

# WILMINGTON GAZETTE.

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### FROM THE ENQUIRER:

General Miranda (a native of Mexico) is said to have been in possession of three millions of dollars, and to have secretly fitted out the *Leander* and two other vessels at New-York, filled with arms, ammunition, and some troops. Two of these vessels, perhaps all three, are said to have sailed from New-York. What is his destination has been the anxious enquiry for two or three weeks in some of the northern papers.

We shall lay two conjectures only before our readers:

1st. Some of the northern papers have stated, that the object of Gen. Miranda is to revolutionize Cuba. We do not believe it.

2d. Is not the English Government privy to his plan? This conjecture is founded 1st. upon the report of his having received 60,000 pounds from a house in New-York, in consequence of an English connexion, (for which see the following paragraph from the *Aurora*;) and 2dly, upon the unknown and mysterious destination of Sir Home Popham's squadron? True—this squadron may not have arrived at Buenos Ayres, as has been reported; but there are other landing places in South America besides Buenos Ayres.

Another conjecture, infinitely more important than these, and more deeply connected with the affairs of our own country, rise upon us. We must have more time to consider it. It is much too important to be lightly trusted to a public paper.

By a letter from a friend at New-York, we learn an important fact, that General Miranda who is said lately to have sailed from New-York brought with him from England a letter of credit on one house at New-York for sixty thousand pounds sterling. We shall by and by get to the marrow of this business. [Aurora.]

From the Enquirer of Friday last.

### GENERAL MIRANDA.

In giving the following communication to the world, we do it with that caution which the subject of it is calculated to inspire. That subject is without doubt uncommonly interesting. The sailing of the *Leander* and her consorts from New-York, the manner in which they were equipped, and the suspicions which were attached to them while they were in port, were evidently calculated to raise every thing about them, more especially the point of destination and the end of so singular an equipment, into objects of uncommon curiosity. Party spirit too stepped in to aid the natural impulse of the occasion. The Federalists did not fail to seize upon the mysterious cover in which the plan was enveloped, and to create the most extraordinary charges against the administration. The project of Gen. Miranda, according to their representation, was either directly promoted or indirectly connived at. The Federalists therefore enquired, to collect the materials for an attack: the Republicans, to defend the administration. Under such circumstances the expedition of Gen. Miranda has become an object of considerable interest.—Fables have been formed; conjectures have been offered; almost every one has been anxious to explain, but none has yet positively ascertained, the objects of this mysterious enterprise. The field of conjecture is yet open to the imagination and the race of monstrous absurdities is not yet ended.—We shall not therefore presume to vouch for the veracity of a single fact contained in the following communication. The author indeed professes to be confident in the truth of his theory. He is an acquaintance of Miranda; conversant with his plans, and convinced of their reality. But this is an affair between Gen. Miranda and himself. Far be it from our wish to make it a subject of contention between us and the public. We give it to them as it is given to us. We are the organs but not authors of the communication. It is put to the press under the persuasion, that if it will not enlighten by its accuracy, it may amuse by the novelty of the fable; and that whether it contains fictions or facts, it may serve to invite the attention of the public to the future development of the plot:

### COMMUNICATION.

That Miranda, has embarked at New-York—that he has actually gone from thence, with the fixed design to emancipate his country from the yoke of Spain, is a notorious fact.

Standing alone, this might be deemed a project of a mere adventurer; but when we read the following short history of this man, the mind must expand with wonder, that it has been delayed so long.

So long since as 1767, there were five delegates from five provinces of S. America, at Madrid, sent to complain of intolerable grievances; they were denied redress through haughtiness and pride, just as our agents were, before our disputes had ended by war. One of these delegates, was intrusted to make certain propositions to Great-Britain. Lord Chatham (who had formed a whole administration, under a most solemn promise from the king, that he should have his un-

bounded confidence, during life) embraced those propositions, gave the agent £1000 yearly, till the design should be carried into effect: he was paid this pension no longer than the life time of that administration, and the agent was along with the other four, sacrificed to the resentment of Spain.

In 1783, Miranda, who was born in Caracas, a city about 12 miles south of Liguira, made his appearance in this country; he is well known by many of our most eminent citizens; possessed a strong mind; and since his travels thro' all Europe, he may be supposed to equal any man, now living, as to intelligence and capacity, for the most important affairs.

His object has been nothing short, and nothing else, than to deliver his country from a most intolerable, and humiliating bondage. When England fitted out a large fleet to support their claims at Neutca Sound, Miranda was engaged to do more than aid them in those claims, but the expedition was abandoned; the cause may be conjectured, but time only will develop the facts.

Disappointed, till the revolution had created war between France and Spain, he went to Paris; became a general in their armies.—That fatal defeat of the left wing under Demourier, which he commanded, caused suspicions, that having come over from England, they might have been betrayed, but all the Americans in Paris (among whom Tom. Paine and Joef Barlow) gave it as their decided opinion, that his principles were strictly pure, honorable and truly republican; he proved also, that he protested against the mode of attack, the night before the action, and that he refused Demourier's pressing solicitations to emigrate along with him.—He would have embarked with an army from France, for the directory had it in view, but no opportunity offered till peace was concluded.

Intent on the same object, he once offered his services to England; they were once more accepted, and he was once more deceived. When just upon embarking he found, contrary to every previous and solemn compact, that Mr. Pitt meant conquest, and not the emancipation of his country.—He renounced participation in the expedition, rent his commission in pieces, reproached him with perfidy, duplicity, and lies, and embarked for America.

It is unnecessary to say more than that the doors will be opened in three provinces, now organized; they know our example and will follow it; no conditions remain with the government of England; all nations will be invited to their ports, none so much desired as our own; offers of fraternity and friendship will, if we are willing, unite this whole continent like the solar system, by one common attraction; every part holding its due proportion in its own orbit, giving beauty and harmony to the whole.

The above sketch is to satisfy public curiosity; it is enough for the moment; as to the means, the place of destination, or ports to be first opened, it would be improper to say any thing further; the plan is well digested; miracles do not come every day, and unless a miracle does come, Miranda must succeed.

### A FEW STRICTURES.

The preceding communication is without doubt extremely complimentary to the design and character of Gen. Miranda. But it is incumbent upon us to remark, that there are other representations of a very different nature.

With respect to the design, some have ventured to suggest that the object of Gen. Miranda is not to liberate his country; but to commit a predatory excursion upon the coast of S. America, to sack the wealthy city of Buenos Ayres, or to seize upon the treasury of Peru; while others have dispatched him on a commercial speculation, neither so honorable as the emancipation of his country, nor so lucrative as the seizure of its riches.

If the design of Miranda be really what it professes to be, some have gone on to doubt his qualifications for the accomplishment of his projects. They have called him, an ardent adventurer; they have pointed him out in the history of the wars of France as a disgraced and cashiered general; they have illustrated the incapacity of his soul by the repeated miscarriage of his plans. Few like our communicator have ventured to extol his intelligence and capacity for the most important affairs.

But let his plan be ever so noble, or his qualifications ever so great; many have doubted the probability of his succeeding in the emancipation of his country. We know not, and our communicator carefully avoids to touch upon, the point of his destination; whether it be Mexico, New-Crenada, Peru, or Ligueros Ayres. But in all those countries, difficulties would surround him. The people are the devoted slaves of the Clergy in all the Spanish colonies, and the Clergy are bound by their rich benefices to the present order of things. Their political prejudices are scarcely less obstinate than their ecclesiastical; they have no press among them; their oppressions may be great but

they have learned to be contented. The very monopoly of commerce which prevails among them, has the effect of shutting out another of the great means of improvement. Few strangers visit their country and the miserable Mestee of Mexico and Peru has no opportunity to profit by the discoveries of more civilised countries.

But why may not the Spanish colonies become as independent as the British colonies formerly did? We may reply, that their condition is different in two important circumstances. Not only was our people freer than the Spanish colonies are at present; as much freer at least, in proportion as the British government is more enlightened than the Spanish; but the government which was established in our colonies was much better calculated to give success to a revolution.—The legislatures, which were previously established in our own colonies, survived the downfall of the British sovereignty, and were admirably fitted for collecting together, the force of the nation. But in the Spanish colonies no such organization exists for the concentration of the public force. The whole business of legislation is in the hands of Viceroys or other subordinate agents of the crown. Electors and elected, constituents and representatives are names without a meaning in the Spanish vocabulary.

These circumstances are strongly calculated to produce a doubt respecting the success of Miranda's enterprise, under the present state of the Spanish colonies. On this subject however, we are bound to speak with all the humility of doubt. We know but little of the present state of the Spanish colonies; the strength of the government; the character of its present officers, or its military resources. We know still less of Miranda's means or the resources of his adherents. If three provinces are already organized if Miranda is assisted, if not by the Treasury, at least as it is said by the Admiralty of England; if three millions of dollars have been furnished by his American associates or English speculators; if success should crown his first exertions and the treasury of the king of Spain should fall into his hands; if the military force of that country be feeble or its discipline imperfect; it is certainly probable that Miranda may become the Washington of his country. What we mean to assert is that even if a "miracle does" not "come," still Miranda may not "succeed."

March 1.

### COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the Enquirer.

SIR—I am not in the habit of making communications, either to the public or in private company, which are not supported on facts. The short narrative, as to Miranda's past conduct, I know to be perfectly true. I ought to have added that he was acquitted by a court-martial with honor.—Mr. Barlow, who now resides in Washington, can bear testimony of it. I have been a witness to some very important things, both in France and England, in which he shewed talents, integrity and perseverance.

I am sorry to see him represented as an adventurer in any papers in our country.—The time however is approaching, when his character will be better known.

Your strictures, therefore, may rest uncontradicted; but that you may credit what I have advanced on this subject, I have left a letter with Mr. Hynton, the clerk of the council, addressed to you, and to be delivered when it can do no injury to the cause in question; in which you will find the outlines of the design; the place of rendezvous, &c. &c. You must not blame my caution in keeping the port or place of destination from the public; for the minister of Spain would gladly know it, and by express, might possibly prevent the design. Yours, &c.

### BALTIMORE, March 3.

The Editor tenders a tribute of his warmest thanks, to the commercial friend, who politely furnished him with two distinct printed sheets, the contents of both, in French and Italian, of which the following are translated copies.—They were received by the late arrival of the *Paragon*, at this port, from Malaga, which she left the 15th of Jan.

### Bloody Battle of the 2d Dec.

Between the French and Allied forces.

(Translated for the American.)

Copy of a letter from Marshal Berthier, Minister of War and Major General of the grand army, to Marshal Massena.

PORTOPIE, 12th Frimaire,

(3d Dec.) year 14th.

I am impatient, marshal, to send you back your *aid-de-camp* to announce to you the brilliant victory which we have just gained over the Russian army. They were drawn out in array before us to the number of 80,000 men, of which 15,000 were Austrians. On the 10th they made a motion in their left wing to attack us, and to surround our right. It was evident they meditated an attack on the 11th. The emperor, as is usual with him, prevented this by himself commencing the

attack at the break of day. The battle lasted from seven o'clock in the morning until 5 in the evening. The Russian army was entirely destroyed, 25,000 prisoners taken; 15,000 killed, and 120 pieces of cannon taken possession of. The guards of the Russian emperor were attacked by those of the emperor Napoleon.—They were entirely discomfited; the colonel and one third of their officers taken, the standard bearer, all their artillery, and in fine the whole body of the guards, as well horse as foot, to the amount of 5000 men, were entirely cut to pieces.—Almost all the Russian generals have fallen into our hands. The Emperors of Russia and Austria had the greatest difficulty to save themselves across the marshes. A considerable quantity of men, stopped by the marshes and a lake, into which they threw themselves, were drowned experiencing the same fate as the Turks who threw themselves into the sea at the battle of Abourkir. Our troops are now pursuing the small remains of this army, once so arrogant. For further details, your *aid-de-camp* will relate to you what he has seen and heard. I have but barely time, marshal, to write to you thus briefly, as you know we have few moments to spare. I have received the letter in which you informed me of your junction with Gen. Marmont.

The Major General,

(Signed)

A true Copy,

M. BERTHIER.

M. MASSENA.

VERDIER.

Extract of a letter from his excellency Monsieur De Beaumanois, Minister Plenipotentiary of the French Empire, at the Court of Etruria, to M. Verdier, General of Division, dated, Florence, 18th Frimaire, 14th year, At 1 o'clock in the morning.

A letter from the Minister of Exterior Relations, dated Vienna, the 12th Frimaire, informs me, my dear general, of the grand victory gained by our august sovereign on the day of his anniversary; the three emperors being present. The guard of the Emperor Napoleon attacked that of the Emperor of Russia, took its colonel, one third of the officers, all the artillery, and cut the rest to pieces.

The French troops are now pursuing the remains of the Russian and Austrian army.

The field of battle was at Austerlitz.

Napoleon, our august sovereign is well and was every where present.

Good by and love me.

FRANCIS DE BEAUMANOIS.

A true Copy,

General of Division,

VERDIER.

The next advices from Europe should they be from London or Paris, as late as the 20th of January, may bring accounts of the coronation of a king of Poland—but it would not be at all surprising to us, to hear that the archduke Charles was invested with the imperial diadem torn from the brow of Francis II. [Aurora.]

### MUNICH, Dec. 7.

At a late hour yesterday arrived here a lieutenant-colonel of the staff, and *aid-de-camp* to the emperor Napoleon, with orders from the emperor himself, to inform the elector that he had made prisoners 40,000 Russians, put 26,000 men *hors du combat*, 140 pieces of cannon, &c. The count de Poyuy was present during the whole affair. He states that the emperor, who had stationed himself on a height, noted on a sheet of paper the number of each regiment and corps, adding, in few words, what the regiment or corps, numbered was to execute. An *aid-de-camp* took charge of the paper, for the purpose of carrying the order into effect. The order of battle resembled exactly a game of chess, or drafs. The emperor cried out on a sudden, "Now I have them." He then ordered a general attack. The marshes in the environs of Olmutz were of great service to Napoleon; a numerous division was driven to, and, for the greater part, cut down in the marshes, the remainder, fearing the same fate, were compelled to lay down their arms. The colonel of the guards, Marlot, died of his wounds on the day of the battle.

### VIENNA, Dec. 8.

Thus will the emperor Napoleon again, a third time, give peace not to France alone, but to the continent, and more particularly to the Austrian states. England is at length conquered in her allies.

How then is the general peace to be obtained, and rendered satisfactory to all parties? What remains but that England should consent to her share of sacrifices?—The emperor has conquered half of the Austrian empire—will he surrender it without equivalents? Shall England, skulking behind her dirty channel, encourage the continent to war? Shall she shed the blood, and, as far as in her lies, exhaust the treasury of France, and suffer nothing in return? The emperor Napoleon will not suffer this. Shall Austria alone be the sufferer? The emperor Francis will not suffer this. England must give something to the common redemption.