From a PHILADELPHIA PAPER.

MR. WILLIAM DUANE,
Editor of the Aurora.

SIR,

HAVING flayed your invectives againſt me for ſome weeks paſt, (though in your paper of the 13th November you promiſed me a further notice) I preſume you have expended your magazine of calumny.—Falſehoods often repeated gain a kind of currency, and the author eſtabliſhes a credulity in others, if not in himſelf. To you, ſir, no apology is neceſſary or due for this addreſs: to the public it may be proper to premiſe, that your foul ſlanders demand from me not only a denial even to thoſe who know me, but a refutation to the community at large; my avocations have, however, delayed my reply longer than was expected. In ſtating ſome of your numerous and reiterated charges againſt me, I ſhall be obliged to repeat what I have heretofore denied and proven to be groundleſs. The public will therefore pardon my offering ſome of my refutations a ſecond time, as you have over and over again repeated thoſe charges, though convicted of their falſity. Your firſt aſſertion, which merits notice, was *my defrauding government of her revenue and my friend threatening to throw a perſon in the river that ſhould bid againſt me at the marſhal's ſales.* For this libel you was ſued in the federal court. After the ſuit was brought (and not till then) you offered this apology, "to give the Devil his due it was not Levi—it was Jehu." The public will judge of the decency of the atonement. The ſuit, however, went on, notwithſtanding this polite apology, you were convicted of an infamous libel, and proven to be an alien by all the witneſſes. Your paper, almoſt daily, from that time till the laſt month, has been ſtuffed with ſlander againſt me, ſuch as that I called you "a murderer," this I denied; you in reply ſaid John Welſh would prove it on me;" Mr. Welſh denies he ever ſaid ſo, or *ever heard me ſay ſo*, and I again deny ever having made or propagated ſuch a charge. I remember to have ſeen in a newſpaper ſome charge to that import—by whom made, or whether with any foundation or not, reſts with you and the publiſher to determine. I am innocent.

You have repeatedly charged me with influencing Mr. M'Farren, Mr. Thatcher and others, at the laſt election, and that you would prove it. I denied any perſonal acqnaintance or converſation with theſe gentlemen on the ſubject of the election: ſome of them have done the ſame; and although I know of no offence in law, or to ſociety, had ſuch a converſation taken place, yet as in your immaculate paper you offer it as an offence, you ſhould bring forward your proof of time, place and converſation between theſe gentlemen and me. Otherwiſe take the ſlander to yourſelf as a laurel to *your love of truth and morality.*

In your paper of the 13th November laſt, you repeat charges often made by you before, but now with a minutia of circumſtance and names of perſons, that nothing but the moſt daring effrontery and depravity of principles can bear you up in.—Prove your aſſertions (not by your *own oath*, that will not do) by good reſpectable teſtimony, or take that ſtigma with which a diſintereſted public muſt mark the author of ſuch baſe calumnies.

After nefarious invectives againſt me and "my party" (as you pleaſe to term them) and an attempt to prop up your ſinking credit in this city and liberties, by endeavoring to make your ſlander of me of political importance with thoſe you ſuppoſe of different opinion from me, and after vaunting about the importance of your moral character to you and your family, &c. &c. you bring forward three ſpecific charges in theſe words, viz.

"1ſt. That when the Britiſh held poſſeſſion of this city in 1777—8, you joined them."

"2d. That being ſeized and impriſoned for the crime, by the interpoſition of chief juſtice M'Kean, you and about 150 others, accuſed of various crimes againſt their country, were ſaved from puniſhment."

"3d. That you were a tory."

To theſe three general hads you add, what you call "the ſtatement," in which you ſay—

"In the year 1777, while the Britiſh poſſeſſed the city of Philadelphia, Levi Hollingſworth being then attached to the city troop of horſe, ſuppoſed to be commanded at that time by captain Budden* (formerly capt. Markoe, and at one time by Samuel Morris) fled from the Americans and joined the Britiſh in Philadelphia, for which he was afterwards arreſted and impriſoned."

"Upon the peruſal of this ſtatement, thus preſented, governor M'Kean expreſſed his regret that there ſhould have been any occaſion for the appeal to him on a ſubject ſo delicate, becauſe, in caſe of ſilence, wrong impreſſions might be made—and, to ſpeak with candor, he muſt ſay the STATEMENT WAS STRICTLY TRUE." "Upon this ground," you ſay, "I reſt the ſtated facts of the firſt claſs—the two firſt being eſtabliſhed, of courſe proves the third—That Levi Hollingſworth was an old tory."

Now, ſir, on your ſubſtantiating theſe charges againſt me, by records of other ſufficient documents that would be evidence before a legal tribunal, I ſhall ſhrink from all my political aſſociates at future elections, and tamely ſubmit to be an apoſtate whig, with all the reproach of deſerter, tory, or being an enemy to my country. But if, on the contrary, I prove the whole of the charges to be FALSE, how, ſir, will the account then ſtand? In a former denial of your ſcurrility, I adviſed you not to make inſidious charges on idle report, and before you dealt out your ſlander (if ſlander you muſt deal in) to be ſure that the charges were bottomed on truth, otherwiſe your triumph will be of ſhort duration; and your poiſoned pen, intended to deſtroy others, will only blacken your own reputation. On receiving your paper of the 13th November laſt, containing the ſtatements from which the above extracts are taken; I wrote a note to governor M'Kean and incloſed him the paper requeſting to know whether he had ſanctioned the ſtatement you therein ſay, "You ſhewed to him." He politely ſent his ſon, Mr. Thomas M'Kean to my houſe, requeſting to ſee me at eleven o'clock the next day. At the appointed hour I waited on his excellency, and took with me John Clement Stocker, eſquire. On ſtating the buſineſs, the governor *denied his ever* having ſanctioned your publication; ſaid "*he had forbid your uſing his name,*" but that he "would not be interrogated before witneſſes; that he had ſent for me as a friend. I ſaw the propriety of his objection, as it might involve his name in a diſpute with which he had nothing to do with, and Mr. Stocker withdrew. The governor and I had much converſation; he treated me with politeneſs, aſked me if "I had not been in gaol, as he remembered to have heard of my being in confinement, but did not recollect the time, or the occaſion." I ſatisfied him that my impriſonment was by a lawleſs mob in 1779, for refuſing to ſell a quantity of flour then in my ſtore, depoſited there by the purchaſing commiſſary for the eaſtern diſtrict of the ſtate of Maryland, for the uſe of the American army.

Congreſs having, in the winter of 1778, or ſpring 1779, required ſpecific ſupplies from the ſeveral ſtates for the uſe of the army, inſtead of money, the currency having much depreciated. At the ſame period of time a committee (of 40 I believe) was formed in the city of Philadelphia, who undertook to limit the prices of flour, butter, beef, pork, ſalt, ſugar, coffee, &c. indeed every ſpecies of proviſions that ſhould be brought to market; under a forfeiture of the article offered for ſale, at a higher price, and in many inſtances, an impriſonment of the vender. This miſtaken policy deterred and prevented the uſual ſupply of the neceſſaries of life coming to market, and the inhabitants were greatly diſtreſſed for proviſions. Tumultuous aſſemblies took place, and my ſtores having in them a conſiderable quantity of public flour, which I had no authority to diſpoſe of, I became the object of popular reſentment, and a marked victim for the enraged multitude. I was ſeized on and taken to gaol by ſome hundreds of perſons, with ſtones, brick-bats and bludgeons in their hands. One James Roan (not a conſtable, Mr. Duane, but a tax-gatherer, if you pleaſe, who was afterwards indicted for applying a large ſum of public money collected by him to his private uſe) was the moſt conſpicuous character on this memorable occaſion, and if it had not been for the friendly interpoſition of captain John Angus, and colonel William Bradford, who at that moment, and for my protection propoſed to ſend me to gaol, I verily believe my life would have been inſtantly taken. (See captain Angus's certificate.) My impriſonment was the latter part of May, 1779; no commitment was ever had—Yet I was denied my liberty both by the gaolor and the then ſheriff. The writ of habeas corpus had been ſuſpended in 1777, and no redreſs could be had from that valuable privilege. The reverend Dr. John Ewing (now dead) aſſured me, that while I was in gaol, he had applied to the chief juſtice in my behalf and offered to bring ſecurity in one hundred thouſand pounds for my appearance to any charge that could be brought againſt me. As no charge had been made, or any commitment by legal proceſs, and as the writ of habeas corpus was not in force, the chief juſtice *could not*, in his official capacity, interfere. At the June court of quarter ſeſſions, I was marched with all the formalities of a criminal, from gaol to court. The court opened and proclamation was made to bring forward witneſſes againſt Levi Hollingſworth. Plunket Fleeſton preſided; William Ruſh, Benjamin Paſchall and Iſaac Howell, were aſſociate juſtices on the bench, and Jonathan D. Sargeant, acted as ſtate attorney. Great part of the day, both before and after dinner, was taken up in examining witneſſes to eſtabliſh ſome ſpecies of criminality. About five o'clock in the evening the court diſmiſſed me, *with their thanks for paſt ſervices to my country, proven by thoſe brought to convict me of offences, and for my humane conduct to the diſtreſſed, as well as for my conduct in court during this* long examination. (See Jacob Barge's certificate) I had no counſel, nor did I bring any witneſs to exculpate myſelf, being perfectly ignorant of what might or would be ſworn to hurt my reputation, or touch my life. The invoices of the Maryland flour in my ſtore, had been ſent to governor Reed and the ſupreme executive council, at the time of my impriſonment, and their protection of it claimed by me. The great lapſe of time ſince this tranſaction, deprives me of the teſtimonies of the juſtices then on the bench, of Jonathan D. Sargeant, and of many others that I recollect were then preſent, but now dead; nor is there a record on the docket of that court or any other of the tranſaction, or charging me with any offence. Fortunately, however, I heard of Mr. James Hamm being in court and have occaſioned his affidavit which is hereunto annexed. Mr. Richard Flower, of Cheſter, was alſo in court and aſſerts the ſame thing: I alſo ſubjoin the certificate of Thomas M'Kean Thompſon, ſecretary of ſtate under the ſeal of office, that no charge of a criminal nature appears againſt me on the records of the ſupreme executive of that day, where all the perſons charged with treaſon, miſpriſon of treaſon, or other offences againſt the ſtate, were entered and from which record the *black liſt*, exhibited at our laſt election was taken. I alſo ſubjoin a certificate from the records of the court of oyer and terminer and general goal deliverey ſubſcribed by Edward Burd, and of Joſeph Reed, eſq. from the records of the court of quarter ſeſſions from 1776 to 1779. Mr. Reed certifies further, that I was returned of the grand jury in the year 1778, *the time you would criminate me as one of the proſcribed, and "pardoned or diſcharged by the clemency of the chief juſtice."* I believe it will be remembered by every one who recollects the tranſactions of thoſe times, that no perſon *ever ſuſpected* of toryiſm, would have been thought of as a grand juror, or returned on the inqueſt for the city and county of Philadelphia in 1778. That chief juſtice M'Kean did at that time adjourn the court and endeavor to cool the minds of the people is certainly true. The accuſations brought againſt many that were proſcribed, or charged with offences againſt the ſtate, were at beſt but deſerving of cenſure, and ſome of them truly ridiculous—ſuch as all good men would reprobate. Now, Mr. Duane, what ſhall I ſay of your ſlanders of me, of my "Pardon through the clemency of the chief juſtice," as ſtated in your numerous publications. How ſtands your morality now?—I was a ſtranger to you, and you a ſtranger in the country. You ſuppoſed me your political opponent; but could that juſtify your foul ſlander? certainly not. But that you ſhould charge governor M'Kean with ſanctioning your calumny, outſtrips your former baſeneſs, he could not pardon where there was no offence, nor had he that power *even had I offended.* He however denies what you aſſert, and I truſt I have ſatisfied the public that your numerous aſſertions of me are falſe.

LEVI HOLLINGSWORTH.

Philadelphia, February 8, 1803.

CERTIFICATES

To eſtabliſh the falſity of *William Duane's* aſſertions againſt *Levi Hollingsworth.*

No. I.

I do certify, that in the winter of 1777, I believe in the latter end of December, I ſaw Levi Hollingſworth marched down Fifth-ſtreet, under a guard of Britiſh ſoldiers. I then underſtood he was brought in a priſoner. He was afterwards paroled to his own houſe for ſeveral weeks; his family then lived in my neighborhood.

JACOB BARGE.

No. II.

Theſe are to certify, that the Philadelphia troop of light horſe were originally compoſed of gentlemen of reſpectability, who voluntarily aſſociated in the year 1774, under that denomination. They were equipped at their own expence, and they ſupported themſelves, choſe their own officers, and volunteered their ſervices. I was honored with the command of the troop by the unanimous choice of the members. Mr. Levi Hollingſworth was among the firſt of the aſſociates, and always conducted himſelf ſoldierly and in a gentleman-manner while under my command. He was ſent to Canada with ſpecie for the payment of general Montgomery's army when inveſting Quebec, and employed in many other ſpecial ſervices, all of which he performed with fidelity to the beſt of my knowledge and belief.

ABRAHAM MARKOE.

January 6, 1803.

No. III.

This is to certify, that on the reſignation of Mr. Abraham Markoe, as captain of the Philadelphia troop of light horſe, I was elected to the command, and continued their captain until the month of April, 1786, when I reſigned, during which time Mr. Levi Hollingſworth was one of the members and alwas conducted himſelf as an active ſoldier and with prompt obedience. Many ſpecial duties were confided to him in the ſummer and winter of 1776 and 1777, which were performed with fidelity.

SAMUEL MORRIS.

Philadelphia, Jan. 7, 1803.

No. IV.

WE, the underſigned, volunteers in the firſt troop of Philadelphia cavalry, commanded by captain Samuel Morris, in the year 1776, and the beginning of the year 1777, do certify, that Mr. Levi Hollingſworth was then a member, and acted as quarter-maſter, in which ſtation he acquitted himſelf to the ſatisfaction of his commanding officer and his aſſociates.

We further certify, that he was ſecond to none of the troop in obedience to orders—in patience under the fatigues, ſufferings and dangers of that campaign—or in bravery as a ſoldier.

JOHN DUNLAP,
WM. HALL.

Philadelphia, Jan. 8, 1803.

[The members of the troop who were in actual ſervice during the whole of the campaign of 1776 and part of 1777, are—captain Samuel Morris, John Dunlap, William Hall, Thomas Leiper, George Campble, Blair M'Clenachan, William Pollard, John Lardner, Samuel Howell, Thomas Peters, John Meaſe, George Graffe, James Budden, James Hunter, James Caldwell, Jonathan Penroſe, John Donaldſon, and Levi Hollingſworth. The avocations of many other members prevented their conſtant ſervice. To theſe eighteen the commander in chief addreſſed his thanks on their diſcharge. *See general Waſhington's diſcharge.* James Budden never commanded the firſt troop of light-horſe.]

No. V.

Extract from General Orders.

The Philadelphia troop of ligh-horſe, under the command of captain Morris, having performed their tour of duty, are diſcharged for the preſent.

I take this opportunity of returning my moſt ſincere thanks to the captain, and to the gentlemen who compoſed the troop, for the many eſſential ſervices which they have rendered to their country, and to me perſonally, during the courſe of this ſevere campaign. Though compoſed of gentlemen of fortune they have ſhewn a noble example of diſcipline and ſubordination, and in ſeveral actions have ſhewn a ſpirit of bravery which will ever do honor to them, and will ever be gratefully remembered by me.

Given at head-quarters, Morris-town, this 23d of January, 1777.

(Signed)
GEORGE WASHINGTON.

No. VI.

Perth-Amboy, December 28, 1802.

Mr. LEVI HOLLINGSWORTH,

SIR,

Agreebly to your requeſt, I have ſent a certificate of the treatment you received at the coffee-houſe in 1779, to the beſt of my recollection, and to which I am ready to give my affidavit at any time if called on.

I am, ſir, with ſentiments of eſteem,
Your obedient humble ſervant.

JOHN ANGUS.

I do certify, that I was paſſing the coffee-houſe in the city of Philadelphia, in or about the month of May, 1779, when a great crowd of ſeveral hundred perſons were aſſembled there, many of them having ſticks, ſtones and brick bats in their hands, threatening Mr. Levi Hollingſworth, who was ſtanding on one of the benches at the north door. I enquired the cauſe. I was anſwered that he refuſed to ſell them flour, though his ſtores were then filled with that article. With a view to ſave his life, which was threatened, I propoſed their ſending him to gaol, obſerving that if he had violated the laws of his country, he ſhould of right be held amenable to them, to which they immediately aſſented, huzzaing and ſhouting. I then went up to Mr. Hollingſworth, took him under the arm, and accompanied him to gaol, the crowd following us with acclamations and ſhouts of joy.

JOHN ANGUS.

Perth Amboy, Dec. 28, 1802.

[Mr. John Groves was preſent at the coffee houſe, and remembers the vaſt aſſemblage of the people and their menaces.]

No. VII.

City of Philadelphia, ſſ.

Perſonally appeared before me, Matthew Lawler, eſquire, mayor of the city of Philadelphia aforeſaid, James Hamm, of ſaid city, biſcuit-baker, who voluntarily depoſeth and ſaith, that he was in the city of Philadelphia in the month of May, 1779, when Levi Hollingſworth was taken up and impriſoned, and the deponent underſtood he continued in confinement 'till the June quarter ſeſſions following, when he was called to court at ſaid ſeſſions, and proclamation made to bring forward accuſation againſt ſaid Hollingſworth, then a priſoner at the bar; that Plunket Fleeſon, eſquire, preſided at ſaid court, William Ruſh, Iſaac Howell and Benjamin Paſchall, eſquires, were on the bench as juſtices of the peace, at the time of ſaid trial or examination; that Jonathan D. Sargeant acted as ſtate attorney in the examination; that many witneſſes were bro't forward and qualified to give evidences on various charges, viz. as having embezzled a quantity of flour ſent in by a flag to our priſoners, which flour was proven by Thomas Franklin, one of the commiſſaries of our priſoners and by this deponent, a baker for the priſoners, to have been found ſecreted in a cloſet of Philip Flicke, one of the witneſſes who brought the charge againſt Mr. Hollingſworth; as having voluntarily come into the city while in poſſeſſion of the Britiſh, and as having monopolized the trade of Philadelphia. The examination took up a great part of the day both before and afternoon; the committee of the city bringing forward from time to time new witneſſes. Levi Hollingſworth brought no witneſſes to exculpate himſelf from the charges brought againſt him; Thomas Franklin was in court at the time and came forward of his own accord, as did this deponent, to prove the priſoner's innocence reſpecting the embezzled flour. Nor had Mr. Hollingſworth any lawyer or counſel in court that ſpoke or appeared for him. When the whole of the teſtimony was gone through, Plunket Fleeſon, eſquire, roſe from his ſeat and ſaid, that it was a ſtrange and extraordinnry piece of buſineſs, that a citizen ſhould be deprived of his liberty, impriſoned without a crime charged againſt him, and when brought to court, his enemies had brought forward witneſſes which proved him not only a real friend to his country, but a man of the greateſt humanity and charity he had ever heard of. He gave Mr. Hollingſworth the thanks of the court for his public ſervices, and for his manly conduct in court. The deponent perfectly recollects the circumſtances of the trial and delares the above to be a true ſtatement.

JAMES HAMM.

Affirmed 1ſt December, 1802, before
MATTHEW LAWLER,
Mayor.

[Richard Flower, eſquire, of Delaware county, was alſo in court, with many others, who, if neceſſary, will at any time declare to the truth of the above ſtatement—the members that compoſe the court are all dead.]

No. VIII.

Pennſylvania, ſſ.

In the name, and by the authority of the commonwealth of Pennſylvania, Thos. M'Kean, governor of the ſaid commonwealth, to all whom theſe preſents ſhall come, ſends greeting:

KNOW YE, That Thomas M'Kean Thompſon, eſquire, whoſe name is ſubſcribed to the inſtrument of writing hereunto annexed, was at the time of ſubſcribing the ſame, and now is, ſecretary of the ſaid commonwealth, duly appointed and commiſſioned. And full faith and credit is and ought to be given to him accordingly.

Given under my hand and the great ſeal of the ſtate, at Lancaſter, this twenty-ſecond day of N[illegible]vem-
(L. S.) ber, in the year of our Lord, one thouſand eight hundred and two, and of the commonwealth the twenty-ſeventh.

THOS. M'KEAN.

By the governor.
JAMES TRIMBLE,
Deputy Secretary.

Secretary's Office, at Lancaſter, November 22, 1802.

I do certify to all whom it may concern, that I have examined the original liſt of the names of ſuch perſons as were attainted of high treaſon within the commonwealth of Pennſylvania, during the revolutionary conteſt with the king of Great-Britain, and that the name "Levi Hollingſworth is not contained in the ſaid liſt. Witneſs my hand and ſeal, the day and year above written.

T. M. THOMPSON, Sec'y
of the commonwealth.

No. IX.

I certify, that I have examined the recognizances and other records of the courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery, in my cuſtody, for the years 1777, 1778 and 1779, and have not found any charge of a criminal nature againſt Levi Hollingſworth.

In witneſs whereof I have hereunto ſet my hand and the ſeal of the Su-
(L. S.) preme court of Pennſylvania, at Philadelphia, the twentieth day of November MDCCCII.

EDWARD BURD, *Prot.*

No. X.

I Joſeph Reed, clerk of the court of general quarter ſeſſions of the peace for the county of Philadelphia, do hereby certify, That I have carefully examined the records of the ſaid court from September term in the year of our lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-ſeven to December ſeſſion one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy nine, (both incluſive) and find no charge of miſpriſon of treaſon, nor any other criminal charge whatſoever againſt Levi Hollingſworth

In witneſs whereof, I have hereunto ſet my hand, and affixed the ſeal of
(L. S.) the ſaid court, at Philadelphia, this nineteenth day of November, in the year of our lord, one thouſand eight hundred and two, and of the ſovereignty and independence of the United States of America the twenty-ſeventh.

JOS. REED, *Clk.*

Mr. Levi Hollingſworth was ſummoned and returned as a grand juror in the year 1778, December ſeſſions.

J. REED.

BOSTON, March 16.

This day arrived, the ſchooner Hannah, captain Lincoln, 19 days from Point-Petre, Guadaloupe. Markets low; flour 7 dollars and dull; beef 14 a 16; pork 18 a 20; fiſh 6, and riſing; butter, dull; lard, quick; lumber 18. Produce had been ſcarce, but had began to come in; coffee 28 a 30 ſous. Markets better at Baſſaterre, but no produce to be had there.

Cleared, Aphia, Luce, Richmond; Shepherdeſs, Robins, Baltimore; brigs Pacific, Naſh, Weſt-Indies; Francis Eliza, Sprague, Weſt-Indies; ſchooner Mary, Briggs, Nantz.

CHARLESTON, March 10.

The following gentlemen were yeſterday elected directors of the ſtate bank:

John Blake,
Wade Hampton,
Micah Jenkins,
Daniel D'Oyley,
John Kirk,
Robert J. Turnbull,
Thomas Shubrick,
Morton Waring,
William Allan,
John Dawſon, jun.
*William Briſbane,**
*James Carſon.**

* New Directors.

RICHMOND, March 12.

The following letter from the honorable Thomas T. Davis to the editor, will prove, what we at firſt ſuſpected, that the amount of 15,000 Kentuckians being under arms ready to proceed againſt the Spaniards, &c. &c. is entirely *unfounded.*

Mr. Samuel Pleaſants,

In your paper of this morning I find it ſtated in that "Kentucky is in Arms;" and that this news was brought to Waſhington by an expreſs, who was the bearer of a memorial to me, from the people of Kentucky, &c. So far as this report relates to me, 'tis totally without foundation—no expreſs or memorial came to me—and I am totally at a loſs to conjecture how a report ſo totally void of foundation, ſhould

---

* *Firſt troop of light-horſe (to my knowledge,) never was commanded by James Budden.*