

The publication of General and Special Orders, and all other documents, depends upon the will of the Heads of the War and Navy Departments; if, in the exercise of their discretion, they prefer a resort to the columns of the *Globe*, the "official organ of the Government," for the publication of any portion of those orders, it is a point on which we have no right to complain. Professing and sincerely aiming to pursue a strictly neutral course, we are neither the advocates nor the opponents of the administration. Our rule of conduct is, impartial and exact justice to all; and if these feelings cannot be duly appreciated by all, we must lament the prevalence of that doctrine which admits no neutrals, either in politics, or on any subject whatever.

Before the establishment of the *Military and Naval Magazine*, (of which the *Chronicle* is but a continuation,) all the intelligence of military and naval operations that reached the public; was the occasional departure or arrival of a man of war, with not often a list of her officers, and now and then the change of a company of troops from one station to another. Now, the interest in such operations is displayed in the universal circulation of paragraphs conveying information of military or naval affairs.

One thing may be safely asserted: that no paper can be published that will give universal satisfaction. If there be such a phenomenon in the world, we have yet to learn of its existence. To ensure that general support so essential to punctuality and success, it remains but for each one who desires a continuance of the *Chronicle*, to sacrifice a portion of his prejudices, and submit to a partial evil for a general good.

Having, as we hope, satisfactorily removed the objections urged, or accounted for their existence, we copy the communication referred to in the commencement of these remarks, which appears to emanate from an officer of the navy, and to have been dictated in a friendly spirit towards the *Chronicle*.

From the United States Gazette.

COMMUNICATION.

The "Army and Navy *Chronicle*" is the title of a well known periodical, which has been very irregular in its appearance during the past months, owing to a want of punctual observance of the implied terms of the contract between the publisher and the subscriber, on the part of the latter. This is to be regretted, because the periodical is one of great interest to both branches of the military service. It is a record of the services of the officers; of general and special orders, and often contains articles of common interest besides news for officers and their friends. It is decidedly the most useful paper that officers on foreign stations and distant posts can receive; it is therefore to be regretted that its publication will be suspended, unless the officers and their friends come forward and pay up the arrears which are due, and increase the number of subscribers. The punctual appearance of the paper will depend upon this.

Among the navy officers, several objections have been urged against the "Army and Navy *Chronicle*," some few of which are well founded, but they are not all of sufficient force to cause them to withhold their subscriptions.

The want of punctuality in its appearance, is altogether owing to the neglect of the subscribers in paying up their subscription money.

Some urge that the editor admits too many articles of

a personal nature, and object to putting on file such correspondence as took place between Commo. Ap Catesby Jones and Lieut. Slidel. Others, that the general orders for the navy are rarely published; that there is too little of the proceedings of Courts Martial, &c. But it can hardly be expected than any periodical can be in all respects precisely such as to meet the taste and views of every subscriber, and the question is, whether the advantages in general are not sufficient to overbalance all these objections and cavillings, which would come with a better grace after subscriptions have been paid up.

It is in the power of the Navy and War Departments to serve the officers and the service, by furnishing the editor with copies of the general orders issued, the decisions of Courts Martial, and all documents which are usually promulgated through the "*Globe*." The Hon. Secretaries might also cause a copy of the *Chronicle* to be furnished to every post and station, and thus afford official information to all, and preclude all excuses on the score of ignorance. R.

On the 15th August, we published a letter, dated 18th January, from our correspondent on board the U. S. ship *John Adams*, giving some of the particulars of the attack on *Quallah Battoo* and *Muckie*; and the week following a second letter under date of Singapore, March 28th. A few days since, we received another letter, dated 26th Jan., which enters more into details, and names several of the officers who bore a part in the expedition. This last letter has been a long time on the way, (upwards of nine months,) but still possesses sufficient interest to warrant its publication at this late day. Advices from the squadron to the 10th May have been received.

Correspondence of the Army and Navy Chronicle.

U. S. SHIP JOHN ADAMS,
Penang, Prince of Wales Island,
January 26th, 1839.

DEAR SIR: It was my intention to have written you from the coast of Sumatra, but having whilst there no opportunity deemed safe, I embrace the first that offers.

Before this reaches you, it is probable that the warlike doings of the East India squadron at *Quallah Battoo* and *Muckie* will have been made public; at any rate, the cause of those proceedings will be known in the United States, as the barque *Eclipse* has long since returned to Salem, Mass., where she belongs, to report the murder of her commander, and robbery of her specie and opium. As the surviving officers of that vessel left with no one on the coast documentary testimony which might have led to the identification of the individuals engaged in the piracy, the Commander-in-chief labored under many difficulties in ascertaining the true nature of that tragical affair; for up to the period of our arrival off *Quallah Battoo*, on the 20th of December, all the information he possessed was derived from an obscure letter, written in bad English, by a French merchantman and Sumatra trader to our Consul at Penang, and by him published in a newspaper which accidentally found its way to Colombo, (Ceylon,) a few days before we sailed from port.

It would have been impolitic, as well as unjust, to have held any Rajah responsible for the criminal deed from any charge contained in that statement, assum-

ing that such evidence could with propriety have been received. Hence, at the outset, it became necessary to proceed with the utmost circumspection, and endeavor to procure from the natives themselves such facts as would determine, with just precision, who were the lawful objects of penal retribution. This delicate and somewhat hazardous office of negotiation was judiciously conferred upon Commander THOMAS W. WYMAN, who conducted the business throughout in the manner best calculated to elicit all the proofs in relation to the subject of enquiry.

It will be sufficient to state in general terms the result of his investigations, which may be done by saying that the Rajahs of Quallah Battoo and Soo Soo, with whom he first conferred, (these towns being but three miles apart,) convicted themselves of having permitted the former one, and the latter three, of the pirates, knowing them to be such, to reside unmolested among them. It moreover appeared highly probable that they had shared to a greater or less extent in the profits of the plunder; but these suspicions were never positively confirmed. We had understood from various sources that the principal of the piratical party was a resident of Muckie, where he was being retained in close custody to be delivered up at our demand. But as this town is 25 miles below the place of our anchorage off Quallah Battoo, it was determined to strike the first blow at the latter town, it being found impossible to obtain the person of the culprit who had been among them till our arrival and then fled into the interior beyond the authority of the chiefs, who, I have no doubt, would have cheerfully complied with the Commodore's requisition to give him up, had it been in their power. The guns of the two ships were therefore brought to bear upon the forts, (the John Adams being little beyond musket-shot of the nearest,) and a brisk cannonading kept up for a short time, which resulted in considerable damage to the objects of attack, and the death of four of their men. This occurred on the 24th December.

Without interfering with the more guilty Soo Soo, a few days subsequently we proceeded to Muckie, esteemed the guiltiest of all. We were there told that the most distinguished culprit, above referred to, a man named Looby Osy, had a short time before escaped from confinement, and that a number of subordinate murderers who had been residing there, had fled into the country. Our demand, upon the Rajah for the persons of these criminals was consequently met with the same difficulties as on former occasions with other chiefs. We were now induced to believe that it never was their intention to give up Looby Osy, as from the circumstance of his escape, and our arrival being consentaneous, it was a fair inference that liberty was given him for the express purpose of enabling him to seek safety in flight. At any rate preparations were made to proceed to extremities, and at the same time take satisfaction for past injuries, and infuse a wholesome terror to deter them hereafter from infringing the natural laws of justice and humanity. Accordingly, on New-Year's day the batte-

ries of the two ships were opened with destructive energy upon the forts, the flag ship being but two cables' length from the shore, and her consort half that distance. After cannonading for nearly two hours, those of the crews of the two ships, conjointly amounting to more than 350, who, in anticipation of a land attack, had been formed into companies and daily exercised in the duties of a soldier, were sent into the boats for the purpose of landing. Capt. WYMAN assumed the command of the expedition, leaving Lieut. A. H. Foot in charge of the John Adams, with orders to keep up a steady fire upon the forts as long as it could be done without endangering our own men. Capt. Wyman, at the head of the line, was the first to land, there being with him in the gig his aids, Purser Faunteroy, Midshipmen Morris and Wainwright, and the Surgeon of the expedition, Dr. Lockwood. Next followed the two divisions of the Adams, the first commanded by Lieut. E. R. Thomas, aided by Acting Lieut. Revore and Midshipman Wyman; the second by Lt. G. B. Minor, aided by Acting Master Pegram and Midshipman Hixon. The boats conveying these were left in charge of Passed Midshipman Ward, and Midshipmen Crocker and Thompson. The crew of the Columbia, formed into four divisions, now landed in good order. The officers commanding these I have not the means of giving. Contrary to all our expectations, no resistance was attempted, the alarmed inhabitants having fled into the mountains during the cannonading. In a few minutes the town was entered and found in every quarter deserted. The object of landing being to effect as much injury as possible, every house, and whatever was valuable, was committed to the flames. The loss sustained by the Rajah and his people by the conflagration amounted probably to \$100,000, a sum, to these people, of far greater magnitude than we can adequately conceive. Our men were re-embarked in the boats in less than two hours after leaving the ship, without any accident beyond a few trifling wounds inflicted by their own weapons.

Two days afterwards the squadron proceeded to Soo Soo, a short distance from our former anchorage. We had been there but a few hours, when a letter was received from the Quallah Battoo Rajah, containing anxious overtures for peace. He offered his bond for the payment of \$2,000, one year after date; and bound himself to use his best exertions to bring to justice the murderers, if ever in his power, and never to countenance the repetition of such an act. These terms were readily accepted, and a letter certifying that peace existed between us furnished him at his request. All efforts to get possession of any of the refugee pirates from Soo Soo proved unsuccessful. The Rajahs persisted in their original avowal that they were unable to apprehend them. As these people seemed a harmless set, and to us exceedingly friendly, it was determined to let them go unpunished, and bid them take warning from Muckie's fate. They were evidently too poor to pay an indemnity, so their written declaration of future good conduct towards

Americans was *pro forma* taken. The same was done with a neighboring chief of Pulo Kio. Soo Soo was thus treated with remarkable leniency, when compared with Quallah Battoo, who, failing to yield up one of the pirates, had her forts much injured, four of her men killed, and made to pay \$2,000; whereas Soo Soo, responsible for three, instead of one, of the criminals, escaped unharmed. An equal inconsistency might have existed in the case of Mirgin and other towns between those that did suffer, had their guilt been investigated, as we were informed by a friendly Malay, named Po Adam, who was employed as interpreter during our stay, that there were residing at these places some of the murderers, and that their Rajahs were implicated to the same extent as in Quallah Battoo and Soo Soo. No communication, however, was held with them, as I presume it was calculated that the destruction of Muckie would spread sufficient terror.

ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

Nov. 16—Ass't. Sur. J. Simpson, army, Fuller's
 17—Lt. I. C. Woodruff, Top. Engrs., Fuller's
 19—Lieut. H. Swartwout, 3d infy. do
 Lieut. T. Johns, 8th infy. Georgetown
 Lieut. J. L. Donaldson, 1st arty Gadsby's
 Capt. G. D. Ramsay, Ordnance, Eckington
 19—Brig. Gen. J. E. Wool, Insp. Gen. Gadsby's
 20—Ass't. Sur. B. M. Byrne, army, Polk's
 Lieut. W. H. Warner, Top. Engrs. Fuller's

LETTERS ADVERTISED.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15, 1836.

ARMY—Capt. J. B. B. Gardener, Lieut. J. E. Johnston, Lieut. T. J. Lee, Major Gen. W. Scott 2, Col. S. Thayer.

NAVY—Lieut. R. B. Cunningham, Lieut. A. G. Gordon, Lieut. Z. Holland, Lieut. S. P. Lee, Rev. T. R. Lambert.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 15.

ARMY—Capt. A. H. Bowman, Major J. S. Nelson, Major L. Whiting.

NAVY—Dr. E. F. [H.] Van Wyck, John Carlton, Lt. A. A. Harwood, Capt. D. Conner 3.

REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE—Capt. M. Conner, Lieut. J. A. Underwood.

UNPAID LETTER REFUSED—Waterloo, N. Y., Nov. 12, (misdirected to Philadelphia, and forwarded thence.)

PASSENGERS.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 12, per steampacket North Carolina, from Wilmington, Col. D. E. Twigg's, of the army, and family. Nov. 15, per steampacket Gov. Dudley, from Wilmington, Capt. E. Backus and Lieut. S. M. Plummer, of the army.

SAVANNAH, Nov. 10, per steam packet Savannah, from Charleston, Lieut. R. Evans, of the Revenue service, and lady. Per steamboat Florida, from Picolata, Dr. Simpson, of the army. Nov. 13, per steamboat Southerner, from Charleston, Col. D. E. Twigg's, of the army, and family.

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 7, per steamboat Cinderella, from Little Rock, Lieut. W. Martin, of the army. Nov. 10, per steamer Brilliant, from Bayou Sara, Col. W. S. Foster and Capt. O. Cross, of the army. Nov. 11, per ship Mississippi, from New York, Dr. A. F. Suter, of the army, and lady.

MAGNETIC FLUID.—During a storm at Rochdale, last autumn, a cotton mill was struck by lightning, and the bell which hung above the roof was destroyed. It was afterwards found that all the tools of a watch-maker residing in the neighborhood, had become, in a greater or less degree, magnetic, and were wholly useless; they all attracted iron filings readily, and the hammer was polarized, the needle being natural.

Domestic Intelligence.

FLORIDA WAR.

From the Charleston Courier, Nov. 11.

By the steam packet Southerner, arrived yesterday from St. Augustine, we received the following slip from our correspondent:

ST. AUGUSTINE, Nov. 8.—On Sunday last, the 3d November, a baggage wagon, with an escort of seven men, proceeding from Fort Micanopy to Fort Wheelock, was fired upon by a party of 50 Indians, killing three mules, one horse, and wounding two others. The teamster was mortally wounded, and a private named Bossoo, was very severely so. The firing being heard at Fort Micanopy, a relief was sent out; but before they came up to the ground, the Indians had succeeded in plundering the wagons of tents, powder, provisions, &c., and made their escape.

We learn, by the arrival of the schooner Medium, Capt. Magee, from Key Biscayne, that the wounded Indian, who some time since went into Fort Lauderdale for medical assistance, has informed Maj. Childs that Coacoochee has placed the women and children in the Pai-hai-okee, or grass water, for security; and that he is prepared for a vigorous defence of himself and followers. On the accession of troops sufficiently strong to reinforce those now south, the Indian offers to take them to Coacoochee's ground of defence.

Commander Mayo, of the U. S. steamer Pointsett, has gone into the everglades with 50 men.

ARMY MOVEMENTS.—Col. Twigg's and Adjutant Asheton, of the 2d regiment U. S. dragoons; arrived here, via Charleston, a day or two since. Capt. H. W. Fowler, Lieuts. N. B. Lawton, and Wm. Hardia, with companies A, E, and H, arrived on Thursday in the packet ship Hilah, Capt. Hammond, from New York.

Companies G, I, and K, with the band of the regiment, may soon be expected in the ship Trenton, Capt. Bennett, from New York.

Col. Twigg's, Capt. Fowler, Lieuts. Lawton and Hardia, with companies A, E, and H, left yesterday afternoon in the steamer Gen. Clinch, for Gary's Ferry.—Savannah Georgian, Nov. 16.

The schooner Napoleon, which sailed from New York on Thursday, Nov. 14, for Gary's Ferry, Florida, has on board 100 dragoons, under the command of Lieut. Darling.

From Pensacola we learn, from our correspondents, that the U. S. ships Erie and Levant sailed on the 27th ultimo, and the frigate Macedonian on Monday, the 28th, on a short cruise. On the following Saturday, the Levant returned with her first lieutenant and some fifteen men sick with fever, contracted previous to leaving Pensacola. It was understood that the frigate and the Erie would return from their cruise in a week or ten days, and, with the Levant, would proceed at once on a cruise to the windward; and that the Ontario, just returned from a cruise to the West Indies, would be sent down the Gulf to Vera Cruz and Tampico. The Warren, which had been sent down the Gulf some five or six weeks previous, returned on the 5th, in a passage of twenty days from Vera Cruz, and was understood to have received orders to proceed to Havana. The Macedonian returned same day to the anchorage off the navy yard, Pensacola. On the 6th instant Pensacola was considered healthy, no cases of fever having occurred for some days; and the report from Mobile of the day previous induced those who had been residing in Pensacola to return to their homes with confidence. There were three successive frosts on the 9th, 10th, and 11th instant.—National Intelligencer.