TRIAL OF GEN. WILKINSON.

INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,

Washington, Feb. 19, 1812.

At a General court martial, of which brigadier general PETER GANSEVOORT is president, convened at Fredericktown, in the state of Maryland, on the 2d of September, 1811, and continued by adjournments to the 25th of December following, brigadier general JAMES WILKINSON was tried on the following charges and specifications, viz.

CHARGE I.

That the said James Wilkinson, while in the military service, and holding the commission of brigadier general in the army of the United States, did corruptly stipulate to receive, and, by virtue of such stipulation, did actually receive, by way of pension or stipend, divers sums of money from the officers and agents of a foreign power; that is to say, from the Spanish officers and agents concerned in the administration of the late provincial government of Louisiana and its dependencies, for the intent and purpose of combining and co-operating with that power, in designs adverse to the laws and policy, and hostile to the peace, interests and union of these states; contrary to his duty and allegiance as an officer and a citizen.

Specification 1. Two mule loads of money, (the amount unknown) being received at New Orleans by one Joseph Ballinger, for the use, and by the authority, of him the said James Wilkinson, on account of the said pension, and delivered by the hands of one John Ballinger to him, the said James Wilkinson, at Frankfort, Kentucky, some time in the month of Dec. 1789.

Specification, 2. Two other mule or horse loads of money, (the amount unknown) being received by him the said James Wilkinson, assisted by one Philip Nolan, at New Orleans, some time in the autumn of the year 1789, also on account of the said pension.

Specification 3. Four thousand dollars and upwards, being received by one La Cassague, at New Orleans, some time in the year 1793, or in the year 1794, for the use, and by the authority, of him the said James Wilkinson, also on account of the said pension.

Specification 4. Six thousand dollars, being received by one Henry Owens, at New-Orleans, some time in the summer of the year 1794, for the use, and by the authority, of him the said James Wilkinson, also on account of the said pension.

Specification 5. Six thousand dollars, and upwards, that is to say, from six thousand three hundred and thirty-three, to eleven thousand dollars, or thereabout, being received by one Joseph Collins, at New-Orleans, some time in the summer of the year 1794, for the use, and by the authority, of him the said James Wilkinson, also on account of the said pension.

Specification 6. Six thousand five hundred and ninety dollars, being received for the use, and by the authority, of him the said James Wilkinson, at New-Orleans, by some person unknown, some time prior to the date of a letter from the said James Wilkinson to one John Adair; in which letter, dated the 7th of August, 1794, the receipt of that sum is mentioned, also on account of said pension.

Specification 7. Nine thousand six hundred and forty dollars, being sent by the baron de Carondelet, governor-general of Louisiana, from New-Orleans, some time in the month of January, 1796, and by his direction, deposited at New-Madrid for the use, and subject to the order, of him the said James Wilkinson; and afterwards, some time in the summer of 1796, taken by one Thomas Power from New-Madrid to Louisville, and by him delivered over to one Philip Nolan, by the direction and authority, and for the use, of him the said James Wilkinson, also on account of the said pension; he the said Power, retaining, out of the said sum of money, six hundred and forty dollars, for defraying his expences, and received the instructions of him the said Jas. Wilkinson, to secure for him the reimbursement of the same from the Spanish government.

Specification 8. Ten thousand dollars, or thereabout, being received by him the said James Wilkinson, at New-Orleans, sometime between the 7th of December, 1803, and the 21st of April, 1804, also on account of the said pension.

Specification 9. He, the said James Wilkinson, (in consideration of having so corruptly engaged himself with the Spanish government) receiving at divers other places as yet unknown, and on divers other days and times, between the 1st day of January, in the year 1789, and the 21st of April, in the year 1804, by divers secret ways and means, a pension, stipend, or gratuity, from the officers and agents of that government.

Specification 10. He, the said Jas. Wilkinson, did some time in the month of October, in the year 1798, at the camp of Loftus' Heights, in a secret conference with one Daniel Clark, set up a claim to ten thousand dollars, as a balance due to him, the said Jas. Wilkinson, from the Spanish government, on account of his said pension or stipend, and did then and there request the said Daniel Clark, to propose to the Spanish governor Gayoso, that the latter should in consideration of the said balance of ten thousand dollars, due to the said James Wilkinson from the Spanish treasury, transfer to him, the said Jas. Wilkinson, a plantation near the Natches, then belonging to the said Gayoso.

CHARGE II.

That he, the said James Wilkinson, while in military service, and holding the commission of brigadier general in the army of the U. States, did combine and confederate himself with the officers and agents of a foreign power; that is to say, with the Spanish officers and agents concerned in the administration of the late provincial government of Louisiana, for the purpose of devising and carrying into effect certain pernicious and treasonable projects for the dismemberment of the U. States, and for an unlawful and treasonable confederacy between certain dismembered portions of the U. States and the said foreign power; and, for that purpose and intent, did hold divers secret consultations, and carry on secret and treasonable correspondence with certain officers, agents and emissaries, of that power, contrary to his duty & allegiance as an officer and a citizen.

Specification 1. He, the said James Wilkinson, in pursuance, and in execution of his said unlawful plot and confederacy, did, some time in the months of October and November, in the year 1795, at Cincinnatti, carry on a treasonable correspondence with the Spanish governors, the Baron de Carondelet & don Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, touching the execution of the said unlawful plot and confederacy, which correspondence was carryed on by means of a certain emissary employed by the said governor Gayoso, named Thomas Power; and did at same time direct the said Thomas Power to lay certain observations verbally before the said governor Gayoso & the Baron de Carondelet, calculated to arrange and settle a plan for continuing a secret and unlawful correspondence between him, the said James Wilkinson, and the Spanish officers and agents in the province of Louisiana; and for secretly preparing the means necessary to the execution of the said unlawful plot and confederacy.

Specification 2. He, the said James Wilkinson, in pursuance of his said unlawful plot & confederacy, & in continuation of his said unlawful and treasonable correspondence, on or about the 22d day of September, in the year 1796, did send from Fort Washington a certain letter in cypher addressed to the said governor Gayoso, for the purpose of further devising ways and means to conceal the treasonable correspondence and confederacy between him, the said James Wilkinson, and the Spanish officers and agents in Louisiana, and further to advise and devise ways & means to execute the unlawful objects of the same.

Specification 3. He, the said James Wilkinson, in pursuance of his said unlawful plot and confederacy, and in continuation of his said unlawful and treasonable correspondence, did cause and procure his confidential agent, Philip Nolan, to write certain instructions to the said emissary, Thomas Power, for the prudential government of his, the said Thomas Power's conduct in performing the part assigned him in the said plot and confederacy, and for the purpose of regulating the said Thomas Power's proceedings therein, so as to guard him against detection or mistake.

Specification 4. He, the said James Wilkinson, on divers days and times, in the years 1795, 1796 and 1797, at Frankfort, at Cincinnati, at Greenville, at Detroit and at Fort Washington, did hold divers secret & unlawful conferences and consultations with the said Spanish emissary, Thomas Power, both by day and by night, for the purpose of arising and devising the means of executing his said unlawful plot and confederacy.

Specification 5. He, the said James Wilkinson, at divers other days and times, between the first day of January, 1789, and the 21st day of April, in the year 1804, at divers places in the United States, and at New Orleans, and divers places in the Province of Louisiana, did in pursuance of the said plot and confederacy and in further continuation of the said unlawful correspondence, hold and carry on divers other secret, unlawful and treasonable conferences, correspondences and consultations with the said Thomas Power, with one Gilberto Leonard, Andres Armesto, the Baron De Carondelet & Governor Gayoso, all officers or agents of the provincial government of Louisiana, and with divers other confederates, as yet unknown, engaged on behalf of the said government.

CHARGE III.

That he, the said James Wilkinson, while commanding the army of the United States, by virtue of his said commission of Brigadier General, did combine and confederate himself with known traitors, or those known to be conspiring treason against the United States; with intent to promote and advance the consumation of such treason, or conspiracy of treason, contrary to his duty and allegiance as an officer and a citizen.

Specification. He, the said James Wilkinson, combining and confederating with the said Aaron Burr and his associates and coadjutors, in the years 1805 and 1806, in a certain treasonable conspiracy to dismember the United States, by effecting a separation and division of the states and territories west of the Allegany, from those to the east, and set up a separate and independent empire to be composed of such western states and territories.

CHARGE IV.

That he, the said James Wilkinson, while commanding the army of the United States, by virtue of his said commission as Brigadier General, and being bound by the duties of his office, and by his fidelity as a citizen, to do all that in him lay to dicover and frustrate all treasons and conspiracies against the United States, did, nevertheless, connive at and permit conspiracies of treason, and did encourage and abet the same, by his countenance, as commander of the army.

Specification. He, the said James Wilkinson, in the years 1805 and 1806, receiving from the said Aaron Burr and his associates, confidential communications of their treasonable designs, and permitting their solicitations of his active co-operation in their treason, without his making any timely discovery of their pernicious designs.

CHARGE V.

That he, the said James Wilkinson, while commanding the army of the United States, by virtue of his said commission, and being bound by the duties of his office to do all that in him lay to discover and to frustrate all such enormous violation of the law as tended to endanger the peace and tranquility of the United States, did, nevertheless, unlawfully combine and conspire to set on foot a military expedition against the territories of a nation then at peace with United States.

Specification. He, the said James Wilkinson, in the years 1805 and 1806, combining and conspiring with Aaron Burr and his associates to set on foot a military expedition against the Spanish provinces and Territories in America.

CHARGE VI.

Disobedience of orders.

Specification. In that the said Brigadier General James Wilkinson, being then in command of the Troops assembled at New Orleans, was, by written orders and instructions from the War Department, dated April 30th, 1809, required and directed to give the necessary orders for the immediate removal of said troops to the high ground in the rear of Fort Adams, and to the high ground in the rear of Natchez in the Mississippi Territory, referring to his discretion to occupy those stations respectively with such portion of the Toops as he should judge most convenient and proper—which order and instructions the said General Wilkinson wholly neglected and refused to obey, and did thereafterwards, in the month of June following, cause said Troops to be removed in a contrary direction to a station called Terre au Boeuf, below New Orleans, at which station he formed an emcampment and remained until the month of September following.

CHARGE VII.

Neglect of duty.

Specification 1. In that the said General Wilkinson permitted bad and unwholesome provisions to be issued to, and consumed by, the troops under his command, during the summer and autumn of 1809, and did not exercise the right of commanding officer, in respect to the execution of the contract made by James Morrison with the War Department, for supplying provisions, as provided in the 2d, 4th and 5th articles of the said contract.

Specification 2. In not selecting previous to the removal of the Troops, to the Mississippi Territory, in September, 1809, and in not leaving at the hospital in New Orleans, under the care of proper officers and physicians, such of the sick & convalescent as could not be removed without manifest and increased danger of their lives, and in so distributing the men in the transports, when removing, as to incommode and endanger both the sick and well, thereby disregarding and defeating the primary object of the order for removal.

Specification 3. In not ordering the military agent at New Orleans to make the necessary advances of money to the brigade & regimental quarter masters, and in not giving orders for the troops to receive their pay, cloathing, medicines and hospital stores, which were in readiness for them in New Orleans, at the time of their ascending the river in September, 1809.

CHARGE VIII.

Misapplication and waste of public money and supplies.

Specification 1. In that the said gen. Wilkinson, in May, 1805, ordered the assistant military agent at Pittsburg to pay for the transportation of his private property from Baltimore, out of the public money, "and place the same to the account of public transportation for military service."

Specification 2. In halting a detachment of the army, at Louisville, Kentucky, in February, 1809, consisting of several companies, which detachment was descending the Ohio in transports, and in then and there detaining said detachment to take on board ten horses, the private property of said Gen. Wilkinson, which horses were transported in public boats to New Orleans by his order, and were fed at public expense for several months.

Specification 3. In authorising certificates to be annexed to the provision abstracts of the army contractor, to enable the contractors to receive from government the full price of good and wholesome provisions, when it was well known to the said General Wilkinson that a great portion of the provisions comprised in those abstracts, so passed in the summer and autumn of 1809, were unmerchantable and unfit for use.

To which charges and specifications Gen. Wilkinson pleaded "*Not Guilty.*"

(To be Continued.)

NEW YORK, MARCH 3.

LATEST FROM PORTUGAL.

Last evening arrived at this port, the fast sailing ship Oronooke, Richards, from Lisbon, which port she left on the 29th of January. Capt. R. informed us, that great rejoicing took place the day he sailed, on receiving official news of the fall of Ciudad Rodrigo, which place was taken by storm by the British army, on the evening of the 18th of January.

Capt. R. further states, that two British regiments were cut to pieces, and one English general killed and another mortally wounded; great slaughter took place on both sides.

We further learn, that the French general Marmont was marching to relieve Ciudad Rodrigo, at the head of 50,000 men, which place he was expected to reach about the 24th of January.

LATEST FROM LONDON.

The fast sailing ship Catherine Augusta, Captain Center, arrived at this port yesterday morning in 44 days from Plymouth, and brings London papers to the evening of the 14th January (two days latest) and Lloyd's List of the same date, a file of which is received at the office of the Mercantile Advertiser.

January 13.

Some French papers were received on Saturday afternoon. They contain but little information from the Peninsula. It is stated, that the small places left by Suchet in his advance against Valencia, have all been since reduced, and that the siege of that city will be vigorously prosecuted by General Harespe, under the orders of Suchet.

Letters from Ostend mention, that Joel Barlow insists upon the restitution of the American property seized under the Rambouillet Decree, previous to the formation of any commercial treaty between the U. States and France.

It is stated in some Petersburg letters, that the Exchange, which was a very short time since at 15, is now only at 10 rouble.—From this circumstance, and the increasing confidence in government paper, it is inferred, that the peace between Russia and Turkey is no longer viewed as doubtful. It however, by no means follows, that war with France must ensue. On the contrary, it may be reasonably apprehended that the prospect of an event so pregnant with danger and inevitable expence, would naturally operate to diminish both public credit and public confidence.

Very recent intelligence from Holland states, that the measures enforced against all those who are detected in holding clandestine correspondence with Great Britain are most rigid. Lately several masters of merchant vessels have been arrested; of whom one has died in prison, and another is not likely long to survive. The son of a most respectable merchant at Rotterdam, it is added, was under orders for trial by court martial, the result of which it was not difficult to anticipate.

The church of St. Nicholas, at Stettin, in which the French garrison had deposited 40,000 quintals of hay, was on the 8th of December entirely consumed, with its contents.

The following Banking Houses were considered and acknowledged by the other Bankers to be truly respectable and safe, all within the last 14 years, but now are vanished, and not left even a wreck behind:

Messrs. Clarke and Sisson, Brickwood, Ogden & Co.; Castell, Powell & Co.; W. & G. Nightingale; S. Smith, Sons & Co.; Glover & Co.; Sir Matthew Bloxam, Wilkinson & Co.; Boldero, Lushington & Co.; Staples & Co.; Devayenes, Dawes & Co.; Lockhart, Maxton & Co.; Wilkes, Dickinson & Co.; Harley, Cameron & Son; Mac George & Co.; Dorset, Johnson & Co.

January 14.

The correspondence between the dukes of York and Cambridge, the productions of which Lord Cochrane gave notice yesterday in the House of Commons he should move for on Thursday se'night, relates to the duke of Cambridge's resignation of his District Command.

Yesterday 500 of the guards were selected for foreign service. The second batallion of the Coldstream, quartered in the Tower, which was inspected in the forenoon by his Royal Highness the duke of Cambridge, supplied 250 of this number; and the other 250 were drafted from the 3d regiment, at the Portman street Barracks, by his Highness the Duke of Gloucester.—These troops are expected to embark at Portsmouth on the 24th inst.

On Wednesday last, at 12 o'clock, the Banking-house of Messrs. Fenton Scott, Nicholson, and Smith of this place, known by the name of the "Leeds Commercial Bank," stopped payment, to the surprise and consternation of the whole town and neighborhood.

Quebec letters and papers, which arrived on Saturday to the 2d ult. state, that large quantities of British manufactures continue to be smuggled into the territories of the United States from Canada. The Custom house officers on all frontier stations had been doubled and trebled; but, notwithstanding their vigilance, the temptation and facilities were so great, that English goods still found admission. Some severe contests had taken place between the officers and smugglers, which had not terminated without the loss of many lives. Precautionary measures had been adopted by Lieutenant General Sir G. Prevost the Governor of Canada, in the event of hostilities with the U. States. There was a considerable body of regular troops in our North American Provinces, besides a tolerable militia, among whom the best disposition prevailed. The non-importation act, and other recent measures of the United States' Government, have had the effect of increasing the trade of our Colonies in that quarter, and consequently removing slight discontents which might formerly have prevailed.

PLYMOUTH, Jan. 16.

This night's Gazette contains the Prince Regent's Proclamation for a General Fast, to be observed throughout England & Ireland, on Wednesday the fifth day of February next; and in Scotland on the following day.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

Detroit, Michigan Territory,
February 11, 1812.

MR. GALES,

The following facts are communicated to you by a subscriber, with a view of gaining them publicity through your paper, should you deem them of sufficient importance:

Since the battle of Tippecanoe, large numbers of savages who have visited the British fort at Amherstburg, eighteen miles below this place, have been there liberally supplied with arms and munitions of war: within the knowledge of the writer of this article, one Indian alone, whose residence is on the river Sinclair, sixty miles above here, received as a present, among other things, *two barrels of gun-powder*, from the British agent, the famous *Elliott*, and passed by this town with it on his way to his tribe three weeks since.—The above named *Elliott*, has great influence with the Indians: he is a member of the parliament of Upper Canada, which commenced its session the last of January at York, and he left home for that place about 20 days past, and although the Parliament will probably remain in session many weeks, Mr. Elliott has been ordered to return to Amherstburg to resume his functions as Indian Agent, and is expected there to morrow. The writer of this article, on the 30th of November last, saw a letter from another honorable Member of the Canadian Parliament, to his friend in the interior of the province, informing him "that the *Yankees* had had a battle with the Indians on the Wabash, and lost six hundred men; that the loss of the savages amounted to about forty, of whom half were *squaws*." From the tenor of the letter, it appeared that the honorable member derived much satisfaction from being able to make the communication. From these, and an infinity of other circumstances, with which I do not wish to croud your columns, devoted as they are to the dissemination of the most interesting information at this important crisis, it might appear, that notwithstanding the British "*government*" disavow the instigation of the savages to hostilities against us, yet perhaps there are certain "*persons*" in the *employ* and *pay* of that government, whose hands are not so clear of the blood of our citizens. It is a fact, sir, that Col. Grant, of the British army, who lately commanded at Amherstburg, *did acknowledge* (when he was remonstrated with by Governor Hull, in 1807, on the inhuman policy of calling in savages to interfere in the disputes of civilized nations) *that the object of himself*