Huntsville Republican.

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CAPTAINS HEATH AND PERRY.

Serious charges against Captain Oliver H. Perry, of the United States Navy, by John Heath, late captain of the Marine Corps.

TO THE PUBLIC.

[*Concluded from our last.*]

Reader! recollect that I had been in confinement from the 16th of September, amounting to a period, up to the date of this letter, of nearly *three months and a half!* Recollect that I had solicited a trial at Gibraltar, and was denied!—that I patiently waited fifty days longer for the squadron to re-assemble at Port Mahon. [illegible] I had I not a right to [illegible] ast the dawn of my [illegible] Every generous [illegible] in the affirmative. [illegible] welcome mes[illegible] ore a court mar[illegible] charges exhibited agai[illegible] requested to furnish the [illegible] and specifications—[illegible] I intend to [illegible] tain Perry. I am [illegible] *myself a prisoner*, [illegible] prosecutor, and [illegible] substantiate, by [illegible] evidence, [illegible] s which I had never officially made, (and designed to postpone until my own deliverance,) and all this too upon *a single day's notice*. Here I observe likewise an example of the most gross and abominable *partiality* that ever disgraced a public office. Without any just cause under heaven, I had languished in imprisonment one hundred and two days, deprived of the fresh air, so necessary to my health, and debarred from privileges which have been accorded to the vilest criminals. In vain I had repeatedly solicited my charges and trial—"the public service" it seems "would not admit of a court martial for me," but the very moment my accuser solicited one, it was granted without [illegible] granted too under circumstances of the most monstrous injustice to me. Notwithstanding, however, this singular and unexampled [illegible] on the part of the commander of the United States squadron such was my solicitude to bring this unhappy affair to a termination, and such was my perfect conviction that I was in the hands of men who were governed by no law but their own despotic will, that I returned the following answer:

United States Ship Java, Mahon, 28th Dec. 1816.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 28th inst. which I received this morning requesting charges and specifications against capt. O. H. Perry, for an outrage committed on me in September last.

I have labored under an arrest for upwards of three months from charges preferred against me by captain O. H. Perry—[illegible] e suffered much from my confinement—I have applied for a court martial to investigate [illegible] ich I did not re[illegible] made applica[illegible] more, as others [illegible] situation, and I [illegible] cation treated [illegible] also

rest and charges preferred against me by captain Perry, previous to my exhibiting charges and specifications against him. I have again to request that a court may be convened for my trial, when I shall be ready to prefer charges against capt. Perry.

However, sir, I beg leave to add should you deem these objections to your request not sufficiently cogent, I am prepared to prefer and substantiate the charges and specifications. I shall exhibit against captain Perry. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

J. HEATH, *Capt Marines.*
Com. *Isaac Chauncey.*

In reply to this letter, I received the following on the day after, to which I invite particular attention.

U. S. Ship Washington, Port Mahon, 30th Dec. 1816.

SIR—Your letter of yesterday's date was received last evening, and I notice with some surprise, the *style* in which it was written. I shall, however, merely remark, that from my official situation, I must be the sole judge when the public service will allow courts martial to be convened, and I do not hold myself accountable to any one for my conduct, except the hon. Secretary of the Navy.

The arrival of the Spark will enable me to gratify you in your request to be brought to trial before captain Perry. I have, therefore, ordered a court to convene to-morrow for your trial. You will prepare yourself accordingly.

If you intend to prefer any charges against captain O. H. Perry, you will furnish me with a copy immediately. I am, respectfully your obedient serv't.

I. CHAUNCEY.
Capt. J. Heath, U. S. Marines.

I deem it unnecessary to say any thing of the Commodore's stricture on the style of my letter. It is given to the public by whom sentence will be pronounced—I will only remark, that however indifferent to, or neglectful of, the rights of others, some of our renowned commanders may be, they never fail to exact the most punctilious respect to themselves. It appears then, that Commodore Chauncey was at last convinced that I ought to have a trial—but let us examine the reason which he assigns for granting my request. And here, indeed, I have need of the utmost philosophy and patience. Forbearing as I know my temper and disposition to be, I can hardly restrain my feelings at this despicable subterfuge in a man who occupies so distinguished a station. "The arrival of the Spark," he says, "will enable me to gratify you in your request to be brought to trial before captain Perry." How did the arrival of the Spark facilitate the convention of a court martial? Was there any one on board who was a witness or in any wise concerned in the transaction? And how, after all, did the Spark's arrival permit *me to be brought to trial before captain Perry?* I call upon commodore Chauncey to answer these questions—I challenge him to point out the connection between the arrival of the Spark and my trial. The Spark was then performing quarantine, and no one was permitted to leave or go aboard of her—how then did her arrival kindle in the bosom of this magnanimous commodore his sudden gleam of compassion? I will tell you; I will myself unfold the secret. The Spark had brought to Port Mahon the last treaty with Algiers, and the Java had been designated as the frigate which should bear it to America. It was necessary that captain Perry should have his trial before he left the Mediterranean. *There*, there was a perfect understanding how the matter should be decided, and it might be dangerous to permit the hero of Lake Erie to be exposed to a trial in the United States, where there was a likelihood of the law being strictly enforced against him. After my re[illegible] against captain Per[illegible] first, the subject [illegible] berated on, and [illegible] of such a co[illegible] self I was at length gratified in the privilege of appearing before a court martial. The arrival of the Spark then had no more influence than to shew that it had been deliberately resolved to keep me in imprisonment to the last moment; probably with a view that my spirit should be broken by confinement, and that I should be compelled to accept of an apology as the price of my liberation. I have not yet done; my duty to myself and my country, requires that I should fully expose a scheme of legalized corruption and wickedness without its parallel in American history.

The court martial by which I was tried assembled in the frigate Java, on the 31st December. I shall say nothing at present of the members who constituted this court—I wish that the record of the trial was not too luminous for publication

I wish that the public could see to what shifts such a man as captain Perry can resort when it is found convenient to do so, for the purpose of screening himself from merited punishment. The charges which he exhibited against me, I assert to have been malicious and unfounded; and every man must reasonably infer that had they been deemed of a serious and important nature and vitally affecting the good of the naval service; there would not have been so much difficulty and delay in preferring them; but let facts speak for themselves.

I am charged 1st, with disrespectful, insolent, and contemptuous conduct; 2d, with neglect to duty, and unofficer like conduct; and 3d, with disobedience of orders.

The 1st specification to the first charge, I deem it important to notice particularly; it is as follows: "That he (meaning myself) did, *on or about the 22d July* 1816, on board the United States frigate Java, then standing into the bay of Naples, on being asked by me, (captain Perry) why a certain marine was suffered to appear on deck in so filthy a dress? reply to me in an *insolent, disrespectful and contemptuous* manner.

Never was astonishment equal to mine, on reading this specification. It will be recollected that I was arrested not until the 18th September, and the offence here alledged is said to have been committnd on the 22d July, nearly *two months preceding* I was neither arrested, suspended or even warned that even notice would be taken of such an offence; nay more, in the interval between the 22d July and the 18th September, I sat upon a general court martial in the Bay of Naples, of which captain Perry was president. Now will any man in his senses believe, that if I had been guilty of insolent, disrespectful & contemptuous (which if true, was an offence little short of mutiny) a man of captain Perry's distinguished standing *and nice and delicate sense of honor*, would have passed it by unnoticed? Has not captain Perry, by his own shewing, been guilty of a most flagrant violation of duty, by not promptly arraigning a crime striking at the very foundation of naval dicipline and subordination? The truth is, that when it became necessary to exhibit charges against me, the malice and ingenuity of my prosecutor was put to the rack in order to hunt up something, and this *mighty accusation* was raked up from the bay of Naples, where it had quietly slumbered near two months. With regard to the offence itself, something was proved on the court martial by Lieutenant M'Pherson, of wearing my hat on one side of my head and my hands in my pockets, and it was this, it seems, which was insolent, disrespectful, and contemptuous. Lieutenant M'Pherson knows that he has repeatedly mentioned to me in private conversation, that he believed I did not on that day intend any disrespect to captain Perry.

With regard to the other charges and specifications, they are hatched entirely from the transactions which occurred on the evenings of the 16th and 18th September, a fair, candid, and im[illegible]ervation of which I have already given. That I manifested some resentment at the scurrilous abuse, lavished upon me by captain Perry, I cannot deny; I did not, I confess, submit patiently to his ungentlemanly reproaches, without warning him of the consequences; for what man of honor or spirit would tamely bear

"The oppressor's wrong; the proud man's contumely;
"The insolence of office."

Few men in my situation would have acted with such forbearance? and fewer still would have borne with a wanton and violent personal outrage without resorting to immediate redress; unawed by the sanctuary of power, or the despotism of authority. But it will be recollected that I was assaulted when entirely unarmed, and immediately afterwards committed to the custody of a sentry, a measure which has uniformly been considered as justifiable in extreme cases only.

I shall presently speak of the manner in which the sentence of the court by which I was tried was promulgated. The court martial for the trial of captain Perry, on charges preferred by me, was organized on the 10th of January, 1817 The members were designated by commodore Chauncey, and among them was captain Crane who it will be recollected, had acted as the particular friend of captain Perry, in the note of apology addressed to me on the 19th of Sept. It was known, also, that captain John Orde Creighton, another member, had a few weeks before struck a midshipman, an honorable young man, whilst in the discharge of his duty on board the Washington; *and for which offence he was not only acquitted, but* (as I was informed on good authority, for these matters were never made very public) *the midshipman who preferred the charge actually reprimanded!!* Now I ask if captain Creighton could be disposed, even with the fullest evidence before him to convict captain Perry of an offence for which he himself had been just honorably acquitted? From these and other circumstances, I do not hesitate to declare my belief, that the opinions of a majority of the court were made up before the trial. I think it proper to state here however, my perfect confidence in the justice and impartiality of capt. Shaw, the President of the court. From that gentleman and from captain Gamble, (who was a member) I have received many marks of friendship, and I shall carry with me in my retirement from the navy the highest respect for their characters.

It might reasonably be supposed, from the high rank of com. Chauncey, that however cruel and tyrannical in heart he might be, an ordinary respect for the dignity of the laws and the honorable commission which he bears, might induce him to preserve at least some show of justice; but the fact which I shall now publish to the world, incontestibly proves, that his cold and calculating malice is only excelled by his daring effrontery. Captain Perry, though under an arrest, was never one moment in confinement. Nay more, *was not even, as I know of, deprived of his sword, and to my* KNOWLEDGE GAVE ORDERS AS COMMANDER OF THE FRIGATE JAVA, during his trial!!!—Shame where is thy blush!

I deem it unnecessary to expatiate upon the charges and specifications which I exhibited against capt. Perry. The nature of them will be easily inferred from the foregoing statement. I will remark, however, that they were indisputably & incontestibly proven before the court as the record will show whenever it is exhibited. The reader will now be prepared to hear the sentences of the respective courts. He will at least believe that however defective in organization and unprecedented the mode in which they were conducted, the sentences would have been promulgated in the usual and customary manner; that conformably to invariable usage, the [illegible] of the squadron would be [illegible] in the flag ship, and the [illegible] of these most holy tribunals pronounced! But oh no! [illegible] have been horrible profi[illegible] have murmured a br[illegible] against the hero of Lake Erie! Reader! Citizen of this land of liberty! would you believe; I have never yet heard officially what capt. Perry's sentence was; it is true it was whispered through the squadron *that it was a private reprimand from commodore Chauncey.* If my bosom did not swell with indignation, I could not refrain from smiling at this solemn mockery. *A private reprimand from commodore Chauncey!* his aider and abettor in one of the most wicked and despotic combinations that ever dishonored the navy of our country. I appeal to the proud feelings of every American! I appeal to the manly spirit of those gallant young men who have left their friends, their homes and their country, to qualify themselves by an arduous apprenticeship for the future rewards of naval valor. Will they submit longer to repeated acts of the most unblushing and destable tyranny? There can be but one sentiment on this subject.

But to proceed; it was not until informed by captain Shaw, that I was sentenced to be privately reprimanded by him, that I knew any thing officially of the matter; and it was not until my arrival in America that I was informed upon what charges and specifications the court considered me as guilty! But I shall not dismiss commodore Chauncey yet; bad as I deem captain Perry, I think the commodore much worse—the first might find some sort of shelter in human weakness and the pride of obstinacy—but the latter is a volunteer in crime, coolly rancorous, and deliberately unjust.

Commodore Chauncey has studiously labored to keep the whole transaction as secret as possible.—Accordingly, about the time of my arrest he published an order prohibiting the officers giving any information to their friends at home, either about the operations of the squadron or concerning any [illegible] or misunderstandings betwe[illegible] other. The [illegible] this order w[illegible] the officers [illegible] same cautio[illegible] lication of th[illegible] martial, al[illegible] had requ[illegible] captain Perry [illegible] with a copy of [illegible] modore peren[illegible]

After I was resto[illegible] mand, I addressed a [illegible] modore Chauncey, earnes[illegible] ting, that in consequence [illegible] pleasant transaction which [illegible] pired, I might be permitted [illegible] turn home as a passenger, [illegible] letter I received the following:

U. S. Ship Washington, Port [illegible] *18th Jan.* [illegible]

SIR—Your letter of th[illegible] date is before me, and in reply [illegible] have to state that in my opinio[illegible] would be unmilitary and impro[illegible] to comply with your request; in[illegible] much as you have been p[illegible] command of the marine[illegible] the Java, by the honora[illegible] cretary of the navy, it w[illegible] proper to remove you [illegible] command without a suffici[illegible] Be[illegible]s, it would be [illegible] of [illegible] re on[illegible] diti[illegible] that[illegible] from the cour[illegible]

I am very [illegible]

Captain John Heath,
Commanding Marine guard, Java.

We find by the above letter, that captain Perry was still the burthen of the commodore's song. To grant my request might be an act of censure on him in addition to that which he had received from the court.—Hogarth might well have employed his pencil to depict the interview between these gallant gentlemen when this formidable censure was pronounced. I suppose the commodore's brow was contracted [illegible] an angry [illegible] or will the [illegible] her bee[illegible]

gain, inasmuch as it removed me from the command given me by the secretary of the navy without a sufficient reason.

But I submitted, and was reduced to the mortifying necessity of doing duty again under the man who had forfeited every claim to my confidence and respect. I did not hesitate in determining on my arrival in my native country, to spread before the public the history of my wrongs: For whether I am ever fully redressed or not, the government and the people have a right to be informed of the manner in which the American character is degraded on a foreign station; by men too, high in confidence at home—and I hesitate not to declare, that unless some effectual steps are taken to secure the rights of the subaltern officer, against the wanton caprice & malignant hostility of his superior; the most blasting and pernicious influence may be expected upon the rising prosperity of the navy. Young men of high sense of honor and delicate feeling, (and only such ought to be found there) will be driven from a service where they have no guarantee against personal indignity & outrage. The time was when an act of this kind met with suitable reprehension and punishment; and if I have been credibly informed, one of the present commissioners of the navy was once suspended for five years for striking a midshipman. But in those days all military establishments were considered somewhat dangerous to liberty, and naval officers were entitled to no greater priviliges than other men. That time however has passed; and the popular current runs so strongly in their favor, that their faults and even crimes, like the spots on the sun are scarcely distinguished in the lustre of their characters, let me not be understood, however, as detracting from the just praise which is due to the gallant men, both in the army & navy, who atchieved so many gallant exploits during the late war. As an American, I thank captain Perry most sincerely for the services he rendered on Lake Erie, and I do heartily regret that he has taught me the painful truth, that the most [illegible] conduct may be conbined [illegible] most revengeful disposition. [illegible] candidly confess, that captain [illegible] as well as others, must have [illegible] ed more th[illegible] mortal firm[illegible] extrava[illegible] applause [illegible] ery part of [illegible] it is not al[illegible] at, that in [illegible] praise, in [illegible] greatness, [illegible] have for [illegible] My fellow cit[illegible] be aware that [illegible] ngs from their gen[illegible] when carried to ex[illegible] productive of infinite mis[illegible] that history is full of in[illegible] examples, how despotism [illegible] to her throne, by means of favor or credulity. [illegible] popular applause! what heart [illegible] man [illegible] against thy sweet seducing charms? spare your idol! think him human still; [illegible] arms he may have, but he has frailties too! [illegible] too much, nor spoil what [illegible] ire."

[illegible] has given an impartial [illegible] the most extraordinary [illegible] s that ever occurred in [illegible] I have done it not from [illegible] to vi[illegible] ate [illegible] the h[illegible] of [illegible] at [illegible] will not [illegible] as the most [illegible] be furnished [illegible] cusation; & if [illegible] forced to appear before the public again, I shall not only substantiate beyond all manner of doubt every thing which I have herein alledged, but I shall probably be enabled to enlighten the public mind still more upon the abuses which are practised on a foreign station.

I sincerely thank my numerous friends in the navy, who have manifested the most generous solicitude and anxiety in my behalf—To my own corps in particular, I cannot refrain from making the most sincere acknowledgements for the in[illegible] [illegible] have

years of peril and adventure. I most heartily tender to them the assurances of my high consideration and regard.

Before I conclude, I think proper to notice a rumor that has been propogated perhaps with a view to injure me and with some may have received credit, to wit that captain Perry offered me *personal satisfaction* for the injury he had done and which I refused. I beg leave explicity to declare, that it is totally false and unfounded. After the rejection of captain Perry's proffered apology, upon which I have already sufficiently expatiated, I never held with him any communication whatever on the subject.

My address is before a candid public! Let them decide upon its merits, unbiased by the exalted station of my adversaries, and I shall be satified.

JOHN HEATH,
Late capt of the Marine corps, U. S.
Washington, June 15, 1817.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

Natchez, Aug. 9.

The convention during the present week, have had under consideration the report of the committee of the whole, on the plan of the constitution. Presuming that the constitution as it now stands will probably undergo but little alteration, we present to the public its outlines, so far as the convention have progressed.

Every free white male person, of the age of 21 years and upwards, who shall be a citizen of the United States, and shall have resided in the state one year next preceding the election, and in the county where he offers to vote six months previously to the election, and shall have been enrolled in the militia, or shall have paid a state or county tax, is deemed a qualified elector. The first election is directed to be by ballot, subject to future regulation by the legislature.

The election of members to the house of representatives is annual, on the first Monday and Tuesday in August. A member to the house of representatives must be an inhabitant of this state two years preceding his election, and the last year a resident of the county, city or town he offers to represent—shall have attained the age of twenty two years, and hold in his own right one hundred and fifty acres of land, or an interest in real estate of the value of five hundred dollars, within the state. Cities and towns are entitled to seperate representation, when they have the established ratio. The general assembly at their first meeting, and in the year 1820, and in not less than three nor more than five years thereafter, shall cause the census of the state to be taken, and apportion the representatives among the counties, cities and towns of the state, according to the number of free white inhabitants, and shall not be less than 24 nor more than 36, until the number of free white inhabitants exceeds eighty thousand, and after that event, the whole number of representatives shall not be less than thirty six nor more than one hundred. Each county shall have at least one representative.

The senators shall be apportioned among the districts established by law according to the number of free white taxable inhabitants, so that they shall not be more than one third nor less than one fourth of the whole number of representatives—The senators are elected for three years by the qualified electors, and classed so that one third go out annually. A senator must be a citizen of the United States; shall have been a citizen of this state 4 years preceding his election, and the last year a resident of the district he represents; must be 26 years of age; hold in his own right three hundred acres of land within the state, or an interest in real estate of the value of one thousand dollars. No senator or representative shall be eligible to any civil office of profit under the state, during his term of service and for one year thereafter, which shall have been created or the emoluments thereof encreased during such term of service, except offices filled by the people. No member of either house after taking his seat, is eligible to any office in the gift of [illegible] legislature or either branch [illegible] during his term of service. [illegible] st session of the general as[illegible] mmences on the first Mon[illegible] ctober next, and shall sit in [illegible] Natchez. [illegible] vernor is to be elected f[illegible]

two years by the qualified electors. He shall be at least thirty years of age—a citizen of the United States, and shall have resided in this state five years preceding his election, & at the time of his election and twelve months previously thereto; [illegible] zed in his own right of a freehold estate of six hundred acres of land, or an interest in real estate of the value of two thousand dollars. The governor and the senate have the power of granting pardons in cases of treason; the governor shall grant pardons, except in cases of treason, and remit fines and forfeitures, under such rules and regulations as the general assembly may prescribe.—The governor has a veto on the laws but two thirds of the members of both branches of the legislature may pass a bill when returned with the governor's objections, or if the governor should not return the bill within six days after he may have received it. On Wednesday Mr. Simpson proposed to amend the report of the committee of the whole which contemplates making appointments to office by joint ballot of both houses, by changing to the mode of appointment under the constitution of the U. S.—which was decided in the affirmative.

The original report gave the gov. & senate the power of nominating and appointing the officers of government where there appointment had not been directed by the constitution to be by election, or left with the legislature. The question then recurred on concurring in the report of the committee of the whole, recommending the mode of appointment by ballot of both branches of the legislature, and striking out the provision of the original report, which was decided in the affirmative.

The constitution provides for a lieutenant governor, who is elected at the same time, by the same electors, must have the same qualifications, and continues in office the same length of time as the governor. He is president of the senate, and exercises the power of governor, in case of his death, absence, or inability to act; and receives when acting as governor, the same compensation for his services as the governor. When acting as president of the senate, the same pay as the speaker of the house of representatives, but no salary. In case of the death or absence of the governor, the senate is directed to choose a president, who discharges the duties of governor, in case of the death, absence or resignation of the lieutenant governor.

The judicial power of the state is vested in a supreme and superior courts, and such inferior courts as the legislature may think proper to organize. The judges of the superior courts hold the supreme courts, but the judge who decides a cause in the circuit shall not sit on the same cause in the supreme court. The state is to be divided into districts, which shall not contain more than six nor less than three counties, and a judge appointed in each district, who shall after his appointment, reside in the district.—The judges may hold courts for each other at pleasure, or as the legislature may direct. The judges of the supreme and inferior courts, are elected by both branches of the legislature, and commissioned during good behavior. They can be removed from office by the governor on the address of two thirds of both branches of the legislature, for wilful neglect of duty or other reasonable causes. The reasons for such removal must be recorded in the journals of each house of the general assembly, and the judge notified and heard in his defence, before such address shall pass. They can also be removed on impeachment by two thirds of the house of representatives, and conviction by two thirds of the senate. Justices of the peace have jurisdiction to the amount of fifty dollars, reserving the right of appeal. The judges of each court appoint their own clerks. The legislature have power to establish one or more courts of chancery, seperate from the superior court, when they deem it expedient.

Charleston, July 20.

FROM AMELIA ISLAND *via* ST. MARY'S.

By the pilot-boart schr. Humming bird, arrived here yesterday in 4 days from St. Marys, we have the latest advices from the scene of patriotic warfare on our [illegible] der. The forces of Gen. M'Gregor, are stated to remain in quiet possession of the Island of Amelia and in expectation of being soon joined by reinforcements which will enable them to assail the fortress of St. Augustine with a certainty of success. The General in Chief has made liberal advances of pay to his men, and thereby conciliated their strict attention to discipline.

Information had been obtained from St. Augustine, that *Don. Francisco Morales*, late commandant of Amelia, had been put in Irons immediately on his arrival at the former place; and the general expectation was that he would lose his head, for surrendering that place, in express contradiciton to his orders, without firing a gun. It was also ascertained, by the same means, that the governor of St. Augustine had received a reinforcement from Havanna, and that every man, and even the boys of the town, had taken up arms for the defence of the place.

A small Spanish schooner, from St. Augustine, evading the Patriots, arrived at St. Marys a few days before the humming-bird sailed—but a sharp look out would be kept to prevent her returning in safety to the port from whence she came.

Two small privateers were fitting out at Fernandina on the 24th inst. for a cruise against the spanish commerce.

A Patriot privateer schooner was said to be cruising off the harbor of St. Augustine, at the time Capt. LEFEVRE sailed.

The sloop General *Washington*, which sailed yesterday for Savannah, has on board a company of U. States' troops, intended for the protection of the frontier of Georgia.—They are to be joined at Savannah by another detachment and will proceed from thence to the vicinity of St. Marys, where they are to be stationed.

From Amelia Island.

Our late accounts represent M'Gregor still at Amelia, and as having been, as yet, perfectly quiet on the island, with the exception of laying a few taxes on shop keepers, &c. It is mentioned that several soldiers have left him, and that others are much dissatisfied, probably on account of the deficiency of his funds, as he is said to be nearly destitute.

On the other hand, letters from St. Marys's of the 10th July, mention the arrival of a reinforcement of one hundred men in the schooner Joseph, captain Denton, from Charleston—that a few of the residents of Florida had enrolled themselves under his standard; and that 20 persons from St. Mary's had also joined him.

The commander of St Augutine, col. Corpinger, is said to be perfectly prepared to test the prowess of the patriots under M'Gregor, having under his command a force consisting of five hundred effective men, and being supplied with provisions sufficient to sustain his force for many months. It is certain that M'Gregor, with his present disparity of force, without dicipline, will not attempt the subjugation of a strong fortress, which there is not a doubt will be ably defended.

Balt. Pat.

REPUBLICAN

HUNTSVILLE, [A. T.] SEPT. 2.

☞ The Reverend —— Harton, will preach in the Meeting house in this place, on Sunday the 7th instant, at eleven o'clock P. M.

Natchez, August 16, 1817.

THE CONVENTION

Finished their labors, and signed the constitution of the STATE OF MISSISSIPPI yesterday at noon: The event was immediately announced by a federal salute from a six pounder, stationed near the hall of the Convention.

The final question on the adoption of the Constitution, was taken on Tuesday last, and determined with but one dissenting vote. (Col. West, from Jefferson county.)

An election will be held in the different counties composing the state on the first Monday and Tuesday in next month, to choose a Governer, Lieutenant Governor; Representative to Congress, Members to the Senate and House of Representatives of the State, Sheriffs and Coroners.

The first [illegible] on of the General As[illegible] held in this city, in O[illegible] [illegible] ady spoken of [illegible] people, are [illegible]

DAVID HOLM[illegible] Governor
COLES MEAD, [illegible] Governor
GEORGE POIND[illegible] Representative to Co[illegible] ss.

[illegible] Aug. [illegible]

On Thursday a[illegible] Friday last the general biennial el[illegible] ction was held in this state. There is no doubt but governor M'Minn is re-elected by a considerable [illegible]

From the 5th co[illegible] ssional district, Thomas Cl[illegible] is elected.

From the 6th [illegible] Geo. W. L. Marr, is elected to succeed Mr. J. B. Reynolds.

From the 4th [illegible] Dr. Samuel Hogg is elected [illegible] a majority of more than two thousand votes, to succeed Mr. He[illegible] on.

From the 3d district it is believed from the returns received that *Francis* Jones esq. is elected successor to Isaac Thomas, esq. and it is believed that J[illegible] hea esq. will be elected for the 1st district to succeed Mr. Powell. In the 2d district, the contest is very warm between Mr. Blount and Ge[illegible] Cocke, and which will carry the day is very uncertain.

If Mr. Blount does [illegible] succeed, not one of the last Congress from this state, will be in the next—so much for the pay law.

Colonel Wharton, of the corps of engineers, has been ar[illegible] by order of the secretary of the Navy, while on a visit to his friends in Philadelphia, in consequence of charges exhibited aginst him by Maj. Henderson. His trial we understand, will take place at Washington on the 11th inst. and that captain Stewart, of the Navy, is to be president of the court. Of the nature of these charges we are uninformed.

From the most [illegible] authority, we state, (s[illegible] Daily Advertiser of [illegible] that ten miles of the great western Canal will be completed [illegible] the ear[illegible] 1817. Five hundred [illegible] are daily employed.

We understand th[illegible] steam boats buil[illegible] Lawrence, to ply be[illegible] and Quebec. It is [illegible] able that this [illegible] boats on the St. Lawre[illegible] short time supercede [illegible] tion above Quebec [illegible] carry from two [illegible] hundred tons, and [illegible] freighted with [illegible] and produce. The present plan of oppressing steam boats on the North river, will inevitably, if persisted in, compel the owners to carry freight as well as passengers, in order to meet their expences. The injury such an arrangement would inflict upon the owners of our sloops, is too apparent to require explanation.

Albany Argus.

From the Richmond Enquirer.

The following account of the fatal effect resulting from the swalowing of a cent, may not be uninteresting to some of your readers.

In the year 1809, a boy belonging to Mr. R. of this county by accident swallowed a cent. He was about 4 years old. The cent passed down the aesophagus near the bifurcation of the [illegible] and lodged there until the [illegible] of February last, when it desc[illegible] into the stomach. Until this time, the cent occasioned very little inconvenience to him except at the time of eating, when it appeared from his complaints to produce great pain and distress; and when he would run or take much exercise his breathing became very quick and laborious. Its descent into the stomach was evinced at the above time, by his being able to eat or take exercise without pain or distress.

Shortly after its getting into the stomach, his health began to decline, symptoms of dyspepsia came on with a great inclination to eat dirt.

His countenance exhibited a bloated appearance, and his extremities swelled, he complained of great pain in his belly, and frequently vomited quantities of blood [illegible] four days before his death he v[illegible] d coagulated blood very free[illegible] with it the cent reduced to le[illegible] half its former size, and cove[illegible] its surface with a dark bro[illegible] will see from the [illegible] to you. After th[illegible] from the stoma[illegible] ofen[illegible] in[illegible]