

# Wilmington Gazette

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY ALLMAND HALL

Three Dollars per Annum.]

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1861.

[Vol. V.—No. 239.]

NEW-YORK, July 13.

## CONSPIRACY!

*Treachery is more dreadful than open war, in proportion as it is more difficult to guard against clandestine plots than against open attack.*

### Xenophon.

We are about to unfold a plot extremely flagitious by our men-of-war. We are aware that our exposition of the intended perpetration of a new crime, at least in the annals of the United States, will bring upon us the wrath of the British partisans in this quarter, but we are prepared for whatever may take place, and no consideration of personal safety shall deter us from the performance of our duty to ourselves and to the public. Private assassination has been too frequent in every country where British influence has prevailed, and where the British government has had specific objects to attain. This accomplishment of desperate objects requires the adoption of desperate means. The undue ascendancy of British politics in this country has recently sustained, we hope a mortal blow. Yet its advocates are not hopeless of its restoration. But it appears that every disposable obstacle in the way of a revival of the old order of things, whatever be the expense, the trouble, or the crimes attending it, must be removed. But whatever be the fate of the editors, whether they be doomed to die by the hand of the monarchical assassin, or to be dragged on board a British ship of war in the night, by a gang of hired ruffians, it is no small consolation to them to perceive that the CITIZEN is become offensive to the British powers in the United States, and an obstacle to the attainment of their wishes.

The following affidavit of Mr. John Wood, will abundantly show, that a scheme has been laid by the British consul, to destroy himself and Mr. Cheetham. His declaration would appear from the assertions of the British consul, and Mr. Waddington, a British agent here, to be effected by secret means. It is a fortunate circumstance, that this conspiracy has been developed before its execution. For whether it shall at a future period be put into execution or not, it is a substantiated and abominable design of the British agents in this country; and of their intention to awe into silence, the citizens of the United States. It is a menace upon life and liberty, and consequently a most pernicious and unwarrantable attack upon the independence of the republic, and the security of her citizens. From the observations of Mr. Waddington, it would appear, that the British consul and himself understood each other perfectly well. Mr. Waddington in the affidavit, speaks of seizing certain persons and conveying them, in a clandestine manner, on board a British ship of war, and that himself and others had laid a scheme for that purpose. The British consul, at another time, and in the absence of Mr. Waddington, declares that he shall consider it his duty to accomplish the "ruin and destruction" of Messrs. Wood and Cheetham. From this union of sentiment and exposition of design, it is unreasonable to say, that a secret understanding prevails between the British consul and Mr. Waddington, to deprive either of life or liberty, or both, the two persons mentioned. Further, in corroboration of an intention to put this wicked plot secretly into execution, the British consul declares in the true British file, "that Great-Britain regards the power of the United States, no more than he does that of a fly." Respecting this contemptuous observation, it is hardly necessary to say, that half a million of republicans hypocrites, if necessary, would soon convince the English government of the insignificance of its power.

The advertisement mentioned in the affidavit, appeared in Mr. Lang's paper of July 9th, and relates a note sent to the British consul, by a person who called himself an Englishman. The advertisement is in these words:—"His Britannic Majesty's Consul general, for the eastern states, requests the gentleman who favoured him with a note this day under the signature of AN ENGLISHMAN, will call on him any morning from eight to ten." It appears from what the British consul observed, that this ENGLISHMAN requested that an "information" be given against Mr. Cheetham, for having written in the Citizen disrespectfully of "his Britannic Majesty?" Perhaps he conceived that the United States, were "Bill colonies," of "his Britannic Majesty," and governed by his laws?

How long this plot has been in agitation we cannot say; but we have seen recent symptoms of it for about two weeks back from the pens of Rind and Wayne, two editors who possibly have long handled some of the "secret service money" of "his Britannic Majesty." Rind has frequently mentioned the propriety of dispatching Mr. Cheetham, and Wayne has not been backward in similar intimations. We do not know that the British consul has mentioned to them his intention; he certainly is not a very discreet man, or he would not have said as much as he did to Mr. Wood. But he threatened to knock him down got into a passion, lost his reason, and out came the secret.

It may be necessary to say something respecting the society mentioned in the affidavit.—We do not believe that such a society ever had been. But we do know that a few intelligent citizens very seriously thought of instituting it. The society was to have consisted of a few literary men; their intention was to contribute their might to the regeneration of England and Scotland, by the dissemination to pamphlets or otherwise, of plain republican truths. It was wisely considered that it was only necessary to make Englishmen and Scotchmen sensible of their enslaved and wretched state, to cause them to meliorate, by a bold and rational effort, their own condition. And as this benevolent object could not be better accomplished than by a candid display of the relative condition of two distant states, a better example it was considered for their imitation could not be exhibited than the United States. Such were the objects this intended society had in view, and such the joyful and laudable means intended to be used to attain them.

How the British consul came to a knowledge of this design is not easy for those to discover, who have not either been spies themselves, or the procurers of spies. Nevertheless it appears that the information he obtained from his "informers" was pretty correct so far as the British consul has divulged it.—We know of no exception but one.—The British consul stated that Mr. Cheetham was a member of the society but that he had never attended it. In this the British consul's spy had certainly communicated to his employer misinformation.—Mr. Cheetham was not a member of the society. But this arose not from any objection he had to it, for though he feels no local attachment yet he will at all times lend his hand to assist in freeing mankind from slavery.—For he is of opinion, that the conflict between tyrants and those who relish freedom, necessarily began in the United States, should never cease until one or the other shall be swept from the earth. Freedom can never be secure while tyrants exist.—Yet his warfare shall be honourable. He would neither administer poison in secret nor assassinate in the dark.

We have been this minute in order to show that though "his Britannic Majesty's" consul's spy has miscommunicated one thing, yet it does sufficiently appear, both from the affidavit and other circumstances, that he employs at least one spy to watch the actions of our fellow citizens, and this too must have been a person in whom the republicans who intended to associate for the purposes above mentioned must have had great confidence. But how he became acquainted with all the political walks of Mr. Cheetham is scarcely conceivable.—Surely the spy, whose business it was to spy out the proceedings of this terrible society, could not have had leisure enough to have watched all the political walks of Mr. Cheetham. We, who know our own walks, rather think it impossible.—If then our opinion be correct, one spy is incompetent to do all the dirty work of "his Britannic Majesty's" consul general, and consequently as he knows all the walks and all the conversations of Citizen Cheetham, it is not very violent to infer that he must have more of the lawfulness and propriety of a foreign nation, employing spies to soment mischief in the country in which he resides, as well as other circumstances attending this affair, we shall say something more to-morrow.

I, TUNIS WORTMAN, one of the public notaries of the State of New York, do hereby certify, that on the eleventh day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and one, personally appeared before me, Mr. John Wood, and being duly sworn, did declare that all and singular the matters and things mentioned and contained in the narrative or statement thereof, hereunto annexed are true.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal of office, at the city of New-York, the day and year above written.

T. WORTMAN, Public Notary.

ABOUT the hour of half past nine on Thursday last, Mr. Main, teacher in Gold-street, called upon me at Mr. Benjamin Cheetham's house in Maiden Lane, and requested an interview as a friend, having something to communicate he said of the utmost importance to my safety. After being conferred together, he informed me, that Mr. Joshua Waddington having met him in the street, accused him of being a member of a society of which I was the leader, for the purpose of disseminating inflammatory hand bills thro' England and Scotland. Mr. Main denied the fact of his being a member, and added that he did not believe Mr. Wood whom he knew very well, had instituted a society for such a purpose. Mr. Waddington replied "that however that might be, he and others were resolved to lay a scheme to get rid of Mr. Wood and the principal members, by seizing their persons and conveying them in a clandestine manner on board a British packet, or vessel of war. He therefore informed Mr. Main as a friend, the fact that would await him, if he had any connection with such a society." After this information I proposed to Mr. Main to go along with him to Mr. Waddington, and request an explanation, and observed that most probably the advertisement which appeared in Lang's paper of that day, from his Britannic Majesty's Consul allied to the same circumstance. Mr. Main replied that was also his opinion, and advised me rather to go to Colonel Barclay the British Consul, with whom he (Mr. Main) was well acquainted, and that we would inform ourselves of the particulars. This we agreed upon, and arrived at the house of the British Consul a little after ten.—The servant upon opening the door informed us, that he believed the Colonel was gone to bed, but that he should soon see. After the servant going up stairs, and informing the British consul that Mr. Main desired to speak to him, I was conducted into a room without a light, and the British consul and Mr. Main retired into another room. They did not return to me for upwards of an hour, and I had not been for the confidence I placed in Main's integrity, I certainly should have apprehended a design was laid of putting Mr. Waddington's scheme into execution. The British consul and Mr. Main having at length descended, the consul introduced himself by saying, that the advertisement he inserted in Lang's paper, had a reference to a gentleman who was desirous of having proof against Mr. Cheetham, but at the same time informed me, he was perfectly well acquainted with the society to which Mr. James Cheetham and I belonged; that he had a secret spy in whom he put most confidence, who acquainted him regularly with all our meetings and proceedings.

Upon my doubting his intelligence, he said his information was unquestionable, not only with respect to that society, but that there was not a single political walk, which Mr. Cheetham and I took, but of which he was informed, and added if we persevered in our proceedings, he would and should consider it his duty to accomplish our ruin and destruction. He then interrogated me whether I considered myself a British subject or not; upon my answering in the affirmative (understanding by the term British subject a person who is a native of Britain or her colonies) the British consul in a violent rage said, that we were not in the house of his Britannic Majesty's Consul, he would knock me down; that Great-Britain regarded the power of the United States no more than he did that of a fly, and much less did he regard the society to which Cheetham and I belonged. We then parted. All which aforesaid facts, I do hereby certify to be true.

JOHN WOOD.  
Attest—T. Wortman,  
New-York, July 11, 1861.

The indignation of our citizens has been naturally excited by the development of the plot which yesterday gave. It very properly appears to them that where such practices are suffered to exist, no man is safe. A design of the threatened act of violence has not been carried into execution, yet the intention to do so is not the less manifest. It is in the intention that we must view the crime; for we hold it now impossible to execute the conspiracy in any other manner than by secret assassination. For public vengeance would be wrought too high by actual kidnapping of republican citizens by British agents, that were it really to take place, not a wreck of British influence would be left behind.

It is pretty well understood that government agents in all countries are official spies. But the acute Mr. Barclay, the British Consul, is perhaps the first man who ever acknowledged his capacity. On this subject Vattel has the following passage:—"The political government is not fond of resident ministers among them, as indeed their practices with the members of the Diet have given but too many reasons for keeping them at a distance from it. In the year 1665 a nuncio openly complained before the Diet, that the French Ambassador prolonged his stay in Poland without any necessity, and that he ought to be looked upon as a spy; whereas in such a case a law to expel an ambassador should be allowed to the attacked kingdom." P. 521, Part. Ed.

But it appears that these suspicious arose from their general character. There is perhaps not an instance to be found in diplomatic history of an ambassador or consul having declared that they were not only spies themselves, but that they absolutely employed laborers at once. This candid exposition has been left for Mr. Barclay, his Britannic Majesty's Consul spy. A friend of ours present, while we write this, observes, that if the English Consul had been possessed of the good sense, and prudence to have kept this matter a secret until he had effected his purpose, he would no doubt have met with preference, and we will add, that had we any influence in the English Cabinet, we would advise its members never to entrust any secret in the hands of Mr. Barclay. He may be possessed of a happy knack in discovering plots against his royal master; but it will be very easily perceived, that he is no mafoso.

But to be serious. If there are any who doubt the truth of Mr. Wood's affidavit, we would advise them to consult the history of the transactions of the English government. In that history will be found a abundant corroboration of Mr. Wood's testimony.—Treachery is its characteristic, and in this it has exceeded any other nation, Europe as well as America abounds with its spies, and recently a remarkable occurrence has taken place, which is doubtless the effect of the efforts of these scoundrels.—Campbell the celebrated author of the Pleasures of Hope, has lately travelled through France, the Italian States and Germany.—This tour took him about thirteen months. On his arrival at Yarmouth he was instantly arrested by order of the English government upon a charge of High Treason.—How he has committed treason is not even limited. And we are persuaded that his arrest is dictated only by a desire to harass the patriot, and is founded upon the false information of the spies of the English government.

But the fate with which Messrs. Wood and Cheetham is threatened, is very similar to that which Mr. Duane really experienced. It is true there is a difference between the East Indies and the U. States.—The former, no matter with what crimes it has been attacked, is now an adjunct of Great Britain; the latter an independent state; but the design in both is precisely the same. The ability, the activity, and the zeal of Mr. Duane, were offensive to the English government because they were engaged in defending its iniquity. He was therefore an obstacle in their way, and it was therefore necessary for them to ruin him.—Accordingly he was dragged secretly on board an English armed ship, where he was ironed, and from which he was landed in Europe. This plan (spoken of by Joshua Waddington, and confirmed by the English Consul, is an exact copy of that, by which Mr. Duane was kidnapped from the East Indies. A British armed ship was to have been provided, and Messrs. Wood and Cheetham to be seized in the night dragged on board of her, transported to London.

Mr. Wood, whose affidavit we yesterday published, is by birth a Scotchman, and a respectable inhabitant of New-York. He has travelled through Europe, has written a history of Switzerland and of the Swiss Revolution. He has also lately written a letter on the subject of the Illuminati, addressed to Judge Addison. All which do him great credit. He is now a teacher of the languages and of mathematics.

where, perhaps like Campbell, they were to have been charged with treason. There is such an affinity between the two schemes, that when it is considered that in the case of Mr. Duane the design was really executed, no doubt can be entertained, after the declaration of the consul, of his intention to execute in the other.

Of the practicability of the consul's scheme no one can doubt. Ruffians in every country can be procured to execute British plots. And the British government is so much in the habit of stopping people's mouths, that it would be very easy for their hirelings to gag in the night, a few obnoxious characters, and slip them on board an armed vessel.—But what would be the consequence of such an act? How would our citizens take it? Would they not wreak their vengeance upon the instigators of so foul a deed? Of this the British consul is listless.—Here what he says, "Great-Britain regards the powers of the United States no more than I do that of a fly." Nothing was wanting to complete the design but this sentence.

Of the treachery of the English government, English history is replete. For the present we shall only adduce the following example, with which we shall end our observations until to-morrow.

Count Zembio, who is well known in Europe for his attachment to the cause of reason and liberty, applied when he was in Germany, to the British cabinet for permission to land at Yarmouth to proceed to Falmouth, and there to embark for Lisbon, where he intended to make some stay for the benefit of his lady's health. This request was readily granted.—But this arrival at Lisbon, he was at the request of the British minister, arrested, with his lady, his lady's daughters and family, conveyed separately to subterranean dungeons, where they remained near two months, deprived of day-light and every convenience of life. At the interposition of the imperial minister, he was released from Anglo-Lusitanian captivity; but how? he and his family were conveyed on board an English transport, to the care of an admiral near the Gibraltar station, who sent them all in an open boat to the coast of Barbary, where they were put on shore without money, without a change of clothes, and without any letters or provisions.—The consequence was, that they were immediately made prisoners and sent to Mogadore, where they would have been sold as slaves, had not the Venetian consul, who knew the count, claimed and protected his family. Can any man or woman read this anecdote without shuddering at the barbarity of this diabolical conspiracy against the lives of this worthy man, his countess, and their beautiful, accomplished, and virtuous daughters? How gallant admirals with this deed accused full in thy face, couldst thou return to thy indignant countrymen with such tarnished laurels? Crimes of Cabinets, p. 168-9.

Count Zembio being a Venetian, and having an immense landed property in that country, and Venice being then under Austrian dominion, the minister at Lisbon, claimed him as an Austrian subject.

BOSTON, July 13.

## POSTSCRIPT.

At a late hour last evening we were politely favoured by Captain York, and Mr. Hayes, with London Papers to the 6th of May.

## OF EGYPT.

LONDON, May 28.

By yesterday's Hambrogh mail, we learn, that Lord Minto had on the 15th inst. received dispatches from the Earl of Egin, stating, that our army in Egypt having made them every matters of an important height which commanded a part of the city of Alexandria, Gen. Hutchinson entertained confident hopes of carrying that fortress by storm. We know not how to reconcile this intelligence with the situation of the hostile armies near Alexandria.—The only heights which prevented our troops from acting directly against Alexandria, were according to the most recent accounts, those occupied by the French forces under the command of M. Doune, situated near Pompey's Pillar, to the north east of Alexandria. As they are admitted in our official intelligence to have their main body strongly entrenched upon these heights it follows that they must have been dislodged from that advantageous position in consequence of an action fought since the 5th of March, or that def. siring of making an effectual resistance, they have either retired into the interior of the country or thrown themselves into the forts of Alexandria.

Our private correspondence states, on the authority of letters received from Italy, that Gantheaume's squadron was blockaded, on the 6th inst. in the port of Lefchora, by Sir John B. Warner's squadron. We learn with great satisfaction that reinforcements have been dispatched from Malta to Egypt, and there is no doubt that det. chues taken from the garrisons of Gibraltar and Minorca, which are better enabled to spare them, have been also sent to general Hutchinson.

We understand, that dispatches received at a late hour last night by government from Lord Elgin, state the arrival in the Red sea, of the troops from the East Indies, destined to co-operate with general Hutchinson, against the French in Egypt. They consist of 12000 men from the Cape of Good Hope, 8000 from the presidency of Bombay, and 800 from Ceylon. The naval force was commanded by Sir H. Popham, and the military by Gen. Baird.

A detachment of our troops had been sent up the country, by general Hutchinson, who had received information of the approach of the Turkish army, in order to facilitate the march of success, against junction with them.

May 27

## Northern Affairs.

In consequence of the disputes between England and the Southern Powers, the King of Sweden, by