Courts, with the exception of that of the Emperor, have hesitated to fulfill this formality, especially since the Belgian Revolution broke out—Austria and Russia, with very little grace; for, as yet, neither of these Powers has accredited any Minister to the King of the Romans. However, Count Apponyi and M. Pozzo di Borgo have not left anything to be desired in this respect. They seem to await their credentials. Thus neither of the representatives of the four great powers will be changed. In consequence of the delay of the Courts of Vienna and St. Petersburg, the nomination of the French Ambassadors to these Courts has not been yet definitively settled."

It is stated in the *Journal du Commerce* of the 20th, that a letter from Semlin, in Hungary, of the 23d September, speaks of a great riot at Constantinople, which is said to have consumed almost a whole quarter of the most populous part of that capital.

The *Courier Francais* of the 20th, gives the following under date of Bayonne, Oct. 14:—Mina is still here. It is said that there is a misunderstanding between him and Valdes. It is supposed that Mina will not enter till after there is a rising in Guipuzcoa. He waits this movement, and will not stir at haphazard. If Valdes attempt success there will be an interruption along the whole frontier of 8,000 or 10,000 men. At present only 2,000 have gone from Urduza. They had three small squadrons, which left Bayonne in a dung cart to avoid the search of the Customhouse.

LIVERPOOL, Oct. 23.—American Flour has continued without alteration.

We can now state that the harvest is all but at an end in this part of the kingdom; and the last saved grain is the best saved. The wheat crop speaking generally, is not a full one, though by no means a failing one. Barley, Oats, and Beans, on the whole, are likely to be abundant. The necessities of the farmers in this country, especially in the eastern division of it, have induced them to send their produce to the market a considerable quantity of new produce. As the Irish crop is somewhat defective, good judges consider that wheat will keep up as high as 60s per quarter during winter; but that Oats, Beans, and perhaps Barley, may be expected to drop a little in January and February. We understand that on the European Continent the Grain is defective both in quantity and quality.

The necessities of the farmers in the United States of America, who have supplied us abundantly with our supplies, may be looked for from the Canada (Leeds Intell.)

THE NETHERLANDS.
AMSTERDAM, Oct. 16.—By a decree of his Majesty the King, it is ordered—
1st, That all importation of wine, beer, vinegar, spirits, salt, sugar, beef, and pork, from the rebellious provinces, shall be accounted as coming from a foreign country, and thus subject to the excise.

2d, That on the exportation of goods from this place to the places in rebellion, no over-writing on account of credit of excise shall be allowed.

All exportation of grain, salt, &c. as also of gunpowder, saltpetre, balls, grape shot, iron, lead, muskets, pistols, swords, rapiers, and other military stores, from the peaceable to the rebellious districts, is strictly prohibited.

From the *Messenger des Chambres* of Oct. 21.
Yesterday evening crowds again assembled in the courts of the Palais Royal, uttering the same cries and the same threats which have for some days disturbed and offended all good citizens. The courts were promptly cleared by the National Guard; the crowds formed again on the Place in front of the Palace, and the same cries were continued. In the meantime a number of individuals went through various quarters of the city, endeavouring to excite the people to unite with them, and march to the Palais Royal; but every where they failed, and their language was received with universal indignation.

In the meanwhile the National Guards dispersed the crowds on the Place du Palais Royal, and compelled a band of from 400 to 500 individuals to retire, who took the road to Vincennes, by the Faubourg St. Antoine. A few of them carried fire-arms, and others sticks.—On their arrival at Vincennes they required that the ex-Ministers should be given up to them. General Dumoulin having replied to them as became his character and his duty, they took the road to Paris, and appeared again at the Palais Royal, uttering the same cries. The National Guard assembled from all points, and in less than half an hour the Place and the surrounding streets were evacuated, the most turbulent were arrested, all the crowds were dispersed, and good order was completely restored.

One hundred and thirty-six individuals were carried to the Prefecture of Police, and immediately interrogated previous to their appearance before the Magistrate. On the Place du Palais Royal, at the spot where the arrest of placards were found, several of which, betraying their origin, contain violent attacks on the person of the King. A serious investigation will take place as to the authors of these disturbances, which in-

just an antipathy on the part of the population. The laws and the courts of justice will do their duty upon them. The peace of a great people must not be compromised by a few busy bodies, who foment the basest passions, mislead the credulous, and, directly or indirectly, promote the most wicked designs.

The National Guard is worthy of the greatest praise. Its conduct has been prompt, firm, wise, and judicious. It perfectly understands and fulfills its duty; it maintains good order, while it acts on the side of justice and liberty.

From the *Messenger des Chambres* Oct. 21.
FRANCE.
To-day, at nine o'clock, the King, in the uniform of the National Guard, descended into the court of the Palais Royal, accompanied by his Royal Highness, the Duke of Orleans, General Lafayette, and Marshal Gerard, the Minister at War.

The court of the Palace was filled with those spectators who every morning at that hour, take a pleasure in seeing the guard relieved. There were then assembled detachments of the 5th and 6th legions of the National Guard on foot, of the 5th company of the 3d squadron of the Horse National Guard, and the post of grenadiers and light infantry to the 31st regiment of the line.

His Majesty was desirous of testifying his satisfaction at the firm, vigilant, and devoted conduct which they manifested during the afternoon of yesterday, and the whole of the night.

Scarcely had his Majesty appeared in the court, when the crowd collected round him. Cheers and such were heard on all sides, and such were the acclamations, that his Majesty had some difficulty in procuring silence.

The King delivered the following address to the National Guard on foot.
"My Dear Countrymen,—I come to thank you for the zeal you displayed last night in maintaining the public tranquillity, and in preserving the Palais Royal from a band of senseless agitators, whose ridiculous attempts will fall upon themselves by means of the good sense of the public, and the respectability which we have reposed them.—What I and which you all wish, is that the public peace may cease to be troubled by the enemies of that real liberty, and of those institutions which France has conquered, and which can alone preserve us from anarchy, and all its concomitant evils. It is time to put a stop to this deplorable agitation: it is time that the maintenance of public order should restore confidence; that confidence should bring back its activity to commerce, and secure to every one the free exercise of all the rights, which it is the duty of the government to protect and to guarantee. With your concurrence, and with the assistance of the respectable General, and the brave Marshal, whom I revere, I am anxious to see beside me, to my country, ever faithful to the cause of liberty, my first duty is to maintain the empire of the laws, without which there is neither liberty nor security for any person, and to secure the force necessary for resisting those attacks by which it is attempted to disturb that liberty. You will continue your generous efforts to second mine, and you may count on me as I do on you."

His Majesty then addressed the Horse National Guards.
"My Countrymen,—I come to tell you how much I value your efforts for the maintenance of public tranquillity, and for the defence of our public liberties, of which they would rob us by plunging us into disorder. It is time that these disturbances should cease; it is time to show ourselves worthy the name of Frenchmen, by defending our institutions against the attacks of anarchy, after having so gloriously triumphed over those of despotism. Ever devoted to my country, and to the defence of those liberties and those institutions which I have sworn to maintain, and to which we shall all be constantly faithful.—"Yes," "yes," "bravo," from the troops and the spectators—"I ought, and we all ought, to repel these unworthy attacks, with whatever mask they may be covered, and to reply to what France is entitled to expect from us. To this I shall devote myself as long as I live, and I have no doubt of success."

NATIONAL GUARDS OF PARIS.
Order of the Day of Oct. 19.
In addition to the King's expressing this morning to the National Guard on duty near the Palace his satisfaction and his gratitude not only with regard to the post and the relief of the Palais Royal, but to all the legions who in the course of yesterday, and throughout the night, have been emulous in zeal for the maintenance of public order, his Majesty has given directions to the General in Chief to transmit to his brethren in arms the assurance of these sentiments. A great number of spectators had an opportunity of witnessing how the Royal confidence and approbation were given and received. These are new and mutual pledges of devotedness to the cause of the revolution effected by the heroic population of Paris, and which the enemies of liberty and public peace, under various pretexts, are so anxious to undo, but which they will find impossible to counteract.

The General in Chief, proud of commanding this patriotic National Guard, after having in common with it, enjoyed the public confidence, of which it is justly the object, wishes also especially to express his thanks for the firmness, the zeal and devotedness, which have been exhibited throughout yesterday and last night. It is evident that now, as during the first years of the revolution, the enemies of liberty would wish to see it disgraced by anarchy, sullied by crime, and misunderstood by the peaceable citizens, who would greatly err in confounding it with the causes of those disturbances, which are the means of destroying their quiet, interrupting their industry, and interfering with public order. Certainly it is not by such means that what we have gained by the glorious revolution of the great week can be consolidated, and that we shall obtain what is necessary to complete the regeneration of France on the basis of perfect freedom, without restriction as without alloy, on a foundation worthy of the revolution effected by a generous people, acquiescent at once with their rights and their duties.

This people have now become too enlightened to allow themselves to be made the dupes of their disguised adversaries—too well informed to be trained on by men who would mislead them—to just not to be horrified at those vociferations which would disturb the justice, and would dishonour us among nations accustomed

to the principles and the forms of true liberty—and too proud of their present glory to descend from the high station to which we have been raised by our new revolution. No, such an evil is not reserved for an old servant of the popular cause, who congratulates himself that he has lived long enough to see its pure and glorious triumph.

It is particularly to those of his fellow citizens who already form the National Guard, to his dear brethren in arms, that the General Commanding in Chief ought now to repeat the assurance of his satisfaction, his gratitude, and his entire confidence in the truly patriotic spirit of liberty and public order of which they have given these new proofs.

LAFAYETTE.
It is feared that unpleasant scenes will take place at Cassel, where the Elector seems to have repeated of having granted some concessions to his subjects.—He refuses to grant audiences to all the deputations from the towns throughout the country, and he is surrounded by his troops, but they are so discontented that they will never fight against their fellow citizens.

A letter from Schumla states that a great part of the town has been destroyed by fire, and that the Government has sustained immense loss by the burning of a quantity of military provisions.

There have been no less than two hundred persons arrested this evening, through the exertions of the National Guard.

A letter from Toulon, dated the 12th of October, states that the late promotion in the Navy has excited a great deal of discontent in that place. Several distinguished officers, who thought themselves justly entitled to the recommissions which have just been conferred, declared that those favors had been obtained through interest, and that those who were in favour with the General officers have been the objects of particular distinctions. The Ministry is generally accused of being influenced, like its predecessors, by a Military and Administrative Aristocracy.

The Quotidien of to-day says that in consequence of the disturbances which have taken place, the King and his family have returned to Neuilly. An order was instantly sent to the Post Office, not to allow the numbers of that Journal to be sent off, until a few words, in contradiction of so absurd a report, were inserted.—*Monteur*.

From the *St. Louis Times*.
The venerable old gentleman to whom we are indebted for the narrative which follows, still lives to look back upon the scenes of danger and difficulty thro' which he passed when young, and to receive the grateful thanks of a generation, who owe to him and his comrades that they were born children and heirs of Liberty. For ourselves, whenever we behold one of these time-worn veterans of the revolution, bowed down upon his staff, and listen to him as he relates with all the simplicity, and it may be the prolixity, of old age, the daring heroism, the patient sufferings, and finally, the glorious triumph of himself and his comrades, most of whom are now sleeping beneath the soil they so nobly defended,—our heart swells within us, and involuntarily we bend in token of reverence to this surviving representative of a band of heroes, to which all history can furnish no parallel.

Mr. Hempstead was in Fort Griswold at the time of its assault, and the massacre of its garrison by the British in 1781. Here his left arm was mangled and broken in a shocking manner, several of his ribs were broken, and he received besides a severe wound in the side from a bayonet. In this condition, after lying on the ground till his limbs became stiff from wounds and coagulated blood, he, along with others, was thrown into a wagon, and pushed down the side of the steep hill on which the fort stood. The wagon after having acquired great velocity came in contact with a tree, and the concussion he describes as having caused an agony of suffering far beyond conception. Here he was found by his friends in a state of insensibility, and when he awoke to consciousness, it was to learn that the wanton cruelty of the enemy had rendered him houseless and homeless. For many days his recovery was deemed impossible, but contrary to all fears he survived.—He survived to behold his country become free, happy and prosperous beyond example, while his heart glowed with the blessed consciousness that all this was, in part, the work of his hands. He still survives far distant from the scene of his sufferings, to witness the being an influence of those principles for which he bled, extending the blessings of civilization and religion over a territory even more extensive than that of the concentered colonies. His days that remain can be but few, but these will be cheered with the reflection that upon his tomb will be shed the tears both of the Patriot and the Christian.

ANECDOTE OF THE REVOLUTION.
Attempt to burn the British Frigates in the North River in July, 1776.
Messrs. Lovjoy & Miller.—I send you for insertion in your paper a correct account of the desperate attempt to destroy by means of fire-ships, the vessels of the enemy in the Hudson, in July, 76. Having seen in the Worcester Magazine, a narrative of that expedition in the main correct, but inaccurate and defective in many particulars, I am induced to correct that statement, by sending you a detailed account of the whole affair. The narrative is compiled from the verbal statement made by Mr. Joseph Bass, who I know was attached to the expedition. I presume that the inaccuracies admitted into that article arose from a wrong recollection of the facts. Being one of the small party engaged in that desperate undertaking, all the circumstances are indelibly impressed upon my memory, and I can give you them, as I think, without addition or omission.

The fire vessels were an Albany sloop of about 90 tons burden, and a schooner of about 60 tons. Under the superintendance of Commodore Tupper, they were fitted for the expedition at New York in the following manner. The holds of the vessels were filled with empty hogsheads, to prevent them from sinking, in case the enemy's shot should strike their hulls. Two troughs were then placed the whole length of the deck, one on each side, one end of which went through the bulk head of the cabin, at which end the train was to be fired. An opening was made in the stern of each vessel through which the man who fired the train might escape into the whale-boat that was to be in attendance for that purpose.

The troughs were about 6 inches wide, 10 deep, and as I said before, extended from the bows to the cabin. In each trough was laid a train of mealed powder, half an inch or more in depth, which was then covered with wheat straw about 12 inches long dipped in brimstone. The troughs were then filled with straight black birch twigs, made into small flags 12 or 18 inches in length, and dipped into melted resin. By the side of each trough were placed a number of empty barrels each of which

was then filled with pitch pine faggots, split fine and covered with melted resin. Two more barrels filled with the same materials were placed each side of the mast, and then the whole deck was closely stowed up to the gunwales, with birch twigs dipped in resin. Strips of canvas 6 or 8 inches in width, dipped in spirits of turpentine covered all the standing rigging from the deck to the mast head.

There were square sail and spritsail yards to both vessels, and a grappeling iron fastened to the end of each yard, the flying jib boom, and to the gaff and main boom, with chains that led down and were bolted to the main deck.

The vessels being in readiness, the command of the sloop was given to Thomas Uppdike, of New London, Ct. then an ensign in the company of the brave but unfortunate Capt. Nathan Hale, and of the regiment of Col. Charles Willis' continental troops.—Ensign Fostick's crew consisted of seven men, and Fostick of the same company and regiment as above, and Joseph Bass who was appointed by Commodore Tupper steersman of the whale-boat in which we were to make our escape. His company and regiment I do not recollect. The remaining five of our crew were from Webb's regiment—the crew of each vessel consisting of nine men. The schooner was given to Lieut. Thomas, a native of Rhode Island, whose christian name I never knew. I do not even know to what regiment he belonged; some of his men were from Wylly's regiment.

Every thing being now in readiness, we started from New York up the North River, with a light and variable wind. Our progress was very slow, as we could not make full advantage on account of the grappeling irons and chains, which, as I have said, were affixed to the yards of the vessels. The weather at this time was rainy and drizzling. The next day after we left New York, we got up the river as far as Spiking Devil Creek, where we lying three row galleys, which had received orders from Gen. Washington to take us in tow and proceed immediately up the river that night as far as it would be safe for them to venture. The night was dark, foggy and rainy; and when we left Spiking Devil Creek in search of the enemy's ships, we could not discern any object at the distance of fifty yards. We steered, however, for their ship, according to the best of our judgement, and while we were under full headway, a stroke from the bell of their frigate, the Phoenix, apprised the galleys of their danger. They immediately cast off, bid us good bye and God speed, and made the best of their way down the river. After they left us we steered our course by the sound of the ship's bell, and the sentinel's cry of "All's well."

The orders of Commodore Tupper were, that Capt. Thomas with his schooner, should keep about 100 yards ahead of Capt. Fostick's sloop, and grapple the bow of the Phoenix, while Capt. Fostick should come up and fasten to her stern. But as it happened, Capt. Thomas being in advance came first in contact with a tender that was moored in a direct line ahead of the Phoenix. The darkness of the night prevented him from knowing what vessel it was, and he was obliged to grapple her and fire his train, by which means the tender was soon consumed. The flames of these two vessels made it as light as day, and the enemy's ships commenced a tremendous fire of cannon and small arms upon our vessel, many of their shot struck our hull without doing much injury. We kept our course and succeeded in grappling the bows of the Phoenix, amidst the roar of cannon and the volleys of small arms from the mariners. We fired our train, and the sloop remained grappled to the Phoenix burning with great fury for the space of twenty minutes. At length the enemy succeeded in clearing their ship, by cutting their bow cable, and letting the ships drift with the tide, and then bringing up with their stern anchor, by which means the force of the tide separated the two vessels—the fire ship drifted to the shore and burnt to the water's edge. We came off in our boat in safety—not a man of us was hurt, nor was the boat damaged in the least by the tremendous fire from the ships of volleys after volleys, and broadside after broadside. We had, indeed, a hair breadth escape from death, for which we were indebted to the kind Providence of God, who vouchsafed us a safe return to New York, where with joy and mutual rejoicing we joined our regiment.

The next day after our arrival in New York, it came out in general orders, that those brave men who went up the Hudson in the fire ships, should appear at Head Quarters at 10 o'clock in the morning. At the appointed hour we were there, when Gen. Washington coming out of his room, congratulated us on our escape, thanked us for our services and bravery, although we were not fortunate enough to burn their ships; and as a reward of our gallantry, gave us each an order on the Paymaster for forty dollars. This sum was thankfully received, and going to our tents, we spent the evening with our friends and fellow-soldiers, in drinking the health of Gen. Washington, and success to the Independence of America!

Capt. Thomas in his schooner, being, as I said before, ahead of our sloop, came down upon the Phoenix, and finding himself unable to get away, grappled her and fired his train. He and his crew were, by no means, however, so fortunate in escaping as we were in Capt. Fostick's boat. The weather, as said before, having been wet and drizzled, Capt. Thomas had the troughs of his vessel primed anew, for fear some dampness had been communicated to the powder; he also opened the ends of each of them at the bow, in order that the trains might be fired at both ends, thinking even in this case, those appointed to fire them might mistake their escape. Mistaken and unfortunate ideal! In an instant both he and his men were enveloped in flames. Two of the men, "Thos. Harris" of New London, Ct., and Mr. Burns, I think of Hartford, succeeded, with great difficulty, in getting into the boat, very badly burnt. Captain Thomas and three of his men jumped into the river and were drowned. Three of his men were in the boat at the time of the firing of the train. The disaster which befel Captain Thomas and his crew, was wholly owing to their imprudence, in firing the train at both ends.

Mr. Harris, who was a townsman of mine (he is since dead) and myself, have often, when sitting under our vine and fig-tree, in our native town, talked over with swelling hearts, the dreadful dangers which surrounded that little band of 13 men, the most of whom are no more. STEPHEN HEMPSTEAD, Sr.

Report says that Mr. Wright, who was in the habit of entering the cage with a Lion and Lioness, was lately killed during a late exhibition in Cincinnati.—He had trained the animals himself, and had been in the habit, frequently of entering their cage without apprehension, and apparently without risk. On one occasion referred to, however, he was seized by the Lioness, and before he could be rescued was so much injured that he died shortly after. Pittsburg Statesman.