

## Gen. Jackson and Col. Burr.

All our readers know, that our preference has uniformly been for John Q. Adams as president of the United States, and that this preference was grounded on the belief that, from his habits and his opportunities, and from the eminent talents with which he has been gifted, he was better qualified than either of his competitors for that exalted and responsible station. But if we have been uniform in our attachment, we have been moderate in its exercise; we have not claimed for our favorite a total exemption from error, nor have we represented his opponents as personifying all that is evil. While many of the opposition prints have been filled to overflowing with mutilated extracts from letters, mangled scraps of conversations, conjectures, surmises, unjustifiable inferences and anonymous communications, to prove base intrigue and corruption and unblatant profligacy on the part of Mr. Adams and Mr. Clay; we have contented ourselves with publishing a few articles designed to prove the false nature of these charges, and the incorruptible integrity of these accomplished statesmen. We have not once carried the yelp to the enemy's camp, by throwing back at those which has been so lavishly heaped upon us. But though we can never descend to a petty and though we would not lightly publish anything to the prejudice of Gen. Jackson which we did not believe to be true; there are yet some charges brought against him which we feel ourselves not at liberty to withhold from our readers. One of these is Gen. Jackson's connexion with Col. Burr in his contemplated enterprise in 1807. Forbearing any remarks of our own, we shall leave our readers to determine what weight should be attached to the following evidence.

Extract of a letter from Judge Nathaniel W. Williams, of Tennessee, to Nathaniel W. Williams, Esq. dated 15th December, 1827.

My Dear Sir—It is madness to think of Jackson for President of the United States. This Burr matter cannot be mistaken about—my eyes and my ears are my witnesses.—He (Jackson) offered me a commission of captain in Burr's army—or told me I could get one if I would accept. And during this affair he said to me, in the presence of Judge — (who though now says he does not remember it) depend upon it, gentlemen, the division of the United States has taken deep root. You will find a member of the senate and a number of the members of the house of representatives deeply involved in the scheme."

(Gen. Jackson to Judge Williams.)  
Hermitage, February 23, 1828.

Sir—Having received a letter from a distinguished honorable gentleman of Virginia, who loves truth and knows how to appreciate character. I feel no time in laying before you the postscript of his letter which is in the following words, to wit: "It may be well to say that a letter was handed about at the Adams Convention. I heard, accusing you of being concerned in Burr's conspiracy, upon the authority of a Judge Nathaniel Williams, of your state. The report is, that this Judge Williams writes, when a young man he applied to you, then a judge, to sign his license as a lawyer, that you did so, but recommended to him, as you conceived him to be a man of promise, to push his fortune by joining Burr, who was then in your house promising if he would do so, to procure for him a commission as a captain in Burr's army. This story is going the rounds from the Adams delegates, who have returned home, notwithstanding they ought to know that you was the first person to put Governor Claiborne on his guard against the schemes of Burr. VERBUM SAT."

The records of the country contradict this statement, as it is well known that I resigned my appointment of judge before Col. Burr ever was in the state of Tennessee. I cannot, then, for one moment, permit myself to believe that you, elevated as you are, to a seat on the judicial bench of Tennessee, could give your authority to such an unfounded falsehood. Duty to mankind as well as justice to you, therefore, require that I should, without delay, advise you of this libel upon your character, so you may at once decide whether you are or are not the author of this calumny, before I expose it as such.

I am, and have been, well advised of a sort of combination of a base and wicked job in Tennessee, whose object it is to slander me, but until now, I have never heard, or had the least reason to think you were of that gang. Now, I do believe that you, who must be so well satisfied of the falsehood contained in the postscript of the letter referred to above, as well as the certainty of my conviction, since you, a personage with me, could be so easily won and put to truth as to have originated and put in circulation a calumny. When this impression, I send J. W. D. S. Don-

elson to you with this communication, having no doubt, as an honorable man, that you will send me a frank and prompt reply.

(A copy. Signed)  
ANDREW JACKSON.  
The hon. Nathaniel Williams,  
Judge of the Circuit Courts of Tennessee.

Judge Williams's reply to Gen. Jackson.  
Sparta, February 27, 1828.

After copying, from General Jackson's letter to me, the report as stated in his letter, I wrote as follows:

I can very frankly deny ever having written the letter spoken of by the gentleman who wrote you from Washington, but I did write a letter to a relation of mine, at that time in Richmond. The letter, if seen, would show that it was designed as a confidential one. I do not at this time, recollect accurately what the letter did contain; I believe, though, I can remember a part, if not the whole, of what I intended at the time, and I will state it, as it is but just, that what has been, by my means, privately circulated, should be publicly avowed under the necessities of this case.

Some time after Burr had passed Nashville once or twice to the lower country, before Mr. Jefferson's proclamation, in riding from General Jackson's house to Nashville, Gen. Jackson, in reference to that conspiracy, or what was afterwards called by others a conspiracy, said to me, "that I could, if I would accept it, obtain a commission of captain."

Afterwards, during the sitting of the county court of Sumner, at a time when Paton Anderson told me that either Burr or Adair, or both of them, were at Gen. Jackson's house, in a room of a tavern then kept by Edmund Crutcher, Gen. Jackson said to me—I think Judge Stuart was then in the room—Take notice, gentlemen, you will find that a division of the United States has taken deep root; you will find that a member of the Senate, and a number of the members of the House of Representatives, are deeply involved in the scheme."

I am not certain that the above was contained in my private letter to Nathaniel Kerr; but as I have made these statements privately, it is but just that I should now avow them.

I am in hopes sir, that this letter will be altogether satisfactory to you; for Gen. Jackson may be assured, (the Presidential question aside) no man can feel more bound to Gen. Jackson than myself, for the great honor conferred by him on my country. NATH. W. WILLIAMS.  
GEN. ANDREW JACKSON.

Judge Williams's Statement.

Under the belief that it is my duty to make the following statement—I make it. I moved to Nashville, Tennessee, from the county of Pittsylvania, Virginia, in the fall of the year 1804, at the age of twenty-five, that is, I moved from Virginia in 1803, to Hawkins court house, East Tennessee, and from there, I moved to Nashville. In 1806 or '7, these Burr matters transpired. I, before protesting against the proceedings of Burr, had been frequently employed in General Jackson's collecting business, and other suits of his. I think in the Spring or Fall of 1806, in riding from the General's house to Nashville, near the Clover Bottom, he spoke to me in relation to a commission in Burr's army. And in the same year, at Gallatin, he made the declaration in relation to the division of the Union, as stated in our correspondence.

Not only then determined that I would oppose to what I believed to be Burr's schemes, but, that I would oppose them as far as I could. Either before or after Mr. Jefferson's proclamation, it was, as I thought, intended to impress the public mind with a belief that a ball, then on hand at Nashville, was intended as a mark of respect to Colonel Burr. A number of gentlemen in Nashville, to destroy this impression, and to show their disapprobation of Burr, determined that Colonel Burr should not attend the ball, and so informed Col. Burr through Judge John Overton, who returned with the information, as he told me from Burr, that Colonel Burr had declined coming to the ball. With this we were satisfied. About the time the ball was laid over, I was standing, against the wall, opposite the door of entrance to the room, and saw General Jackson lead Burr by the arm into the room, and in conversation with considerable form, to the door, and gentlemen then present, do not recollect at this time that Mr. Jefferson's proclamation had any effect on the persons then about Nashville, who were from their conduct, fully liable to our suspicions, and I think I took some pains to in-

quire into that circumstance. Some time afterwards, our party, to show their further indignation, burnt Burr publicly in effigy. I have always believed that during this Burr matter, that Major Vinton Dixon informed me by letter, that General Coffee had been engaged in procuring boats and provisions for Burr on Cumberland river, though the letter, if there was one, I cannot now find, and I have examined for it. It was my understanding at the time, that Col. Stokely D. Hays went off as one of Burr's men in his boats, and I have never heard it disputed since. Col. Hays is a nephew of Mrs. Jackson. Although I never was at Gen. Jackson's house with Burr, yet I am tolerably well satisfied according to my recollection at this time of occurrences then, that in the fall of 1806 and winter of 1807 Burr and Gen. Jackson were very intimate, and that Burr was frequently at the General's house. The above is a statement of the most prominent facts as they are fixed on my recollection. If I am mistaken about any thing, it is about dates, and about them I do not pretend to accuracy.

NATH. W. WILLIAMS.

A history of the two following letters is thus given by Col. Andrew Erwin, of Nashville, in a letter to Col. Binns of Philadelphia, many of the gentlemen to whom Col. Erwin refers in Philadelphia we know to be men of high standing and respectability.

The gentleman to whom these letters were written, was, at that time, intended to believe Burr's object was the mines of Mexico, and that their raising troops and other proceedings, were to be sanctioned by the government. His brother, with whom I shortly afterwards became well acquainted, was to have been a Captain in the expedition, and did actually draw a sum of money from the recruiting fund, of about \$500, which money was afterwards paid back to Gen. Jackson, as a correspondence in my possession, bearing date January 1st, 1828, will show. The debt was paid to Andrew Jackson, the 16th of January 1808. I had this information from this Captain, myself, in his life time. I boarded at his house two or three weeks, while attending to the re-surveying of Norton Pryor's lands in 1807."

Many gentlemen in your city know my hand-writing, had as it is, and known me, to wit, James Paton, jr. Dr. Isaac Heylin, Colonel John M. Price, John and Charles Weister, Mr. Cressen and many others, to whom the public are referred; in addition to all of which they are referred to the original letters now before me, which shall be exhibited whenever demanded to be seen. The gentleman, to whom these letters were addressed, was so far deceived by this Hero of two wars, as to be his messenger to Burr's son-in-law, Col. Alston, then of South Carolina. It was in consequence of going there that he found out that their plans were not sanctioned by government. Having found this out he immediately abandoned the project, and, for this deceitful outrage, attempted on himself and brother, as well as Judge Williams, he viewed Jackson as a dangerous man to be exalted to the exercise of discretionary power, which fully accounts for his prudent disclosure of this plan of treason so boldly denied in the organ of the combination."

Copy of a letter from Gen. Andrew Jackson, dated Hermitage, Sept. 25, 1806.

Col. Burr is with me, he arrived last night—I would be happy you would call and see the Col. before you return—say to the Gen. O. that I shall expect to see him here on tomorrow with you—Would it not be well for us to do something as a mark of attention to the Col. He has always and is still a true and trusty friend to Tennessee—If General Robertson is with you when you receive this Be good enough to say to him, that Col. Burr is in the country—I know the Gen. R. will be happy in joining in any thing—that will tend to show a mark of respect to this worthy visitor.

With due esteem,

ANDREW JACKSON.

Copy of another letter from the same.

Dear Friend: I send you five hundred dollars. It appears to me I said I would send you \$1000. But when I came to myself I found that there were appropriations made that I knew nothing of. This I learnt at the store, and I two Journeys to perform, and expresses to be born that my recollection did not serve with at the moment—Tomorrow when you come up, arrangements shall be made, so as to accommodate as far as I can—My dear sir, do not fail to come up tomorrow, at ten o'clock I will meet you at my house; I have to see Gen.

Smith in the morning at his house—The Boats I think you said five in number and some Pork you would furnish—these must be done against the 20th December next but more of this tomorrow you must set out in a very few days. I will furnish the needful!—The cash now sent is in part for the boats—the balance on delivery—Either in bank bills or a Draft on New Orleans the \$3000 being all the cash that can be furnished. This must be appropriated to the best possible advantage—and to the last shilling will be put in your way if you can furnish the Boats and Pork except so much as will meet the engagements already entered into.—I send you twenty \$20 bills and ten \$10 bills—which I wish safe to hand, and beg of you not to fail coming up tomorrow—I wish to start a messenger on Monday next—

Health & respect,

ANDREW JACKSON.

Col. Erwin adds:

Now, Sir, Burr did remain on the first visit from the 25th of September to the 6th of October, as appears in print, and again returned the 14th of December and remained under the 22d; he did take away two of these boats, the pork &c. and was escorted by General Jackson's favorite nephew by marriage, Col. Stokely D. Hays."

Dr. Boyd McNairy, of Nashville, in an indignant and manly attempt to repel some unjust abuse which had been thrown upon him in several anonymous publications, has published all the foregoing letters. The originals of the two last, he says, are in his possession, "in the handwriting of General Jackson, and may be inspected by any gentleman of other party who will call upon him for that purpose."

Dr. McNairy closes his address with the following remarks:

I have no intention or disposition to comment upon these letters. They have been drawn from me by the pertinacious and reiterated abuse of Gen. Jackson's partisans, and I leave them in connexion with other circumstances, to be considered and judged of by the American people. Let it be remembered, however, that the friends of General Jackson have been vehement in their condemnations of Mr. Adams and Mr. Clay, on the ground merely of conjecture and suspicion: Far be it from me to follow or to recommend their illiberal example. But while documents like these were in existence, calculated at least to throw a shade of awful doubt and fearful apprehension around the character of their favorite, how ill did it become them to raise a cry of bargain and corruption against such long tried and faithful public servants, on the strength of evidence certainly not more decisive, to say the least, against them! As a friend to the able and distinguished patriots, now at the head of our national government, I may, without impropriety, appeal to the American people in their behalf. The heaviest charge that has ever been made against them by their bitterest opponents, is that of a mutual understanding to promote, by their influence, the elevation of each other. And how does this charge, degrading as it certainly would be, if sustained, sink into insignificance, in comparison with that of the connexion with traitors, in a conspiracy to sever our Union, and destroy the liberties of our country! Let it then be distinctly borne in mind, that the whole chain of testimony, brought together link by link, with such persevering industry, in the support of the oft-repeated charge of bargain and corruption, is at least as feeble as the combination of circumstances now arrayed against their competitor, in support of a charge so much more serious and alarming!

It is true, John Quincy Adams does not live with us in Tennessee, but he is a citizen of the same great Republic with ourselves, which we hope is destined long to continue one nation, notwithstanding the efforts of traitors, the threats of excited partisans, and the conflicting interests of different sections. He has successively enjoyed the confidence of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe. He has displayed pre-eminence ability and undoubted patriotism, throughout a long life of steady devotion to his country's interests; and he has never been suspected of favoring a conspiracy to dissolve the Union. Shall he then, at this late period, be dismissed from the public service, merely because he has appointed to the most important station in his cabinet a distinguished competitor, resident in the west? Shall he be superseded, at this critical period, when the seeds of disunion are so extensively scattered, and the standard of civil dissension is already raised in the south, by one whose pre-eminence is altogether military, and who, at a former period of danger to our Union,

was found in the closest intimacy with Aaron Burr, introducing him with every mark of respect to his friends at the Hermitage, procuring for him boats and provisions, and furnishing "the needful" to fit out his expedition? I wish here to be distinctly understood. I do not charge Gen. Jackson with any traitorous designs. I leave the documents precisely as I find them. But I do say, and I am surely justified in saying, that if such men as Adams and Clay are to be condemned, as guilty of corrupt intrigue, on the vague evidence of loose and ill remembered conversations, doubtful imputations, and unexhibited private letters, a competitor should at least be found, against whom no similar testimony can be produced.

I would willingly abandon this petty warfare against the pure and elevated characters of our most distinguished public men. But surely if our politicians will not be the course of suspicion—if they will resort to conversations and a doubtful import, as evidence against our best and ablest statesman, it is but justice to meet them on their own ground. I surely cannot be accused of illiberality or unfairness—when I am referred to the conversations of Markley and Buchanan, as conclusive against Mr. Clay—if I cite in reply the declarations of Judge Williams in relation to General Jackson. And when I am told of supposed interferences by Mr. Adams in a letter of Mr. Webster, or of the suspicious character of the correspondence between Mr. Clay and Francis P. Blair I am bound by every principle of justice and fair dealing, to silence forever these shonorous imputations, by pointing to the above letters in the hand writing of Gen. Jackson. I trust the partisans of the General will now be convinced that no benefit can result to them or to their cause from abusing me. If they wish me to be silent, let them cease to assail me. Let them turn their attention to other more important matters, and they will find ample employment for all their pens, until the next presidential election, without again provoking me to furnish them additional materials.

BOYD McNAIRY.

August 11th, 1827.

## Foreign Intelligence.

New-York, August 21.

By the arrival on Saturday, of the Liverpool packet ship William Thompson, Capt. Maxwell, of the 16th ultimo, and William Byrnes, Capt. Hacksaff, 9th ultimo, we have received our regular files of London and Liverpool papers to the latest dates. We annex a summary of the most important of the contents.

### AMERICAN TARIFF.

On the motion for the house of commons on the 11th, to go into a committee of ways and means.

Mr. Stuart called the attention of the house to the duties, almost amounting to prohibition, imposed by the American tariff on the importation of British manufactures and produce. It was too late to originate any measure on the subject in the present session; but he thought the country ought to have the satisfaction of knowing that the subject attracted the attention of his majesty's government.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in answer, said, that he had no doubt that his Right Hon. friend, the President of the Board of Trade, who was not at present in circumstances to communicate to the house, his opinions on the subject, would take the earliest opportunity of attending to it.

In the house of commons on the 11th Mr. Huskisson gave notice that he would move on Thursday, 17, that a humble address be presented to his majesty, for the purpose of having laid on the table any communications which had passed with this government and the United States of America, and copies of instructions sent to his majesty's minister, in that country, relative to the free tariff.

### RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

An official bulletin of the Russian army, dated from the ramparts of Fragar, 20th of June, contains the details of the siege of Bradow, which surrendered after a brave assault; but the success of the Russians, according to their own statement of the affair, appears to have been dearly purchased. The bridges having been deemed practicable, it was resolved to attempt to take the place by storm on the 10th. All the mines were to be sprung at once, and immediately after the explosion the troops were to mount the batteries. One of the mines however, blew up too soon; its explosion buried the officer who was to fire the second mine, which did not blow up; but amidst the clouds of dust and smoke which arose on all sides it was impossible to distinguish the state of the breaches. The bulletin says, "The columns rushed forward to the assault. All the officers and generals were at their heads, with the volunteers who had offered to be the first to scale the enemy's ramparts."