

THE NEGRO FORT IN EAST FLORIDA.

The destruction of the Negro Fort in East Florida, in July, 1815, by the forces of the United States, has made a considerable figure in the public documents which were laid before Congress, from time to time, during the late session, and are in possession of the public.

Of the occurrence referred to, when it took place, the official accounts were not published, and private letters afforded us but few particulars. A call was made upon the Army Department on the 26th January last, by a resolution of the House of Representatives, for the information in that Department relative to this subject; in obedience to which sundry documents were transmitted, which we have not had room heretofore to notice.

No call appears to have been made upon the War Department for similar information, so that what is before the public relates only to the part the naval force bore in that affair. It is therefore, proper to add, as a key to some passages of the following letters, that a pretty large detachment of the army, under the command of Lt. Colonel CLINCH, invested the fort by land, at the time of the bombardment by the naval force, and by its presence essentially contributed to the reduction of the fort.

In order to give a connected view of this transaction, we shall present the documents in an order somewhat different from that in which they were given to Congress, beginning with General Gaines's letter, which explains the object of the combined military and naval operations on the Appalachicola; then give the results of those operations; and, lastly, the comment thereon, afforded by the letter from the Navy Department.

Copy of a letter from Gen. Gaines to Commodore Patterson.

Sir—By a letter which I have received from Lieut. Col. Clinch, commanding a battalion of the 4th infantry on the Chattahoochee, I learn, that in the early part of the month, a party of Indians surprised and took from the immediate vicinity of his camp two privates sent out to guard a drove of beef cattle, purchased for the subsistence of the troops. The cattle amounting to 30 head, were also taken: the Indians were pursued 45 miles, on a path leading to St. Marks; but, being mounted, and having travelled all night, escaped with their prisoners and booty.

This outrage, preceded by the murder of two of our citizens, Johnson and McGasky, by Indians below the lines, and followed by certain indications of general hostility, such as the war-dance, and drinking of war-physic, leaves no doubt that we shall be compelled to destroy the hostile towns.

The detached situation of the post which I have ordered Lieutenant Colonel Clinch to establish near the Appalachicola, will expose us to great inconvenience and hazard, in obtaining supplies by land, particularly in the event of war, as the road will be bad, and the distance from the settlement of Georgia near one hundred and fifty miles.

Having advised with the commander in chief of the division, upon this subject, I have determined upon an experiment by water; and, for this purpose, have to request your co-operation.

Should you feel authorized to detach a small gun vessel or two as a convoy to the boats charged with our supplies up the Appalachicola, I am persuaded that, in doing so, you will contribute much to the benefit of the service, and the accommodation of my immediate command in this quarter. The transports will be under the direction of the officer of the gun vessels, and the whole should be provided against an attack by small arms from shore. To guard against accidents, I will direct Lieutenant Colonel Clinch to have in readiness a boat sufficient to carry fifty men, to meet the vessels on the river, and assist them up.

Should you find it to be convenient to send a convoy, I will thank you to inform me of the date of its departure, and the time which, in your judgment, it will take to arrive to the mouth of the river Appalachicola.

Enclosed you will receive the best account I can give you, from the information I have received, of the Negro Fort upon the Appalachicola. Should we meet with opposition from that fort, it shall be destroyed; and, for this purpose, the commanding officer above will be ordered to prepare all his disposable force to meet the boats at or just below the fort, and he will confer with the commanding officer of the gun vessels upon the plan of attack.

I am, &c.
EDMUND P. GAINES,
Maj. Gen. by Brevet.

Com. DANIEL T. PATTERSON, U. S. Navy,
Commdg. New-Orleans station.

New-Orleans, June 19th, 1815.

Sir: The enclosed despatch for Lieutenant Commandant Crowley is transmitted under cover to you, lest he might not arrive at the Pass Christian by the time the transports laden with ordnance, provision, &c. mentioned to you verbally, when here, shall arrive and be ready to proceed to their place of destination: in which case, you will consider them as addressed to you, and act accordingly; in that event you will take under your command gun boat No. 154, together with the transports, and proceed in execution of those instructions. In the performance of the duties therein pointed out, it will be necessary to act with vigor and judgment; and you will refrain from any act of hostility against a Spanish force, or violation of their rights and laws. You will make no delay in your departure from the Pass Christian, after the arrival there of No. 154, and the transports.

Very respectfully, &c.
DANIEL T. PATTERSON,
Sailing Master Jarius Loomis,
Commanding U. S. G. B. No. 149.

From Commodore Patterson to Lieut. Crowley.

Sir—The enclosed copy of a letter from major general Gaines, commanding the United States military forces in the Creek nation, fully informs you of his situation, and his expectation of immediate commencement of hostilities on the part of those Indians. In consequence of the information contained in that letter, I have promised the convoy therein requested. You will, therefore, take under your command gun boat No. 146, and, with that letter for your guide, con-

vey the transports with ordnance, provisions, &c. up the river Appalachicola and Chattahoochee, to such point or points as may be required, if practicable; should you meet with opposition from the Negro Fort, situated as stated in the letter, on the former river, the military officer commanding will have orders to destroy it; in which you will co-operate. The plan of attack to be concerted between yourself and him; the transports will be under your direction entirely. In the event of hostilities between the Indians and the United States, you will, if practicable, afford any aid with your vessels in your power to the army. Remain in that river and co-operate with them until it shall be necessary to return here for provisions; but, if you cannot aid them in their operations, you will then return immediately, bringing with you the transports. The transports will rendezvous at the Pass Christian, and consist of the following vessels: schooner Semillante, laden with ordnance, and General Pike, laden with provisions.

By late information, the Negro Fort mounts only six pieces of cannon, without one hundred men in & about it, planting corn; and I apprehend no opposition from them whatever, in the event of your remaining to act with the army; you will communicate with me by mail, through General Gaines. Should the boat mentioned in General Gaines's letter not meet you prior to your arrival at or near the Negro Fort, and you have cause to expect opposition, you will wait their arrival before you attempt to pass it.

Very respectfully, &c.
DANIEL T. PATTERSON,
Lieut. Commdg. CHARLES E. CROWLEY,
U. S. Cutter Fox.

From Commodore Patterson to the Secretary of the Navy.

Sir: It is with great satisfaction I do myself the honor to transmit herewith a copy of the report of operations of two gun vessels under the command of sailing master Jarius Loomis, despatched at the request of Major General Gaines, commanding the United States' army in the Creek nation, to convey two transports, laden with ordnance stores, and provision, up the river Appalachicola and Chattahoochee, to Fort Crawford, for the use of the army; also copies of the Major General's letter to me, and of my instructions to Mr. Loomis.

You will perceive by Mr. Loomis's statement that the unprovoked and wanton aggression committed by a party of negroes on his boats, as also their hostile disposition and conduct to the army and the gun vessels, on their approaching the fort, evincing in the strongest manner their intention to dispute his passage past their fort, rendered it necessary to silence their fire, and capture their fort. The very able manner and short time in which this was so effectually accomplished, with a force so very inferior, reflects the greatest credit upon Mr. Loomis and the officers and men under his command; the ninth shot, and the first hot one, producing the explosion; and, unless the fort had surrendered or been destroyed, it would have been impossible for the army to have received those supplies of which they stood so much in need; and, without which, their operations against the hostile Indians must necessarily have been materially retarded, if not totally suspended. And it was from the very great importance, as detailed by General Gaines, that those stores and provisions should reach the army in safety, that I felt it a duty incumbent on me, when thus called on, to afford the requisite convoy for their protection.

The service rendered by the destruction of this fort, and the band of negroes who held it, and the country in its vicinity, is of great and manifest importance to the United States, and particularly those states bordering on the Creek nation; as it had become the general rendezvous of runaway slaves and disaffected Indians, an asylum where they were assured of being received: a strong hold, where they found arms and ammunition to protect themselves against their owners and the government. This hold being destroyed, they have no longer a place to fly to, and will not be so liable to abscond. The able manner in which this enterprise was conducted cannot but impress the hostile Indians also with a dread of our arms, and increase the confidence of those who are friendly; add to which, that the force of the negroes was daily increasing, and they felt themselves so strong and secure, that they had commenced several plantations on the fertile banks of the Appalachicola, which would have yielded them every article of sustenance, and which would consequently, in a short time, have rendered their establishment quite formidable, and highly injurious to the neighboring states.

The English union jack, and red or bloody flags, under which they committed their unprovoked hostilities against the American flag, are in my possession; and I shall have the satisfaction of forwarding them to the department by the first safe conveyance. It appears very extraordinary, and remains for the British government to explain, the authority for their flag being thus hoisted by a band of outlaws, as also their officer, Colonel Nichols, having placed so strong a work, and with so large a supply of arms, (most of which were perfectly new, and in their cases), ammunition, and every other implement requisite to enable the negroes and Indians to prosecute offensive operations against the United States; in possession of negroes, too, known to be runaways from the United States, and that, too, some time after peace had taken place.

Herewith is transmitted a copy of the inventory of the articles saved from the explosion, designating those furnished the army for public use, and those brought off and deposited here.

I regret exceedingly the loss of Mr. Luffborough, killed in this service; who, though much indisposed, and having sent in his resignation to the Department, very handsomely volunteered his services, and accompanied the expedition. Mr. Loomis reports his conduct in the highest terms of approbation.

I avail myself of this occasion, with great satisfaction, to recommend to the particular notice of the Department, sailing masters Jarius Loomis and James Bassett, commanding the gun vessels on this expedition, as highly meritorious officers.

I cannot but lament exceedingly the great loss of lives occasioned by the destruction of the fort; though caused by their opposition to a passage of the river, and hostilities most wickedly commenced upon a friendly flag, under which not the slightest aggression would have been offered them. The course pursued in this service, and the result, will, I trust, meet the approbation of the President of the United States.
I have the honor to be, &c.
DANIEL T. PATTERSON,
Honorable Secretary of the Navy.

Bay St. Louis, 15th August, 1815.
U. S. Gun Vessel No. 149.

Sir: In conformity with your orders of the 24th June, I have the honor to report, that, with this vessel and No. 154, sailing-master James Bassett, I took under convoy the schooners General Pike and Semillante, laden with provisions and military stores, and proceeded for Appalachicola river; off the mouth of which we arrived on the 10th July. At this place I received despatches from Lieut. Col. Clinch, commanding the 4th regiment U. S. Infantry, on the Chattahoochee river, borne by an Indian, requesting me to remain off the mouth of the river until he could arrive with a party of men to assist in getting up the transports—desiring me also to detain all vessels and boats that might attempt to descend the river.

On the 15th I discovered a boat pulling out of the river; and, being anxious to ascertain whether we should be permitted peacefully to pass the fort above us, I dispatched a boat with an officer to gain the necessary information; on nearing her, she fired a volley of musketry into my boat, and immediately pulled in for the river: I immediately opened a fire on them from the gun vessels, but with no effect.

On the 17th, at 5 A. M. I manned and armed a boat with a swivel and musketry, and four men, and gave her in charge of midshipman Luffborough, for the purpose of procuring fresh water, having run short of that article. At 11 A. M. sailing-master Bassett, who had been on a similar expedition, came alongside, with the body of John Burgess, O. S. who had been sent in the boat with midshipman Luffborough; his body was found near the mouth of the river, shot through the heart; at 4 P. M. discovered a man at the mouth of the river, on a sand bar; sent a boat and brought him on board; he proved to be John Lopez, O. S. the only survivor of the boat's crew sent with midshipman Luffborough: he reports that, on entering the river, they discovered a negro on the beach, near a plantation; that Mr. Luffborough ordered the boat to be pulled directly for him; that on touching the shore he spoke to the negro, and directly received a volley of musketry from two divisions of negroes and Indians who lay concealed in the bushes on the margin of the river: Mr. Luffborough, Robert Maitland, and John Burgess, were killed on the spot; Lopez made his escape by swimming, and states that he saw the other seaman, Edward Daniels, made prisoner. Lopez supposed there must have been forty negroes and Indians concerned in the capture of the boat.

On the 20th July I received, by a canoe with five Indians, despatches from Col. Clinch, advising that he had arrived with a party of troops and Indians, at a position about a mile above the Negro Fort—requesting that I would ascend the river and join him with the gun vessels: he further informed me that he had taken a negro bearing the scalp of one of my unfortunate crew to one of the unfriendly Indian chiefs. On the 22d there was a heavy cannonading in the direction of the fort; on the 23d I received a verbal message from Colonel Clinch, by a white man and two Indians, who stated that Colonel Clinch wished me to ascend the river to a certain bluff, and await there until I saw him. Considering that by so doing in a narrow and crooked river, from both sides of which my decks could be commanded and exposed to the fire of musketry, without enabling me to act in my own defence; and also that something like a trap might be laid for me,

the nature of the message, I declined ascending, retained the white man and one of the Indians as hostages, and dispatched the other, with my reason for so doing to Colonel Clinch; that his views and communications to me, in future, must be made in writing, and by an officer of the army. Lieutenant Wilson and thirteen men joined me on the 24th, to assist in getting up with the transports; he likewise informed me that Col. Clinch had sent the canoe the day before.

On the 25th, I arrived with the convoy at Duelling Bluff, about four miles below the fort, where I was met by Colonel Clinch: he informed me that, in attempting to pass within gun shot of the fortifications, he had been fired upon by the negroes, and that he had also been fired upon for the last four or five days, whenever any of his troops appeared in view; we immediately reconnoitered the fort, and determined on a site to erect a small battery of two eighteen pounders, to assist the gun vessels to force the navigation of the river, as it was evident, from their hostility, we should be obliged to do.

On the 26th, the Colonel began to clear away the brush-wood for the erection of a battery; he, however, stated to me, that he was not acquainted with artillery, but that he thought the distance was too great to do execution; on this subject we unfortunately differed totally in opinion, as we were within point blank range; he, however, ordered his men to desist from further operations. I then told him that the gun vessels would attempt the passage of the fort in the morning, without his aid. At 4 A. M. on the morning of the 27th, we began warping the gun vessels to a proper position; at 5, getting within gun-shot, the fort opened upon us, which we returned; and, after ascertaining our real distance with cold shot, we commenced with hot, (having cleared away our coppers for that purpose) the first one of which entering their magazine, blew up, and completely destroyed the fort. The negroes fought under the English Jack, accompanied with the red or bloody flag. This was a regularly constructed fortification, built under the immediate eye and direction of Col. Nichols of the British army; there was mounted on the walls, and in a complete state of equipment for service, four long 24 pounders cannon, four long 6 ditto, one 4 pounder field piece, and a 5 1/2 inch brass howitz, with 300 negroes, men, women and children, and about 20 Indian warriors of the renegade Choctaws; of these 270 were killed, and the greater part of the rest mortally wounded—but three escaped unhurt; among the prisoners were the two chiefs of the negroes and Indians. On examining the prisoners, they stated that Edward Daniels, O. S. who was made prisoner in the boat on the 17th July, was tarred and burnt alive; in consequence of this savage act, both the chiefs were executed on the spot by the friendly Indians.

From the best information we could ascertain, there were 2,500 stand of musketry, with accoutrements complete; 400 carbines; 300 steel scabbard swords; 4 cases containing 200 pair of pistols; 300 quarter casks of rifle powder; 162 barrels of cannon powder; besides a large quantity of military stores and clothing that I was unable to collect any account of, owing to an engagement made by Col. Clinch with the Indians, in which he promised them all the property captured except the cannon and shot.

The property captured on the 27th July, according to the best information we could obtain, and, at the lowest calculation, could not have been less than \$200,000 in value; the remainder of the property that the Indians did not take was transported to Fort Crawford and to this place, an inventory of which I have the honor to transmit for your further information.
On sounding the river, I found it impassable for vessels drawing more than 4 1/2 feet water; consequently Col. Clinch took the provisions from the General Pike into flats, and lightened the Semillante, so as to enable her to ascend the river as high as Fort Crawford. On the 3d August, after setting fire to the remaining parts of the fort and village, I left the river, and arrived at this anchorage on the 12th current.
I cannot close this letter, without expressing to you my entire approbation of the conduct of sailing-master James Bassett, commanding gun vessel No. 154, for his cool, deliberate, and masterly conduct, & the support I received from him in all cases of difficulty and danger. In fact, sir, every officer and man did his duty.
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. LOOMIS.

Commodore DANIEL T. PATTERSON,
Com'dg U. S. Naval forces, N. Orleans station.

From Commodore Patterson to the Secretary of the Navy.

New-Orleans, 15th August, 1815.
Sir: With the letter of this date, transmitting the report of sailing-master J. Loomis, I had the honor also to transmit a copy of the inventory of all the articles saved after the explosion; those delivered to the army were represented by Col. Clinch to be necessary to the public service—the remainder are deposited here, and, being somewhat at a loss in what light to consider them, I have to request of the Department their instructions relative to the disposal of them; if to be libelled and sold, or not, and if as prize of war, or captured from outlaws, and whether the articles of great value, which were taken by the friendly Indians acting with the army, under an agreement made by Col. Clinch, and which could only affect property captured by his forces, and not at all apply to the navy; and, as it appears by Mr. Loomis's statement, the fort was destroyed, and this property captured from an infinitely superior force, by the navy alone, without any military co-operation whatever, the navy alone is entitled to all the proceeds arising therefrom. Mr. Loomis assented to the Indians taking those articles, from a persuasion that it was for the best interests of the government to do so, and to prevent any misunderstanding and discontent which would have resulted from their being deprived of what they considered, by their agreement with Lieut. Colonel Clinch, to be their right, not being capable of making a distinction between captures made by the army, and those made by the navy. This service having been achieved in so brilliant a manner, will, I trust, give entire satisfaction to the President of the United States and the Department; and the captors rely with the utmost confidence on the liberality and justice of the government for their reward, and that they will be allowed the value of the property furnished the army, and plundered by the friendly Indians attached to the army.

The approbation of my government in this service will be highly gratifying to myself and officers.
I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,
DANIEL T. PATTERSON,
The hon. Benj. W. Crowninshield,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

Inventory of articles shipped on board the schooner General Pike, from the Negro Fort to New-Orleans, to wit:

- Four 24 pr. iron cannon, four 6 pr. do. do, one 4 pr. field piece, 7 ship carriages for the first mentioned guns, 3 ammunition wagons, 502 muskets, good and bad, 1200 bayonets, 100 bayonet scabbards, 1810 cartouch boxes, 290 bayonet belts, 290 cartouch belts, 150 gun slings, 17 sword belts, 17 do. knots, 16 carbine belts, 33 buff straps, 22 haversacks, 75 set black accoutrements in 3 boxes, 2 small boxes of musket balls, 3,500 gun flints, 5 cross-cut saws, 1 whip do. 170 twenty four pr. shot, 24 stand 24 pr. grape, 20 do. six pr. 17 canister 24 pr. 70 shells, 80 round 6 pr. shot, 2 boxes loose grape, 13 water casks, shooks, with hoops and heads, one set harness for field, one lot copper hoops, one lot loose blocks.

J. LOOMIS, Com'dg.

Articles received by Lieut. Col. Clinch, for the use of his command, viz.

- One brass howitz, mounted complete, 26 spades, 48 shovels, 54 pick axes, 1 broad axe, 1 cooper's axe, 2 crow bars, 2 hoes, 120 pair shoes, 1 pair tin scales, 1 tangle fall and blocks, 2 cross-cut saws, 1 cart, 1 cutter boat, 3 flats, 700 spikes, 460 old belts, 49 new carbide belts, 8 sword belts, 2 casks flints, containing 20,000, 100 cartridge boxes, 1 box containing 20 muskets, 1 corn mill, 50 copper hoops, 4 sets harness, 1 set cart harness.

D. L. CLINCH,
U. S. 4th Infantry, com'dg.

From Commodore Patterson to the Secretary of the Navy.

New-Orleans, 6th Sept. 1815.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of letters which passed between sailing-master Jarius Loomis and an officer of His Catholic Majesty, relative to the destruction of the Negro Fort on the Appalachicola, and the arms, &c. captured there. Mr. Loomis states to me that the officer afterwards informed him his demand was made without any authority from the government of Pensacola, but simply upon his own, deeming it his duty so to do, expressing at the same time the pleasure he felt at the destruction of the fort, and the gratification it would afford to his government.
I have the honor to be, with great respect, &c.
DANIEL T. PATTERSON,
The hon. Benj. W. Crowninshield,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

Sir: The officer whom I sent on board the vessel under your command, having informed me that, on the morning of 27th July last, you had taken and destroyed the fort of Appalachicola, in which were several negroes, runaways from Pensacola, and that the artillery, ammunition, &c. which belonged to said fort, had been embarked by you on board the vessels of the division under your command, I consider it my duty to demand of you, in the name of my government, all the artillery and ammunition which you have taken possession of, as belonging to a fortress established in the territory of His Catholic Majesty, which demand, I do not doubt you will accede to, considering the perfect harmony which exists between my government and that of the United States of America. I also request the favor of you to give me a circumstantial account of what occurred in the taking and destruction of the said fortress, in order that I may communicate the same to the Governor of the province of West Florida. May God preserve Maria, of Pensacola, at anchor on board the schooner Maria, of Pensacola, at anchor in the month of the river Appalachicola, 3d of August, 1815.

BENIGNO GARCIA CALDERON,
J. Loomis.

U. S. G. Vessel No. 149,
Appalachicola Bay, August 5th, 1815.

Sir—Yours of this date I have had the honor of receiving. As respects your demands I shall transmit them to the government of the United States.
The property captured on the 27th of July, 1815, on the Appalachicola river, in East Florida, I consider as belonging to runaway slaves, who had absconded from the United States and elsewhere, to protect themselves against their proper masters. The fort was defended under the English flag accompanied with the bloody flag, therefore I consider it my duty to hold the said property until I receive further instructions from the commanding naval officer of the New-Orleans station.
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. LOOMIS.

BENIGNO GARCIA CALDERON,
From the Secretary of the Navy to Commodore Patterson.

Navy Department, October 5th, 1815.

Sir: Your two letters of August 15th, enclosing copies of the report of operations of two gun vessels, under sailing-master Loomis; schedule of stores taken after the destruction of the fort upon the Appalachicola; with copies of your correspondence with the military commanding officer, have been received. The importance of the transaction alluded to, and the question of the legal disposition of the property, induced me to transmit the papers entire to the President of the United States, as well for his information, as for the necessary instructions in reply, to govern you in the course most proper to be pursued. The subject involves various and interesting points of national jurisdiction, jurisprudence, and national policy; which will be brought before Congress at their next session, as requiring legislative decision, over which the executive power has no direct or exclusive control. Under these circumstances you are directed to have the property securely deposited under your immediate superintendance and protection. A complete inventory must be taken of every article, and an appraisal made by competent and judicious persons made out and transmitted to this department. Perishable articles, upon survey, and being found so, may be sold at public auction, and the proceeds deposited to meet such order as Congress shall take respecting the whole. Such articles as the public service shall necessarily require, may be taken for its use, after appraisal, and receipt given therefor—the papers and documents relative to which, you will transmit with the inventory.

In the present state of the case, I do not feel authorized to express an opinion (or official sanction) of the proceedings, in anticipation of the course which Congress in its wisdom may deem proper to adopt; although the conduct of the naval officers engaged in this expedition appears to justify a belief of their having performed their duty with their usual spirit and gallantry. Their claims to the property, and to the approbation of the President, will in due time come under consideration. The case in some respects is a new one, and the actual hostility on either part cannot be considered as a lawful belligerent act, out of which would arise the right of prize of war. It will undoubtedly be competent to the government, to reward the merit of its naval and military officers according to the importance attached to the service. It may distribute among them the whole or a part of the property brought off, in such proportions as may be judged proper; and every aid will be afforded you by this department, consistently with its duty.
I am, very respectfully, &c.
By order of the Secretary of the Navy,
BENJAMIN HOMANS.

Com. D. T. Patterson,
Commanding Naval Officer, New-Orleans.

A most distressing scene was presented at Edinburg on the 30th December Robert Johnson having, for robbery, been sentenced to be hung on that day, a vast multitude assembled to witness the awful transaction. About 3 o'clock the criminal was swung off; but the rope being rather long, his neck was not broken, and his toes rested on the scaffold. A police officer, in attempting to keep back the populace, pushed one of them with his staff, who raised the cry of "Murder!" The Magistrates and their attendants were immediately driven off by the mob with stones. The criminal was cut down, and borne off alive, but insensible. The military soon met the mob, when they threw down the body and dispersed; and the wretched criminal was at length launched into eternity. The military remained on the spot until the whole apparatus was removed, and no further disturbance took place.—[True Amer.]

Dandy of 1770.—An account of the appearance of one of them, as published in an English paper fifty years ago:—

"A few days ago a Macaroni made his appearance in the Assembly Rooms, at Whitehaven, in the following dress—A mixed silk coat, pink satin waistcoat and breeches, covered with an elegant silver net, white silk stockings with pink clocks, pink satin shoes and large pearl buckles, a mushroom colored stock, covered with fine point lace—his hair dressed remarkably high, and stuck full of pearl pins."

An excellent rule for living happy in society is, never to concern one's self with the affairs of others, unless they desire it. Under pretence of being useful, people often shew more curiosity than kindness.

NEW-YORK, APRIL 19.

Thunder Storm.—After the prevalence of a fresh south-easterly wind from Friday evening to Saturday noon, with occasional showers, about half past 1 o'clock the horizon was remarkably darkened by thick clouds; it became necessary to light candles in many houses, and every thing appeared like after twilight. In about an hour the most vivid flash of lightning almost ever witnessed was instantly followed by a tremendous and frightful crash of thunder, and the rain commenced to fall in torrents. The tempest continued for about an hour and a quarter, when the wind shifted to northeast, and the storm abated. During this time the lightning was almost incessant, with heavy thunder. To add to the terrors of the scene, the cry of fire was sounded through the streets, and it was found that the schooner Thames, lying at Coffee House slip, nearly loaded with a valuable cargo for Richmond, was on fire. The lightning struck her foremast, which it shivered, throwing the splinters to a considerable distance, descended to the foredeck and hold, passed through the side of the vessel, and spent itself in the water. Four men who were in the foredeck were wounded, two of them severely, but we understand not dangerously. The cargo was considerably injured by the fire, and by the water from the engines, and though the flames were soon extinguished, some of the boxes were burnt to a coal. At the same time a dwelling house in Elm-street, in the rear of 324 Broadway, was struck, and the roof considerably injured. The Rope Walk at Brooklyn, owned by Mr. Barbarine, was also struck—the head house and about 30 feet of the walk, with a quantity of hemp and yarns, and the principal part of the machinery of the establishment, were destroyed. A part of the adjoining Rope Walk, owned by Cutler & Martin, was pulled down to save it from the flames.