

Proofs of the corruption of General James Wilkinson, and of his connection with Aaron Burr, &c.

Previous to the year 1787, the port of New Orleans was shut against the settlers on the Ohio; their crops were more than sufficient for their own supply, but agriculture could not flourish without a vent for its productions. The greatest discontent began to prevail, and little relief was then expected from a government then too feeble to afford it. Gen. Wilkinson had migrated, as he says, to that country some years before, being then, as we learn from the same source, in moderate if not independent circumstances. In the year 1787 he planned and executed the project of opening a trade between the western country and New Orleans, seconded by some merchants in that city. He impressed the government with a high aid of his influence in Kentucky, and used means (which in his own language it could not be necessary nor obligatory nor honorable to detail) in order to procure for himself the exclusive trade between Kentucky and New Orleans. On this monopoly the General does not scruple to found the assertion, "that at his own risk and expence he had procured for his fellow citizens in the west the invaluable privileges of a free trade with New Orleans."

This transaction was in 1787. For some time previous to this period General Wilkinson had been trading in partnership with Isaac B. Dunn, in Kentucky. He continued unconnected as is believed with any other person until the 8th of August 1788, when a partnership was formed between Wilkinson and Dunn of the one part, and Daniel Clark the elder of the other part. These articles will be found at length, (No. 3.) and they establish a community of interest between the parties in a trade to be carried on between Kentucky and New-Orleans. Mr. Clark was my near relation & residing at New-Orleans, and of course had the disposal of all the produce that was sent down by his partners in Kentucky. I was then his clerk, and had an intimate knowledge of the affairs, of the concern—the books are now in my possession, and important extracts from them will be hereafter referred to.

This partnership was dissolved by mutual consent on the 18th of September, 1800, as appears by Gen. Wilkinson's declaration of that date (Note 4.) The connexion between Wilkinson and Dunn was also dissolved about the same time by the death of the latter. Wilkinson then connected himself with Mr. Peyton Short, and their enterprises having proved unfortunate, Wilkinson in 1791 resumed his military career. Unable to brook a superior, or more probably afraid that the nature of his Spanish connexions would be discovered by his vigilance—the whole period of general Wayne's command was marked by conduct on the part of Wilkinson which was in the language of gen. Knox considered as "tarnishing the military reputation of our country." (Vide extracts annexed to the Plain Tale.) In 1797 he attained the object of his intrigues and was placed at the head of the army. Here he has continued ever since and in 1803 had the office of commissioner for receiving the transfer of the province added to his former trust. In this character he visited New-Orleans and resided some months among his old acquaintances and friends. His subsequent appointment to the government of Upper Louisiana, his Sabine campaign, his meritorious services at New-Orleans, and his later movements, are too notorious to need repetition. It was necessary, however to give this short sketch of his commercial and military life during the last twenty years, in order to take a distinct view of the testimony as applicable to the different periods of his history.

The precise period at which general Wilkinson was enrolled among the pensioners of Spain I cannot designate by any positive testimony—a strong presumption, however, may be drawn from the confession contained in the pamphlet before quoted. He tells us that the monopoly of the trade was acquired by means which it would not be honorable to detail. The general seems to think, however, that dishonor would be attached to the disclosure, but none to the act: The world will be of a different opinion, and stamp corruption with the mark of infamy by whatever means it may be discovered. It cannot be imagined that he meant by this phrase to say he had sold himself to obtain the monopoly; he only wishes the world to understand that the privilege was gained by bribing the governor of Louisiana, and that his delicacy was too great to betray him. The general stands much in need of this kind of indulgence, and wishes to set an example of discretion to the Spanish officers

\* This "Plain Tale," begins thus:—"The following Plain Tale is republished in this form without even the knowledge of Gen. Wilkinson, by a man whose no otherwise disinterested than the dictates of truth and honour require." Behold it how comes out he wrote it himself. E. D. S. P.

ruin him forever. But let any one consider the circumstances of the transaction, and then ask himself what kind of bribe was offered—what equivalent was paid for his treaty of commerce and navigation?

The Spanish government at that time refused to acknowledge the slightest pretext of right in the U. S. to the navigation of the Mississippi. Our government considered their own pretensions, or their means of enforcing them, so weak that it was proposed in their counsels to abandon the exercise of the right for 25 years, in order to have it acknowledged after that period. This was a favorite point with the Spanish government. Their minister was intriguing in the U. S.—their cabinet was at work in Europe, and while every engine was set at work to block up the navigation of the Mississippi, can it be supposed that a few thousand dollars paid to a governor of New-Orleans would have counteracted these important projects, or that he would have dared to hazard his office and his life for any pecuniary consideration an individual had to offer? The idea is absurd; but if the governor was open to corruption, what was the bribe which Wilkinson had to offer? By his own story he came poor to Kentucky in the latter part of the year 1783, in the beginning of 1787 he went to New-Orleans. Three years of the most favorable commerce on a very small capital, in a country professedly poor, and having no outlet for its produce, could not have put Mr. Wilkinson in a situation to offer an equivalent in money to a Spanish governor for the risk of his place, his fortune and his fame. But his commerce was not favorable, his "hopes" were, by his own confession, "profligated, and he determined to look abroad for what he had not found at home," which I suppose in English means that he was a bankrupt, and that being afraid of his creditors in Kentucky, he went down the Mississippi to seek his fortune and avoid their suits.

It is clear, then, from these circumstances, that Wilkinson could not offer, nor would the Spanish officers have received money; what then were the respective considerations of this bargain, this grant of the whole trade of the Ohio to New-Orleans? Plainly, that the trade of the country should be liberated at the expence of the allegiance of the inhabitants—and as Wilkinson was represented as a man of great influence, the monopoly was put into his hands: and probably the pension was then given and paid in advance as a capital to commence trade. No other explanation can reconcile the caution of the Spanish character, especially in affairs of state, with the decisive step taken by Miro and persevered in by his successors, of yielding the object of national contention without orders and without a struggle. At this period too the cypher was formed. We have it from the general himself; and by a fatality of expression he calls this "his first engagement." It must be confessed, that whether intended to express a connection in contraband or treason, this was the kind of engagement with which the general was most familiar.—The manner in which this cypher is spoken of, shows that it was for some purpose of corruption, it was formed, says Wilkinson, about the time of "his first engagement," that is, in 1787. with a Spanish governor, and is transmitted four years afterwards, among the arcanes of the office, to his successor. It is used by him and again delivered with the archives. For what purpose was this cypher formed? "More for the security of the communications of my friend than my own," says gen. Wilkinson. But why did those communications require secrecy? If the only connection was that which arose out of the permission to trade, it would have required no subsequent communication whatever. The permission once given, the monopoly once settled, the bribe as is insinuated once paid, the thing was at an end; no further correspondence was necessary, at least, none in cypher. It would have been a superfluous trouble for the Baron de Carondelet to pore over a pocket dictionary for three hours in order to decipher the important intelligence, that on such a day a scow filled with hogs or boat load of tobacco might be expected in town. If the object were mere friendly correspondence, there might be some reason for the precaution, and it might not be improper to hide the delicate effusions of these congenial souls from the indiscreet eye of the public. But why then was the little dictionary handed over to the successor, when the "general's friend left the country?" This friendship, however, was probably an appendage to the office, and the little dictionary a talisman that kept the general's affection always fixed upon its possessor.

The connection thus formed, and the means of continuing it thus secured, Mr. Wilkinson returned through the Atlantic States to the Ohio. He probably laboured zealously in his new mission, for in spite of the monopoly his own affairs went to wreck, and those of his newly adopted country flourished. The seeds of disaffection were sown by a skilful hand, and men who then stood high in the estimation of their country, are now discovered to have been the hirelings of Spain.

\* Plain Tale.  
(To be Continued)  
SALISBURY RACES.  
WILL commence on Wednesday the 4th of October. First day, mile heats, for colts raised and owned by persons in Salisbury and Morgan districts. Second day, three mile heats, free for any horse, mare or gelding. Third day, two mile heats, free for any horse, mare or gelding. Fourth day, for the entrance money of the two former days, carrying weights for age agreeable to the rules of this turf. F. MARSHALL, Secy.

As "the doer of the word" has a title to the christian character rather than he that professes and promises much, but does not the things which are commanded, so they, whose lives are busied in employments which promote the welfare of their country, better deserve the name of patriots than others who talk louder and promise more, but do less.—The patriotism of the former is practical, whilst that of the latter is speculative; the one consists of words, the other of deeds.

Skilful, industrious and prudent Farmers are daily adding something to the public stock. By every acre of ground they break up or make better, the country is made richer and stronger. From them all other classes of people derive their main sustenance and support; so much that the whole human race would soon dwindle down to scattering hordes of savages but for the labours of the field.

Honest and enterprising Merchants promote the interest of the country in a great degree. They take off the surplus of the produce of agriculture, send it to market, and give the farmer in exchange, either cash, or the foreign conveniences of life. Experience is a severe preceptor, but its lessons make the most deep and lasting impressions; and our late experience, under the operation of the embargo, has effectually taught us "the intimate and necessary connexion between agriculture and commerce; that the prosperity or the decline of the one necessarily involves that of the other." Cease from the labors of agriculture, and commerce dies; destroy commerce, and all that the farmer raises beyond the wants of his own consumption lies upon his hands, and perishes.

The inventors of useful arts "deserve well of their country." Whoever discovers and makes known any superior method for preserving lives, for saving labour, for multiplying the conveniences of life, or for expediting and facilitating business upon land or water, is truly a benefactor to his fellow citizens and to mankind in general. And no age since the world began has been more inventive, perhaps, than the present one; nor is any nation more remarkable for inventions and improvements in the useful arts than the people of the U. States.

The man who improves our herds or our flocks, by the importation of domestic animals superior to those that had been in the country before, is a benefactor to the whole nation. It had been remarked by an old writer on agriculture, that the introduction of the red clover, from Flanders into England, fully compensated by its profits for the pecuniary expences of a preceding war in England, that had been long, and extremely impoverishing. And the Merino Sheep may eventually, perhaps, be as profitable to the people of the U. States as the article of clover was to the English. Indeed the profits and advantages that may accrue to the nation from this breed of animals, within the space of half a century, are beyond all human calculation.

Intelligent and faithful Physicians, whilst they alleviate individual distress, do greatly promote the public weal. Every life they save, every diseased citizen that they restore to health and soundness, adds to the numbers and strength of the nation.

Industrious Manufacturers and Mechanics, when employed upon things really useful, do laudably serve the public. They are constantly adding to the wealth, strength, or convenience, of the great whole.

Honest Labourers of all descriptions, whose labours are of the useful kind, are benefiting the general interest. They daily contribute their mite to the public good, and society could much more illy spare them than some of those who take a higher rank.

All these classes of people we may properly call practical patriots. And if to these be added the whole number of those statesmen and civil officers in the country, who are capable and faithful, who honestly endeavour, in their respective departments, to make wholesome laws, and to hold the scales of justice even—putting all together, they would make, it should seem, a pretty large mass of practical patriotism.

But there are yet several other classes of people that should by no means be overlooked in this our general survey.

Virtue, connected with a competent degree of knowledge, is the very life and soul of a free republic. Whilst that is preserved, freedom is in a manner safe: when that leaves a nation, freedom goes with it, or quickly follows. Therefore all those whose business it is to teach and promote virtue and knowledge, and who ably and faithfully apply themselves to this business, are benefactors to the public in a very eminent degree.

Faithful and prudent Ministers of the Gospel are incalculably beneficial to national interest. The seeds of virtue and piety which they sow with success, are productive of order, integrity, social harmony, temperance, industry, frugality, and all those dispositions and practices which tend to render a people free and happy. Every one that is reclaimed by them from error and vice, is the same thing as giving the nation a sound for an unsound member.

Instructors of Children and youth, if skilful in their business and faithful to their trust, deserve to be classed amongst the choicest of human benefactors. They sow the good seed in the minds of those who are in the spring of life, when it will be likely to take the deepest root. In their hands is the hope of the nation. The children under their care will soon be grown up men and women, will soon be ac-

are discreet, and assiduous in endeavoring to form their minds to virtue and knowledge, their services to the public are beyond price.

Parents who train up their children in the way they ought to go, who teach them to be good, both by precept and example, and to shun them from evil with their utmost care, well entitled to the honour of patriots, as well as of piety: for they do their best to their country a number of worthy and useful citizens.

That Man or that Woman, how obscure ever in life, who is a peace maker, a promoter of order, and an encourager of good morals is a practical patriot, and really contributes towards the best and highest interests of a nation.

Upon the whole, we may fairly conclude that there is yet a vast multitude in this country, each of whom, by individual exertion, helping forward the interests of the nation. Most of them are little noticed, and scarcely thought of. Keeping "the noiseless" of their way," they resembled the builders of Solomon's temple, amongst whom "there was neither hammer, nor axe, nor any tool of heard in the house while it was building."

FROM THE PETERSBURG INTELLIGENCER.

The prodigious length of the Austrian letin of the memorable battle fought near Wagram on the 21st and 22d May, previous appearance in this day's Intelligencer, we regret exceedingly as it is by the most interesting account we have seen bears the strongest marks of truth and candour. It commences with a sketch of some of the operations in Bavaria, the bombardment of Ratisbon (the French, their success in reducing their march to and entry in Vienna—lives that induced the Archduke to lead an army into Bohemia by the way of the and Neumark to Ladweis rather than an immediate check upon the advanced enemy who were rapidly marching from tishon to the Capital of Austria—the of the Archduke to save that city, the causes of his disappointment—His colli his forces upon the Hill of Risamburg possession of the great Island of Lobau French, at which time the bloody conflict soon to take place. It then states the attack by the Austrians which was made five columns of upwards of 10,000 each, 75,000 effective troops—besides 1000 horse and 288 pieces of ordnance—column had its particular and distinctive and every individual composing it, these orders were—On the 21st at 12 o'clock, the columns put in motion for attack, and the scene of commenced—Astonishing feats of ascribed to both parties, till late afternoon takes place, only to be renewed ten fold vigor at the earliest dawn of the following day. The whole Austrian army had gathered from the enemy.—The tin closes this day's achievements with following reflections:—

"For the first time, Napoleon had seen a defeat in Germany. From this he was reduced to the rank of Lord and successful Generals, who like himself, after a service of destructive achievements, entered the vicissitudes of fortune. The of his invincibility was dissolved. No the spoiled child of fortune, by posterity will be characterized as the sport of the goddess. New hopes begin to animate oppressed nations. To the Austrian army 21st of May was a grand and glorious that must inspire it with a consciousness of strength, and a confidence in its energy. Overwhelmed by our irresistible infantry proud opponents were extended in the and the presence of their hitherto unconquered Emperor was no longer capable of being from the Leines of Austria the which they had acquired."

Early on the morning of the 22d the were again led to the attack which far exceeded in impetuosity, those of the preceding. It was a conflict of valor and mutual carnation—both parties appeared to have to the resolution to conquer or die.—Sally indeed was this contest of two days will be ever memorable in the annals of world, and in the history of war.—The following statement of the immense loss on sides, is extracted from the Bulletin:—"Three pieces of cannon, seven ammunition waggons, 1700 French muskets, about 3000 cuirasses fell into the hands of conqueror. The loss on both sides was great: this and the circumstance that few prisoners were taken by either proves the determination of the combatants either to conquer or die."

The Austrian army laments the loss of 87 superior officers, 4199 subalterns and privates.

Lieutenant Generals, Prince Rohan, vich, Weber and Friemel; Generals Weyroeder, Grill, Neustedier, Siegenthal, Gado, May, Hohenfeld and Buresch; Colonels, and 15,651 subalterns and privates wounded. Of these, field marshal Lieut. ber, 8 officers, and 829 men were taken prisoners by the enemy.

The loss of the enemy was prodigious exceeded all expectation. It can only be counted for by the effect of our concentration on an exceedingly confined field of where all the batteries crossed one another and calculated by the following authentic Generals, Lasces, D'Espagnac, St. J.