

PROOFS

(No. 15 and 16.) and the deposition of Power, (No. 17.)

Some remarks may be necessary to show the force of this testimony, which will be found to be irresistible: The letter of Carondelet is certified to be a true copy by Portell, who died many years ago; he was commandant of the post, and his certificate of any paper among his records bore, by the Spanish laws, the faith of an exemplification. He could at that time have had no motive for a forgery of this nature—Power could have had none to have asked him to make it, and the baron they both knew was a man whose signature they could not have trifled with with impunity. This certified copy was given to Power at the time, as his warrant for delivering the money to Wilkinson. Portell's letter to Power is the original draft, sworn to be exact by him, and proved so better than a thousand oaths, by its internal evidence, and by the manner in which Portell's answer tallies with it. If this evidence wanted support, it would be abundantly found in the following documents. 1st. The deposition of Mr. Derbigny, (No. 18.) a gentleman of great respectability at the bar of New-Orleans, then a resident at New-Madrid. He declares that he had sold to Mr. Power the coffee and sugar for the purpose of packing the dollars, and that the bags for that purpose were made in his family, and that the object both of Power's negotiation and of the payment, of the money, was communicated to him by a Spanish officer, and was generally known at the port. 2d. The deposition of Mr. Mercier, (No. 19.) then a clerk employed in the office of the baron de Carondelet, who unequivocally asserts the agency of Power, the correspondence in cypher with Wilkinson, and the object of it.

3d. By the following extract of a letter from Andrew Ellicott, Esq. to Gen. Wilkinson (the whole of the letter will be referred to in another branch of this inquiry.) "About the 16th of October, 1799, captain Portell, who then commanded at Apalachy, informed me that at New-Madrid, in the year 1796, he put on board a boat under the direction of Mr. Thomas Power, 9640 dollars for your use. I questioned him frequently whether this money was not on account of some mercantile transaction—he declared it was not; he likewise mentioned several other gentlemen who received money from the Spanish government by the same conveyance, and assured me that they were considered as pensioners by the officers of his catholic majesty. I entered the sum of 9640 dollars on a piece of paper now in my possession, and handed it to Captain Portell, who told me it was correct."

On Mr. Power's arrival at New-Madrid, when sent down by Wilkinson for the money, he found, as was stated, a difficulty arising from the want of an order; this produced the correspondence between him and Portell above cited. Mr. Power thought it necessary to account for the apparent indiscretion of his communications to Portell, and therefore wrote the letters to the Baron de Carondelet and governor Gayoso (No. 20 and 21, dated 27th June). On his return to New-Madrid after the delivery of the money, he again apprised both these officers of his return and the success of his mission, in two letters; (No. 22 and 23, dated 3d January 1797;) the original drafts of those letters are now in my possession, and I beg the reader to attend to these documents, not only for the light they throw on this particular point, but for their referring to dispatches in cypher from Wilkinson, and instructions brought by Nolan, both of great importance in the subsequent part of this enquiry.

In addition to those corroborative proofs, a multitude of other depositions can be had whenever the legal inquiry is instituted; these, however, will suffice to prove, I think undeniably, the payment of the several sums I have mentioned by the Spanish government to an American general. Before we proceed to demonstrate the falsity of his excuse, that the sums he received were the prices of his tobacco, I must advert to two other circumstances, which are not supported by positive proof, but which connected with the other facts, are extremely suspicious. The one is the 4000 dollars mentioned by me in my deposition before the house of representatives as being laden by special permission understood to be for Wilkinson, by Mr. Le Cassagne, in the year '93 or '94; the other is the general's purchase of sugars at New-Orleans in 1804. It is proved by the deposition of Mr. M'Donough, (No. 24.) that while at New-Orleans, as one of the commissioners, Wilkinson purchased sugars to amount of 96.0 dollars, which were paid for in dollars contained in such bags as they are brought in from La Vera Cruz. And this affidavit, as well as the one before referred to of Mr. Peter Derbigny, prove that the circumstance

was considered as an extraordinary one. Wilkinson was always known to have lived extravagantly. The savings out of his pay and emoluments could not have amounted to 10,000 dollars. And it seems to have excited not only the attention of those who were in the secret of his former connections, but even of governor Claiborne, who according to Mr. Bradford's declaration, appears to have entertained suspicions not very honourable to the integrity of his colleague, until he found means to remove his doubts by an assurance that the money was received from lieutenant Taylor, the military agent at New-Orleans. The public however, will not, I believe, be quite so indulgent as governor Claiborne. They will ask something more than the mere assertion of general Wilkinson. He has by his own admission, reduced the question, on this head to a single point. It would have been difficult without the proof of his conversations with Mr. Bradford and governor Claiborne, (Note No. 25.) to have excited any thing more than suspicion; but for this he might have pointed to a variety of sources, from either of which a possibility would result of its being honestly acquired. But he has made his election—it must have been received either from lieutenant Taylor, for the general's drafts on the treasury for extra services, or in direct payment of those services—or it must have been received from some other person for a purpose which he is ashamed to avow. Nor if received from Mr. Taylor, nothing would have been more easy than to have silenced his accusers by producing the accounts. If Taylor made the payments, he could then have been resorted to; and though he is since dead, a reference may be had to his book. If he only advanced the money on the general's drafts, a copy of these bills from the accountant's office, if drawn in Taylor's favour, and dated at the time of his residence in N. Orleans, would have been strong evidence in favor of his explanation. But when it is remembered that the charge has been already publicly discussed, and that this proof so easily obtained if it really existed has never been produced, the general's silence affords the strongest reason to believe that he cannot support the excuse which he gave to Mr. Bradford and governor Claiborne; at any rate, the officers of government may easily determine whether it be well founded. The books of the proper department, will in a moment show whether this large sum of money was actually paid during the winter or spring of 1804, when the purchase of sugars was made.—If it were not, I repeat, that proof, though otherwise light, is now conclusive. He has hung up his defence on that point, and unless he shows it to have been received from Taylor, there will be no doubt that the Mexican dollars in the Mexican bags, were received from the Marquis de Casa Calvo, who then, and for a long time after, resided at New-Orleans, and who, while the general staid was on the most intimate terms of friendship with him.—In the mean time I give this rather as a subject of suspicion for further enquiry, than as a positive charge; not wishing to confound it with the decisive proofs I have already adduced.

(To be continued.)

Foreign News.

Latest from England.

NEW-YORK, September 15.

The fast sailing ship Russell, Allen, arrived at the Quarantine ground last evening, from Liverpool, which port she left on the 3d of August.

Capt. Allen, informs, that the Embargo in England was raised on the 29th July. The grand expedition, with about 90,000 troops on board, sailed on the 24th and 25th of July, destined, as was supposed in Liverpool, for the coast of Holland.

The American government schooner Enterprise, had arrived off the Texel.

Our London papers contain the late account of the battles on the Danube, between the French and Austrians, and the armistice as published in our paper some days since; and an extract from the 27th French bulletin to which the armistice is attached.

Capt. Allen has politely furnished the editor of the Mercantile Advertiser with London papers to the 31st of July inclusive, Lloyd's List to the 21st, and Liverpool papers to the 2d of August, from which we have made the following extracts.

LONDON, July 28.

An article, dated from Petersburg on the 5th, states that an English squadron has made its appearance between Hochland and Cronstadt, in presence of the Russian fleet, and that a naval engagement was expected. We trust the expectation will not be disappointed.

Letters from Petersburg of the 6th add, that the English squadron consisted of seven sail of the line and twenty other vessels—and that the Russians were alarmed for the safety of Cronstadt, our ships having evinced a disposition to bombard it.

From German papers.

PETERSBURGH, July 6.

According to intelligence received here yesterday, an English squadron has appeared between Hochland and Cronstadt, in presence of the Russian fleet. A naval engagement is expected. The foreign merchantmen in Cronstadt have received notice that they may sail when they please, but at their own risk.

Our Court Gazette contains what follows: "Austria has asserted in her proclamations that France looks in vain for assistance from her allies. If this observation should be applied to Russia, it will be a sufficient refutation to state, that on the 4th of June the head quarters of the Russian army were at Lublin."

VIENNA, July 6.

On the 4th the Austrian general Von Weissenwolf arrived at the head-quarters of the Emperor Napoleon, and in the name of the Archduke Charles proposed to treat for an armistice and preliminaries of peace. The Emperor having signified his refusal, general Weissenwolf stated that the army of the Archduke Charles was still 200,000 strong; but he received for answer, that the fate of that army would be decided in 2 days.

BERLIN, July 18.

The following has been made public here by the Imperial Austrian Embassy.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN.

On the 4th the enemy threw a new bridge over the Danube, from the Island of Lobau. The nature of the ground and an immense quantity of artillery, greatly facilitated this operation. The Imperial and Royal Army was posted on the heights behind the Rusbach and extended its right wing to Sussenbrunn and Kagrant, the left to Margrave-Neusiedel. The centre was at Wagram.

In the night of the 4th and 5th, the enemy completed the passage of the Danube to the left bank, and very early in the morning large bodies appeared on the plain. About mid-day all the points of the line of the Imperial and Royal Army were attacked. The principal efforts of the enemy were however directed against the centre with the view no doubt to penetrate it, but all his attacks, repeated with the greatest fury, and supported by his numerous artillery, among which were several batteries of heavy cannon remained fruitless. At ten at night the fire ceased.—The Imperial and Royal army had along the whole line maintained its positions, and had made a great number of prisoners, among whom were many Saxons, Badonese, Italian and Portuguese soldiers.

On the 6th, about four in the morning, the enemy renewed his attack with larger masses and greater fury than on the preceding day. All his efforts against the centre and right wing were without effect, the latter had even obtained such advantages, that a complete victory was expected, when the enemy with fresh divisions and great superiority suddenly forced the left wing near Neusiedel, and compelled it to fall back. As one flank of the Imperial and Royal army was thus threatened, his Imperial Highness the Generalissimo thought it right to order a retreat by Hansdorf and the Sizemberg, in order to take a new position, and to cover the communication with Bohemia. This retreat was accomplished in the best order, and without any remarkable loss.

The loss of the enemy on his centre and left wing was very great. We made 2000 prisoners, among whom were three Generals. We also took twelve pieces of cannon with ammunition, and he was every where so reduced that he has not since endeavored farther to follow the Imperial and Royal army. Gen. Lasselle is among the enemy's dead.

The imperial and royal army has also a great loss to deplore. Generals Peter Vicksay, D'Aspre, and Vukasswitz, are past the hope of recovery. Among the severely wounded are generals the Prince of Hesse-Homburg, Stutterheim, and the Paar. His royal highness the generalissimo himself and the Prince of Lichtenstein, have received slight gun-shot wounds, which however have had no bad consequences. For the rest the whole army displayed such proofs of courage and firmness, as to leave no anxiety for the future.

[The above Bulletin has no date, nor are the head-quarters mentioned.]

STOCKHOLM, July 7.

Major Arswedson has returned from his mission to the French emperor, and has brought passports for a negotiator to proceed to Paris. Baron Von Essen is to be the ambassador.