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## C O N G R E S S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Monday, January 29.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the articles of impeachment reported against William Blount, Mr. Dent in the chair; when they were read as follows:

### ARTICLES

Exhibited by the house of representatives of the United States, in the name of themselves and of all the people of the United States, against

### WILLIAM BLOUNT,

In maintenance of their impeachment against him for high crimes and misdemeanors.

Article I. That, whereas the United States, in the months of February, March, April, May, and June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, and for many years then past, were at peace with his catholic majesty, the king of Spain; and whereas, during the months aforesaid, his said catholic majesty and the king of Great-Britain were at war with each other, yet the said William Blount, on or about the months aforesaid, then being a senator of the United States, and well knowing the premises, but disregarding the duties and obligations of his high station, and designing and intending to disturb the peace and tranquillity of the U. States, and to violate and infringe the neutrality thereof, did conspire, and contrive to create, promote, and set on foot, within the territory and jurisdiction of the United States, and to conduct and carry on, from thence, a military hostile expedition against the territories and dominions of his said catholic majesty in the Floridas and Louisiana, or a part thereof, for the purpose of wresting the same from his catholic majesty, and of conquering the same for the king of Great-Britain, with whom his said catholic majesty was at war, contrary to the duty and trust of his station as a senator of the United States, in violation of the obligations of neutrality, and against the laws of the United States, and the peace and interests thereof.

Art. II. That, whereas on the twenty-seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety five, a treaty of friendship, limits and navigation had been made and concluded between the United States and his Catholic majesty, by the fifth article whereof it is stipulated and agreed, "that the two high contracting parties shall, by all the means in their power, maintain peace and harmony among the several Indian nations who inhabit the country adjacent to the lines and rivers which by the preceding articles, from the boundary of the two Floridas. And the better to obtain this effect, both parties obligate themselves expressly to refrain by force all hostilities on the part of the Indian nations lying within their boundary so that Spain will not suffer her Indians to attack the citizens of the United States, nor the Indians inhabiting their territory; nor will the United States permit these said mentioned Indians to commence hostilities against the subjects of his Catholic Majesty or his Indians, in any manner whatever."—Yet the said William Blount, on or about the months of February, March, April, May and June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven then being a Senator of the United States, and well knowing the premises, and that the said United States were then at peace with his said Catholic Majesty, and that his Catholic majesty was at war with the king of Great-Britain, but disregarding the duties of his high station, and the stipulations of the said treaty, and the obligations of neutrality, did conspire and contrive to excite the Creek and Cherokee nations of Indians, then inhabiting within the territorial boundary of the United States, to commence hostilities against the subjects and possessions of his Catholic majesty, in the Floridas and Louisiana, for the purpose of reducing the same to the dominion of the king of Great Britain, with whom his Catholic majesty was then at war as aforesaid; contrary to the duty of his trust and station as a Senator of the United States, in violation of the said treaty of friendship, limits and navigation, and of the obligations of neutrality, and against the laws of the United States, and the peace and interests thereof.

Art. III. That, whereas, by the ordinances and acts of Congress for regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes and for preserving the peace on the frontiers, it has been made lawful for the President of the United States, in order to insure the continuance of the friendship of the said Indian tribes, to appoint such persons, from time to time, as temporary agents to reside among the Indians, as he shall think fit; and whereas, in pursuance of the said authority, the President of the United States, on or about the eighth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety six, did appoint Ben-

jamin Hawkins to be principal temporary agent for Indian affairs, within the Indian nations south of the river Ohio, and north of the territorial line of the United States; and whereas the said Benjamin Hawkins accepted the said appointment, and on the 21st day of April, in the year of our Lord 1797, and for a long time before and afterwards, did exercise the functions, powers and duties attached to the same, yet the said William Blount, on or about the said 21st day of April, in the year of our Lord 1797, being a senator of the United States, and well knowing the premises, did, in the prosecution of his criminal designs and of his conspiracies aforesaid, and the more effectually to accomplish his intention of exciting the Creek and Cherokee nations of Indians to commence hostilities against the subjects of his Catholic majesty, further conspire and contrive to alienate and divert the confidence of the said Indian tribes or nations from the said Benjamin Hawkins, the principal temporary agent aforesaid, and to diminish, impair and destroy the influence of the said Benjamin Hawkins with the said Indian tribes, and their friendly intercourse and understanding with him; contrary to the duty of his trust and station as a Senator of the United States, and against the ordinances and laws of the United States, and the peace and interests thereof.

Art. IV. That, whereas by the ordinances and acts of congress aforesaid, it is made lawful for the president of the United States to establish trading houses at such places and posts on the western and southern frontiers, or in the Indian country, as he shall judge most convenient for carrying on a liberal trade with the Indian nations within the limits of the United States, and to appoint an agent at each trading house established as aforesaid, with such clerks and assistants as may be necessary for the execution of the said acts; and whereas, by a treaty made and concluded on the 2d day of July, in the year of our Lord 1797, between the United States and the Cherokee nation of Indians, inhabiting within the limits of the United States it is stipulated and agreed "That the United States will lend such and so many persons to reside in said nation as they shall judge proper, not exceeding four, who shall qualify themselves to act as interpreters." And whereas the president of the United States, as well in pursuance of the authorities in this article mentioned, as of the acts of congress referred to in the third article, did appoint James Carey to be the interpreter for the United States to the said Cherokee nation of Indians, and assistant at the public trading house established at the Tellico block house in the state of Tennessee; and whereas the said James Carey did accept the said appointments on the twenty first day of April, in the year of our Lord 1797, and for a long time before and afterwards did exercise the functions and duties attached to the same; yet the said William Blount, on or about the said 21st day of April, in the year last aforesaid, then being a Senator of the United States, and well knowing the premises, did, in prosecution of his criminal designs, and in furtherance of his conspiracies aforesaid, conspire and contrive to seduce the said James Carey to assist in the promotion and execution of his said criminal intentions and conspiracies aforesaid; contrary to the duty of his trust and station as a Senator of the United States, and against the laws and treaties of the United States, and the peace and interests thereof.

Art. V. That, whereas certain tribes or nations of Indians inhabit within the territorial limits of the United States, between whom, or many of them, and the settlements of the United States, certain boundary lines have, by successive treaties, been stipulated and agreed upon, to separate the lands and possessions of the said Indians, from the lands and possessions of the United States and citizens thereof; and whereas, particularly by the treaty in the last article mentioned to have been made with the Cherokee nation, on the second day of July, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety one, the boundary line between the United States and the Cherokee nation was agreed and defined; and it was further stipulated, that the same should be ascertained and marked plainly by three persons appointed on the part of the United States, and three Cherokees on the part of their nation; and whereas, by another treaty, made with the said Cherokee nation, on the 26th day of June, in the year of our Lord 1794, the said herein before recited treaty of the 2d day of July, in the year of our Lord 1791, was confirmed and established, and it was mutually agreed that the said boundary line should be actually ascertained and marked in the manner prescribed by the last mentioned treaty; and whereas in pursuance of said treaties, commissioners were duly nominated and appointed on the part of the United States, to ascertain and mark the said boundary line; yet the said William Blount on or about the 21st day

of April, 1797, then being a senator of the United State, and well knowing the premises, in further prosecution of his said criminal designs and of his conspiracies aforesaid, and the more effectually to accomplish his intention of exciting the said Indians to commence hostilities against the subjects of his Catholic Majesty, did further conspire and contrive to diminish and impair the confidence of the said Cherokee nation in the government of the United States, and to create and foment discontents and disaffection amongst the said Indians towards the government of the United States in relation to the ascertainment and making of the said boundary line, contrary to the duty and trust of his station as a senator of the United States, and against the peace and interest thereof.

And the house of representatives by protestation, saving to themselves the liberty of exhibiting, at any time hereafter, any further articles, or other accusations or impeachment against the said William Blount, and also of replying to his answers which he shall make unto the said articles, or any of them, and of offering proof to all and every the aforesaid articles, and to all and every other articles, impeachment or accusation, which shall be exhibited by them, as the case shall require, to demand that the said William Blount may be put to answer the same, and that such proceedings, examinations, trials and judgments, may be thereupon had and given as are agreeable to law and justice.

The articles having been agreed to, without amendment (except a mere verbal one) the committee rose, and the house having also agreed to them,

Mr. Sitgreaves moved that managers be appointed on the part of the house for the purpose of conducting the impeachment.

Which being agreed to,

The speaker required of what number they should consist,

Mr. Sitgreaves answered eleven.

Mr. Thatcher five.

Mr. Sitgreaves hoped the number he had mentioned would be agreed to; the business being new, and of a very important and delicate nature, he thought the managers ought not to be less than eleven.

Mr. Thatcher withdrew his motion, and eleven was agreed to be the number.

Mr. Sitgreaves moved that the managers go to the senate with the articles of impeachment.

Mr. Venable wished to know who the managers were to be appointed.

[Tuesday, in the house of representatives, while the members were balloting for managers to conduct the impeachment of William Blount, Mr. Lyon, standing by the bar of the house, and addressing himself to a circle, of which Mr. Griswold was one, made the following observation.—"That the representatives in congress from the state of Connecticut, were conducting in the house in direct opposition to the wishes of their constituents—that they were pursuing their own interest, and cared nothing about the public—their object being to obtain offices for themselves; and that it mattered not whether the office was worth one thousand or nine thousand dollars; that the representatives of that state were administering opium to their constituents, to lull them asleep; and that if he should go into that state and take on himself the management of a printing press, for six or twelve months, he could effect a revolution, change the whole politics of the state, and turn out the present representatives." On which Mr. Griswold replied to Mr. Lyon, that he was much mistaken; for he could not produce the effect if he should go into Connecticut or change the opinion of the meanest hostler.

Mr. Lyon said he knew the temper of the people of Connecticut, he had to fight them in his own district, whenever they came there. Mr. Griswold asked whether he fought them with a wooden sword? upon which Mr. Lyon spit in Mr. Griswold's face.

Mr. Griswold from respect to the house, and being instantly cautioned by some of his friends, repressed his indignation.

The motion to take up the subject in the house, was made without the previous knowledge of Mr. Griswold.]  
Gaz. U. S.

Wednesday, January 31.

From the journal of yesterday's proceeding in congress, it appears that the business which took place after the doors were closed, was as follows:

The house being cleared, Mr. Sewell stated, that he had been informed, in a manner which left no doubt of the truth of the fact, that, in the presence of the house whilst sitting, Matthew Lyon, a member from the state of Vermont, did this day commit a violent attack and gross indecency upon the person