

Commodore Patterson despatched five boats, under Mr. Shields, purser on the New Orleans station, in order to annoy the retreat of the British. This active and spirited officer succeeded in capturing several of their boats, and in taking a number of prisoners. The glorious defence of New Orleans produced the most lively joy throughout the United States, mingled, however, with pity for a brave enemy, who had encountered so disastrous a defeat. The British fleet had, at the same time, ascended the Mississippi, for the purpose of bombarding Fort St. Philip, which was commanded by major Overton; but without being able to make any impression.

There is but little doubt that the object of Great-Britain, was to possess herself of Louisiana, and obtaining a session from Spain, draw a cordon round the United States, and by that means strangle this young Hercules, as it were in the cradle. It is well known that on board the fleet, they had brought all the officers necessary for the establishment of a civil government, even a collector of the port! An American must tremble for his country, when he looks back at the danger we have escaped. That the British intended to deliver the city of New Orleans to be sacked by their soldiery, is very doubtful, and from the high character of Sir Edward Packenham, it is highly improbable that he would have given, as the watchword of the occasion, *beauty and booty*; this was more probably spoken by some of the inferior officers, with a view of producing an excitement among the soldiery.

While these bloody affairs transpired on the Mississippi, admiral Cockburn was pursuing a more lucrative, but less dangerous warfare, in the Carolinas and Georgia. He took possession of Cumberland island, and menacing Charleston and Savannah, he sent out various detachments, several of which were bravely repulsed; but his chief occupation was plundering the inhabitants of their staples, and household furniture. The letters of some of his officers, which were intercepted, display a species of vulgar cupidity, very mortifying to the better class of their countrymen, who could not but feel ashamed of their