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Military!

GENERALSHIP! &c.

EXTRACT TO THE EDITOR—DATED

Baton Rouge, Feb. 9th, 1812.

"You ask me 'how does col. Cushing?' it is difficult to describe how he is; for your *how* is so general a proposition, that one does not know where to begin to answer it. In the first place he remains in chains, still at this post; in the second place his health is in such a state as that the Yazoo general may probably get rid of him without any other outrage, should he be confined to this place for the summer. Some enquiries have been made among the military men here to discover who among them are your correspondents; for it seems that although you have been considered as rather too sparing by one class, you have been considered by much too severe by another. Neither of us is well calculated for the army as it is at present governed, and we are neither of us in the power of imbecile creatures that are placed over it, I think we might render some service to those who have devoted the best years of their lives to the military profession, if we were to expose the villainies that have been going on here. Had you published the transactions of which I gave you on account last year, I think you would have rendered some service to the country; and if you will only recur to my letters from St. Francisville of the 22d Dec. 1810, and 17th January, 1811, you will be able to comprehend me; new military revolutions have taken place, such as would make you laugh, and if you were disposed to add a chapter to your Military Library, entitled 'the discoveries of original genius,' you might have been furnished enough from this quarter; last year our colonel of cavalry was dispatched from Washington cantonment, where there were some troops of his regiment, to the M. bill district, in charge of infantry; the youngest colonel of infantry was posted here in advance, the post of honor, while the eldest officer (out of arrest) was placed in the command of the cantonment at Washington in the rear; the companies of several regiments were formed into one corps, and placed under the command of a lieutenant colonel which alter all was not useless, as it had the effect of introducing a good discipline among companies of different regiments; this which was called the consolidated regiment, is now broken up, and nothing remains now like it was a year ago, nor like anything that existed on this earth.

"In the ridiculous attempt to cover the whole country, when he is in fact unable to defend a single point, Hampton has fringed up the corps under his command into detachments, and scattered them from Mobile via Orleans to this place; which if an enemy of any kind were to attack, would subject him to be beaten in detail by a force one third of his numbers. The consequences of such folly are not immediately felt by the country during the absence of attack; but on those in the army who attend to the principles of their profession, the effect must be a total loss of confidence in an officer who betrays such incapacity.

"These extravagancies, united with the tyranny which he has exercised over meritorious individuals, and the violation of justice and humanity in contempt of law and usage and honor, presents a shocking state of things here, and I have heard many officers ask now it is that you confine yourself to the notice of abuses in the department at Washington, and overlook the crying injustice that has been going on in the southern provinces for in this respect our condition resembles that of the remote provinces of a despotism rather than of a republic—the cries of the oppressed are too remote to be heard at the foot of the throne."

"I will, then, while I am upon it, give you a repetition of what you have heard before, by telling you how colonel Cushing has been treated; he has no knowledge of what I write, nor can he ever know who now addresses you; my name you are at liberty to give up to any man of character who asks it; but the facts are so notorious, that no one will ever attempt to bring them into question, who has any character to risk. Cushing was arrested on a farrago of charges wholly personal and malicious; he had ascended the Mobile from the sea, and was executing his duty in concert with the most confidential and faithful of the civil functionaries of the United States, when an order for his arrest arrived, and in contempt of all right and rule, and in a manner in which none but persons accused of the highest crimes and in the greatest exigencies, are treated, he was placed as a prisoner under the custody of one of his own subalterns, and hurried over land this to place. A court martial was packed—I say my friend it was a packed court, because the members were not taken in order of rank; and because under a shameful pretext, an officer who was supposed to be on terms of friendship, was put under arrest merely to keep him from off that court—you have I see in one of your papers, published the exception taken to some members of the court, and that one of them was forced to be taken off the court upon a charge of perjury, the colonel asks sixty days to obtain testimony; at this moderate request, such as the British court of Star Chamber would not refuse, their general of a republic raves like a madman, and extends the period to six months; confines the colonel to a mile round this place, and taking the colonel (Smyth) whom he had appointed president of the court, on a ride with him to Mobile, he gives him a furlough to

go to the eastward, from whence he has never since returned.—The day to which the court adjourned was the first of last December, when the prisoner and a few members of the court, appeared, as I learn, for I was not then at this place; but they being unable to form a court, they were of course under the necessity of dispersing, and as they were incompetent to an adjournment, the court died of the furloughs given by the general who had summoned it, to members of the court.

"Thus you see the first colonel of the army, who a few months before was Hampton's superior officer, and whose services in arms exceed thirty-three years, who has fought by land and by water, who has been wounded and mangled in the public service, has been held in duress on the unwholesome banks of the Mississippi in the worst season, to the loss of his health and to the ruin of his constitution, without a glimmering prospect of relief but from death.

"In conversing on this subject with a particular friend of yours who passed through here about ten days ago on his way to New Orleans, he stated that if you were acquainted with these facts, you would publish them, and that they would find their way to the eye of the executive; I apprised him that I understood the executive was already informed on the subject; but this will account to you for my repeating some facts which I wrote you concerning before; as I must suppose, since they have not been published they have not reached you; and by some of the officers passing to the Atlantic, I shall try to get some friend to forward particulars—for such things excite abhorrence and disgust. That such things should exist, is afflictive to humanity & a damning reproach to the government that suffers or winks at it; since I am too well informed on the subject to mistake in this particular, that an appeal had been long since made to the president, through the regular channel of the war office, and that a full exposition of the excesses and follies of this ignorant and incompetent general officer was also sent; but that instead of evils being corrected, or the attention bestowed upon it to which it is entitled, it was exposed to Hampton himself, and the secretary at war appears in fact to have made a common cause (*har nobile fratrum*—in arms and Yazoo!) with this arbitrary nabob; for instead of remanding the colonel (Smyth) who was to preside in the court over Cushing to attend here, he, as it appears, put him in nomination as a member of the court on Wilkinson.

"I am in possession of copies of some orders, upon which I shall submit a few comments, by the first train conveyance.—There is something very mysterious in the connection between Hampton and Eustis—both Yazoo men, both old friends of Burr—but I shall close this letter, already too long—may pursue and publish only what you think fit of it; I shall be answerable for the truth of every word in it."—*Aurora*.

Extract of a subsequent letter, dated the 14th Feb. 1812.

"I have placed in the hands of Mr. B. going to Orleans, a letter for you, containing the paper promised in my letter of last week. Absent the four last days, I have on my way to tell you what I intended to have stated in my last. I believe I mentioned that that military monster, called a consolidated regiment, was broken up; by which lieutenant colonel Pike was deprived of his command; this man has too much merit and integrity for our times, in the times of Nero and Caligula pimps were promoted and men of talents were objects of constant terror. I read Wardens translation of the oration on Marcus Aurelius, which you sent me, with expressible delight; I could wish almost to be that stoic whom the eloquent orator has introduced with such happy effect at the funeral; but where am I running—let us not despair of the republic, even though knaves and fools have disgraced the helm. The fifth and sixth regiments of United States infantry, are now broken up; previously some officers and companies of the 3d, were transferred to the first; now the 5th and 6th is dissolved to be incorporated with the 3d and 7th; the officers and regimental staff of the broken regiments, I understand, are to proceed to the Atlantic states, to raise new regiments—so that last year there was nothing but the consolidation of detached companies; now whole regiments, and those that were the finest and the best in order are dissolved."—*Ibid*.

Piracy.

MORE PIRACY AND SMUGGLING.

To the Editors of the Baltimore Federal Republican.

N. ORLEANS, Dec. 28, 1811.

The piratical schooner the Vengeance, having been burnt at Savannah, and a most infamous statement of that transaction having been forwarded to this place by some of the villains concerned in her, which statement was intended to inflame the minds of the people of this country against the government of the United States, I have thought that some mention of what is doing here by the pirates, might be acceptable, and if published, might perhaps induce the government to cause some inquiry into their proceedings.

The Vengeance was some time ago a Swedish schooner called the Christiansstadt, and was then commanded by, I believe, a captain Osmond; he traded from St. Domingo to N. Orleans. She afterwards was reported to have been sold by Osmond, and she then appeared as a French privateer, having been equipped in one of our ports. Near the Tortugas she fell in with and captured a

Spanish brig, from London to this port, with a cargo amounting to about 16,000 sterling, and brought the brig to the Balize. The Vengeance was then commanded by a fellow of the name of Dominique Diron; he came up here, made his arrangements, sold the prize, which he ran ashore on Breton Island, to the N. E. of the Balize; and the schooner John, captain Hopkins, with captain Osmond, the former owner of the Vengeance, when called the Christiansstadt, sailed to take on board the cargo of the prize, which they effected, after nearly massacring the crew of a pilot boat from the Balize. The person who made this purchase is well known, but I forbear to mention his name.

Another house here had likewise made a bargain with Diron for his prize, and the schooner Three Friends was dispatched for the cargo. She went to sea, but not meeting with the Vengeance or her prize, returned a few days afterwards; and being a fast sailer, was in a short time equipped herself as a rover, and sent to seek her fortune. She however changed owners before she underwent this metamorphosis. On her cruise, in conjunction with a small schooner fitted out as a Spaniard in the Bayou of St. John, within two miles of this city, she took the Portuguese or Spanish polacre, which was carried into Baataria, and being blocked up there with the prize, by lieutenant Gregory, of gun boat, No. 163, she was burnt by the crew to prevent all investigation.

Previous to this the major part of the cargo had been sent by the inland navigation to this place, and sold by a fellow of the name of Sate, the agent for the pirates, to three mercantile houses, it is said for thirty thousand dollars; one of them sold out his interest to a considerable profit, the others are openly selling the plundered and smuggled cargo; they can afford to sell cheap, as it is generally believed that the invoice, which they purchased, cost in Europe thirty thousand dollars.

A monsieur Robert was stated to have been concerned in bringing part of the polacre's cargo to this city; it would perhaps have been more correct to have said, that he had gone with a fleet of canoes and portuagers to take on board what remained of it, when he was disturbed by lieutenant Gregory, who put an end to all further proceedings. Robert, in order to clear himself of the charge, brings forward a certain monsieur D'Aurtrie and monsieur De Gruis, to certify that he was not concerned in smuggling any goods from the prizes, and particularly from the Portuguese polacre;—as these gentlemen know so well what was concerned, it is to be hoped the government will force them to disclose the secret.

This is the Robert, who with others, is accused of having fitted out the felucca the Sally, as a privateer. This vessel captured a brig from the coast of Africa, with about 150 negroes, and took them into the Fourcree, where they were sold and distributed through the country. The owners of the brig, informed of the circumstances of the case, claimed the negroes, and some very ludicrous scenes took place in attempting to wrest them from those who had purchased them. A monsieur Chauverre, who was supercargo of the brig, and a monsieur Paillet who commanded her, could give important information respecting the owners, commander, crew, and all concerned in the felucca.

A small Spanish schooner, whose owner was repairing with his family and 27 slaves from Baataria to some other part of the island of Cuba, was met in his passage by a little vessel having some Frenchmen on board, who had just escaped from Jeremie, where they had been endeavoring to raise an insurrection. The Frenchmen put the Spaniard and his family into their own crazy and sinking bark, and brought the Spanish vessel into the bayou of Chef Mentaur. On arrival, seven of them armed themselves, and conducted the negroes to this place, where they have since been sold; these fellows appear publicly & scarce attempt to conceal their robbery.

The enclosed extract from the Louisiana Gazette of 26th April, 1810, will shew what was then going on, and the same game has been carried on ever since.

The other extract is a memorandum given by a person taken in the Volador, and may be depended on.

From the Louisiana Gazette of the 26th of April, 1810.

More privateer's indistress!

A portuguese brig with 104 slaves prize to the French privateer La Guillaume, captain Laurine, arrived at the Balize on the 18th instant, in distress, and has been seized by lieutenant Reed, of the Vesuvius.

Le Guillaume, Blossom and Superior, having, from the best information, made successful cruizes, are supposed to be in great distress, and may be daily expected at the Balize.

LATE ARRIVALS!

La Franchise, distress great—indigo and specie value about eighty or ninety thousand dollars.

L'Intrepide, distress moderate—only 6,000 in specie.

L'Duc de Montebello, distress extreme—full of rich dry goods and specie

Le Petit Chance, distress considerable—dry goods and mahogany—auger hole in bottom.

L'Epine, distress—agreeably to orders—dry goods and specie.

Le Guillaume, prize, distress extreme; cargo slaves; demand great.

The Conspiracy!

From the Baltimore Federal Republican.

When Mr. Henry passed through Baltimore, on his way to Washington, he had little or no money, but received 100 dollars from his correspondents in New York. He remained upwards of a week at Washington and in the neighborhood. On his return to Baltimore, he called with a friend at a bank in this city, and produced a certificate, from an officer of a bank in Washington, that FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS had been deposited in said bank to his credit. On this certificate the cashier of the Baltimore bank gave him drafts, &c. on a bank in New York, where Mr. Henry's business lay, and whence, he informed his acquaintances here, he was to sail to Europe in the Wasp. When we compare these circumstances with what follows, the conclusion is irresistible, that Mr. Madison has wasted forty eight or fifty thousand dollars of the people's money to further his own election, and to reward a traitor to his own country and a spy upon the federal party. The remaining 50,000 dollars of secret service money appropriated, Mr. Madison could not more appropriately use, than by dividing it between himself and colonel Monroe.

Extract of a letter from Washington, of Feb. 20, published in Kell's Gazette.

"Would you believe it possible that men who 12 months ago, invighed with so much zeal against having secrets in government's, would now readily vote to put into the hands of the executive one hundred thousand dollars of secret service money, to be used for purposes of corruption of how deep a dye they probably will never know? This day by ayes and noes, 83 to 17 this great sum has been voted to be put under the control of the executive, and the house are never to know how it is to be used.

"But Mr. Bacon stated that no secret service money (consequent foreign intercourse fund, I believe it is nicknamed) was appropriated last year on account of an oversight or carelessness; and services have been performed which the government are bound in justice to reward."

Mr. Goldsborough asked him if any contracts had been made. Not absolutely contracts, the chancellor replied, but remuneration is expected. No money had been paid for last year's (services of the government's spies and agents at home and abroad) but the services have been rendered with the expectation, if not the promise of remuneration.

If there be, and perhaps there yet are, any more requests among the federalists, [mark my prediction] that appropriation of one hundred thousand dollars will not all be expended before some of the 'seeming pure' will go over to the side of the goats. Some of these will be under conviction, visited by the grace of God—in dollars."

This letter was dated on the 20th of February, and on the day of its date the bill passed placing one hundred thousand dollars secret service money at the disposal of the executive. Mr. Henry's communication from Philadelphia is dated the 20th of February, but he had been at Washington some time before, made his bargain, and 40,000 dollars was deposited to his credit in a Washington bank. That money, beyond all question, he received from government.—Mr. Bacon stated to the house on the 20th of February, that "services had been performed, which the government were bound in justice to reward"—that services had been rendered with the expectation, if not the promise of remuneration? And thus 50,000 dollars are squandered away at a single dash, upon a man whom British ministers would not give a single word. Nay they have even given more than double what he asked of Lord Liverpool, at a moment when the people are to be taxed up to their eyes!

SKETCH OF THE REMARKS

Made in the house of representatives, on the documents relative to Mr. Henry.

The reading occupied nearly an hour and a half. A motion was made to print the message and documents.—Mr. Pitkin had no objection to the printing if the house chose to do so, but he should not suppose they would be willing to print all the lies and libels of this traitor, or to have their character as given by him go to the world with such a sanction.

Mr. Bibb moved that they be referred to the committee of foreign relations.

Mr. Gholson observed that the correspondence was highly creditable to the eastern section of the union as Henry declared no one there would meddle with such a project; though it demonstrates the wish of the British to dismember the union.

Mr. Quincy thanked God, that there is or was ever in Great Britain a belief that we are desirous of a separation, or that any part of the people would at any time look to them, the fallacy of that belief is proved. Henry it appears, during the time of the embargo, a period, if any, auspicious to their purpose, went to Boston, the spot where opposition was supposed most violent, yet he dare not even to mention to any man of distinction such a project.

Mr. Rhea moved to print 5000 copies.

Mr. Wright thought it would disgust the people of the Northern states to give by printing the sanction of the house to a traitor's libels, he would rather refer them to the committee of foreign relations.

Mr. Troup said, an acknowledged spy and traitor has been fruitlessly employed in an attempt to separtge the union; the only imprudence is, an obtainment of the disposition of the British; of