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SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1805.

From the (Richmond) ENQUIRER.

VINDICATION OF MR. JEFFERSON.

NO. II.

First approach of the enemy to Richmond.

"Col. Wm. Tatham, says: "Being at Richmond in the time of Arnold's invasion 1780-1, and hearing that an express had arrived at the governor's with intelligence of the approach of an invading enemy, I immediately rode to his house, and met Governor Jefferson walking out. He had received such an express, but as other intelligence led him to suppose, they were nothing more than a foraging party. Unless he had further information to justify the measure, he should not disturb the country by calling out the Militia; he would thank me nevertheless, if I would go down to Maj. Gen. Baron Steuben who was at Wilton, (six miles below Richmond) and receive his orders if needful. The Baron dispatched me to general Nelson at Williamsburg, where I found the town in confusion, expecting an immediate attack; the enemy being at anchor, and having a boat taking the soundings towards the shore, at King's Mill (4 miles below Williamsburg.)

They proceeded, however, up the river, and I remained in the suite of General Nelson several days, when I was desired by him to be the bearer of some dispatches to the governor, of such importance, that I must avoid all risk of being taken. Knowing the country well, I ventured in among the plantations, until I got to that of Dr. Truehart, near the Meadow Bridges, on Chickahominy; I learnt that the enemy's picket was just called in, and retired from the Bridges towards the main body at Richmond. I followed the picket carefully, entered Mr. Duval's house, at Mount Comfort, while the floors were wet with liquors spilt by the British soldiers, and pushed into Richmond, from whence the army had first retreated. Here one of our well affected citizens (I think old Richard Crouch) referred me to Moses Fudway, in Manchester, who conducted me to Mr. Jefferson, at a house then occupied by Doctor Evans, and here I delivered my dispatch, and spent part of the evening. I understood the enemy encamped that night at Four Mile creek, about 10 or 12 miles off, and were then on their retreat."

In 1796, Mr. D. Hylton, before Doctor Wm. Foushee, (a person qualified to administer an oath) made the following deposition:

Henrico County:

"That in 1781 when Arnold invaded this place, I was living near the Foundry at Westham: that I was going out to join the Militia to oppose Arnold, when I was stopped by Mr. Jefferson then governor of the state, and requested by him to attend to the removal of the powder, ammunition, arms and other property belonging to the public, then in the magazine near Westham; that his orders were to have every thing removed with all possible expedition across the river; that on the night preceding Arnold's arrival at the foundry, Mr. Jefferson was at the subscriber's house, as late as eleven or twelve o'clock at night, attending and giving directions about the public property; that he then said he should go up the river about 8 miles to his family, cross the next morning and come down to Britton's, opposite Westham, and that carriages, &c. should be provided to take off the property; that this was done; that a very considerable quantity (I suppose about fifteen tons) of Gunpowder and ammunition, with a number of arms, stores, &c. were transported as directed and thereby saved to the public; that the enemy were so close to us, that I was obliged to have about three hundred stand of arms thrown into the river, the greater part of which were afterwards recovered; that in the night preceding the day of invasion, the Waggon (driven by White men) employed to bring records, &c. from Richmond, by mistake attempted to get to the Magazine, instead of the Magazine on the river, and near the Magazine, overset and broke some arms, &c. That in consequence of this accident, the packages which I afterwards found contained records, were lodged at the Magazine and carriages could not be procured in time for the removal, as the alarm was so great and sudden, that almost every person in the neighborhood, was endeavoring to put his property in a state of safety by removing it; that then and ever has appeared to the subscriber, that the said Mr. Jefferson did every thing which the nature of the case and his situation would admit for the public interest."

(Signed) D. HYLTON.

Such are the asseverations of a man, which no individual acquainted with his character will dare to deny.

James Currie, of Richmond, well known for his talents as a Physician, and his uniform candor as a man; thus expresses himself. "On application made to me, if I recollect any thing in regard to the loss of the public records and other valuable papers in the year 1781, during the invasion of the British army when Mr. Jefferson was governor, I well remember that he appeared extremely anxious, and very active in having them removed from Richmond, and deposited in a place of safety, and if possible, entirely out of the reach of the enemy; and for that and other duties of his office, as Chief Magistrate, did remain in town fully as long, as was either proper or prudent for him so to do, without manifest danger of becoming the prisoner of the invading army, who were fast approaching the seat of government, without any efficient force that could at that time be brought against them to stop their march; and that his conduct was then perfectly proper, and that of a real patriot and friend of his country, will be very fully evinced, by the concurrent voice of the gentlemen who then acted with him in council as well as the unanimous approving voice of the Virginia Legislature at the subsequent meeting of assembly of the state."

A similar request being made of Mr. A. B. late Clerk of the Council, a gentleman of the fairest character, he made the following statement: "I well remember that Mr. Jefferson was extremely active in removing all public records from Richmond, and I have reason to believe the chief loss was occasioned by a mistake of the waggoners conveying them to the foundry of Westham, where they were to have been thrown over the river, if pursued by the enemy; Mr. Jefferson desired me as Clerk of the Council to continue with him, and to take with me the public seal, and such papers as might be immediately wanted. I accordingly procured a servant, and horse, to carry a small trunk containing the papers, and on the afternoon preceding Arnold's taking possession of Richmond, Mr. Jefferson desired me to proceed to Tuckahoe, where he could come to me. I sat out at Sunset, and left Mr. Jefferson busy in getting off the records."

(Signed) A. BLAIR.
October 12, 1796.

Mr. John Beckley who was then clerk to the Virginia Legislature and at this time clerk to congress, has authorized me in his name to make the following statement:

"In four days from the arrival of Arnold's fleet, he proceeded 150 miles up the river and landed his troops in 24 miles of Richmond: The night before his march to that place, all the militia of the state which could be armed, being then out under the command of Gen. Nelson in the neighbourhood of Williamsburg, and no defence at hand for the security of Richmond, but about 200 half armed militia, under the command of Baron Steuben, who could do nothing more than cover the removal of the records and militia stores across James River from Richmond to Manchester, and secure the boats and batteries on the Manchester side, to prevent the enemy's passing. He remained in Richmond with the last detachment of militia that passed the river with records and stores, and until the enemy the next morning were entering the lower part of the town, and began to flank it with their light horse. He saw Mr. Jefferson the night before, issuing his orders and using every exertion to remove the records and stores; he afterwards saw him at Westham, five miles above Richmond when Arnold pushed a detachment to destroy the stores at that place, and which through Mr. J's exertions were almost entirely saved. After the British evacuated Richmond, on his return the first man he met with was Mr. Jefferson."

In addition to the testimony already cited, we may consider the following letter to Mr. Huntington the President of congress, dated Richmond, January 20th, as an authentic source of intelligence, because it was written at a time when the circumstances were fresh in the recollection of every observer, and because it was addressed to a body intimately informed on the subject by innumerable means, and who would not have failed to have exposed the slightest attempt made to deceive them at a crisis so important and by a man of such elevated standing.

Sir,
"It may seem odd, considering the important events which have taken place in this state within the course of ten days past; that I should not have transmitted an account of them to your excellency sooner. But such has been their extraordinary rapidity, and such the unremitting attention they have required from all concerned in the government, that I do not recollect the portion of time which I could have taken to commit them to paper. On the 31st of December a letter from a private gentleman to gen. Nelson, came to my hands, notifying that in the morning of the preceding day 27 sail of vessels entered the Capes and from the tenor of the letter, we had reason to expect, within a few hours, further intelligence, whether they were friends or foes, their force and other circumstances. We immediately dispatched general Nelson to the lower country, with powers to call on the militia in that quarter, or act otherwise as exigencies should require; but waited further intelligence before we would call for militia from the middle or

upper country. No further intelligence came until the 2nd of (January) instant when the former was confirmed. It was ascertained they had advanced up James River to Warrasqueak Bay. All arrangements were immediately taken for calling in a sufficient body of militia for opposition; in the night of the 3rd, we received advice they were at anchor opposite James town. We then supposed Williamsburg to be their object. The wind however, which had hitherto been unfavourable, shifted fair and the tide being also in their favour they ascended the river to Kennon's that evening, and with the next tide came up to Westover; having on their way taken possession of some works we had at Hood's, by which two or three of their vessels received some damage; but which were of necessity abandoned by the small garrison of 50 men placed there on the enemy's landing to invest the works. Intelligence of their having quitted the station at James town, from which we supposed they meant to land for Williamsburg, and that they had got in the evening to Cannon's, reached us the next morning at five o'clock and was the first indication of their meaning to penetrate towards this place or Petersburg. As the orders for drawing the militia here had been given but two days, no opposition was in readiness. Every effort was therefore necessary to withdraw the arms and other military stores, records &c. from this place. Every effort was accordingly made to convey them to the foundry six miles above this, till about sun set of that day, when we learnt the enemy had come to an anchor at Westover that morning. We then knew this and not Petersburg was their object, and we began to carry across the river, many things remaining here, and to remove what had been transported to the foundry and Laboratory, to Westham the nearest crossing seven miles above this place; which operation continued till they had approached very near. They marched from Westover at 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the fourth, and entered Richmond the day following. A regiment of infantry, and about 50 horse continued without halting to the foundry; they burnt that, the Boring Mill, Magazine, and two other houses, and proceeded to Westham, but nothing being in their power, there, they retired to Richmond: the next morning they burnt some buildings of public, and some private property, with what stores remaining in them; destroyed a great quantity of private stores and about 12 o'clock retired towards Westover, when they encamped within the neck the next day. The loss is not yet accurately known. As far as I have been able to discover, it consisted in this place of about 300 muskets, some soldier's clothing to a small amount, some quarter master stores, of which 120 sides of Leather was the principal article, part of the artificers tools, and three waggon; besides which, five brass 4 lbs, which we sunk in the river were discovered to them, raised and carried off. Within 48 hours from the time of their landing, and 19 from our knowing their destination, they had penetrated 33 miles, done the whole injury and retired.

Their numbers from the best intelligence I have had, are about 1500 infantry, and as to their cavalry, accounts vary from 50 to 120, the whole commanded by the famous Arnold; our Militia, dispersed over a large tract of country, can be called in but slowly. On the day the enemy advanced to this place, two hundred only were embodied: they were of this town and its neighborhood, and were too few, to do any thing. At this time, they are assembled in pretty considerable bodies, on the South side of James River, but not yet brought to a point. On the North side, are two or three small bodies amounting in the whole to about nine hundred men. The enemy were at 4 o'clock yesterday evening still remaining in their encampment, at Westover, and Berkeley Neck. In the mean time, Baron Steuben a zealous friend, has descended from the dignity of his proper command, to direct our smallest movements. His vigilance has in a great measure supplied the want of force in preventing the enemy from crossing the river, which might have been very fatal. He has been assiduously employed in preparing equipments for the Militia as they assemble, pointing them to a proper object, and other offices, of a good commander. Should they loiter a little longer, and it is found practicable to collect an adequate force, I flatter myself they will not escape with impunity. To what place they will point their next exertions, we cannot even conjecture. The whole country on tide waters, and adjacent to them is equally open to similar insult."

(Signed) THOMAS JEFFERSON.
Upon this subject we will only add, an extract from a letter, written by general John Minor of Fredericksburg, to his friend—"That being in company with general Stevens and others, when the charge brought against Mr. Jefferson by Charles Symmes the present collector of the port of Alexandria, was the subject of conversation, general S. expressed the warmest indignation; said it was a falsehood to his certain knowledge; that he despised the idea of effecting any political purpose at the expense of truth; that it was true, he and Mr. J. differed in their sentiments, but nevertheless he did not believe there was a man in the United States, more attached to the interest of his country than Mr. J. He then stated particulars—that he was at Richmond a member of the legislature, and was among the last who quitted Richmond on the alarm

being given that the enemy were coming into the city; that he saw Mr. J. there long after he thought it prudent, that he should be gone; that he told him so, & urged him to be gone; stated to him what effects HIS capture might have upon the state; that as he had no troops he could do no possible good by staying; Mr. J. replied his reason for staying was to save as many of the public records as possible; that he should effect more by his presence than by agents; that he was well mounted, and was not apprehensive of being taken. I think he added that he believed Mr. J. did not leave the city until the enemy were entering the lower part of it. From thence he went to Westham, and there took measures to secure the public arms. He then spoke of the affair of Charlottesville, and I distinctly remember acquitted him of all blame."

That man must be blind indeed who after reading the testimony here adduced can see "any thing indicative of timidity, unwarranted by any immediate movement of the enemy, and forbidden by a regard to those duties, which belong to the station he held."

There is some testimony so strong and so conclusive, that every man is capable of deducing the proper inferences. Of this nature is the testimony which we have now advanced. We sincerely believe, that there is scarce a single individual whom this accumulated evidence will not serve to convince that Mr. Jefferson, so far from meriting the reproaches, is entitled to the gratitude of his country, for his services during that period of the war; that to his activity and prudence, we principally owe the preservation of most of our military stores, and some of our public records; and that during this perilous period, his presence of mind, his unflinching tranquility, the unshaken spirit of his soul, were not less conspicuous than his activity and prudence.

That Mr. Turner should not have touched upon this part of Mr. Jefferson's history, is true, but it is passing strange. Was it because he was unable, among his "oldest and most respectable inhabitants of Richmond," to collect any fact which he might deem derogatory to Mr. Jefferson's reputation? Was it, that like other correct historians, he was really ignorant of that portion of our history which records the first invasion of Arnold upon the capital? Or was it that he really confounded this event with the precipitate march from Petersburg and occupation of Manchester? Under any of these constructions, the vindication of Mr. Jefferson from the attack of Mr. T. acquires an additional force. If it was the first, Mr. Jefferson stands acquitted for his conduct during the first invasion, by the forced silence of an opponent, whose rancor had not exhausted its force, and whose industry would have eagerly seized upon the slightest means of accusation. If it was either the second or the last, the statement of Mr. Turner will be invalidated by his ignorance. For what credit will be then due to the assertions of an historian, when expatiating upon the details and minutiae of events, who proves himself ignorant of the difference and number of the most striking epochs?

NEW-YORK, August 28.

British Consul General's Office,
New-York, 28th August, 1805.

Messrs. LANG & TURNER,
Gentlemen,

YOU will oblige me by publishing in your Gazette, for the information of the merchants of the eastern states of America, the following extract of a letter received by me this day from his excellency Anthony Merry, his majesty's envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the United States of America, dated the 24th instant.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,
THOMAS BARCLAY.

EXTRACT.

"The British built ship Belfast, having been captured by his majesty's enemies, and afterwards bought by American citizens at New York, from whence she sailed under an American sea letter for Liverpool, with a cargo of flour, rice, cotton and other articles, those goods could not be legally imported into Great Britain, according to the terms of the act of the 37th of his present majesty, chapter 97; because the ship being British built, had not been taken as prize by the United States; though upon a representation of the freighters having been ignorant of the precise limitation of the statute in question, the said cargo was afterwards admitted to entry.

"In order to prevent similar occurrences, I am directed by his majesty's secretary of state to desire, that you will take the proper means for notifying to the merchants within your district concerned in the trade from the United States to his majesty's dominions, that vessels, under the circumstances of the one above mentioned, cannot be admitted to entry as American vessels according to the terms of the said act of the 37th year of his said majesty."

In order that the American merchants may be more fully possessed of the principles upon which this determination of his majesty's secretary of state is founded, his majesty's consul general submits above referred to, which respects the ship Belfast, and all other American ships under similar circumstances:—

"Be it therefore enacted by the king's most excellent majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal and commons in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That it shall and may be lawful to import into this kingdom directly from any of the territories of the United States of America, in British built ships or vessels, owned, navigated and registered according to law, or in ships built in the countries belonging to the United States of America or any of them, or in ships taken by any of the ships or vessels of war belonging to the government or any of the inhabitants of the said United States having commissions or letters of marque and reprisal from the government of the said United States, and condemned as lawful prize in any court of admiralty of the said United States, of which condemnation proof shall be given to the satisfaction of the commissioners of his majesty's customs or any four or more of them, in that part of Great Britain called England, and any three or more of them in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, and owned by the subjects of the said United States, or any of them, and whereof the master and three-fourths of the mariners at least are subjects of the said United States, any goods, wares or merchandize, the growth, production or manufacture of the said United States, which are not prohibited by law to be imported from foreign countries, and to enter and land such goods, wares and merchandizes, upon payment of the duties and subject to the conditions and regulations herein after mentioned; any law, custom, or usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding."

On Sunday last Mr. Garret Neafie, keeper of Bell's ferry, a man by the name of Joseph Place, and a negro man, went from this city in a ferry boat on a party of pleasure to Rockaway. On coming over Rockaway bar on Monday, the vessel was struck with a heavy sea, which carried away her masts and upset her; when she immediately went down. By this accident all the persons above mentioned were drowned.

By the ship Franklin, we have received the *Argus*, a paper printed in Paris, as late as the 24th of June, which contains the following article.

Allied by indissoluble ties with Holland, Spain, and a large portion of Italy, France might already launch upon the ocean squadrons superior to those of England. A few short voyages will soon have formed Sailors, a nursery of them is even now forming in the very sight of the coast of England. The English ministers either judge like the ignorant, vulgar, or they awkwardly dissemble their fears. They represent the French fleets as flying before English squadrons, as placing their whole safety in the address of escaping the combat. But in sailing out of port they have a destination which it is more glorious to attain; the brave men they are carrying will still find an occasion of facing the enemy. It is not to accord the combat, but to render it more useful that they leave the English squadrons to struggle with the winds and waves. It is greatly to humanity that England should be punished by the very excess of her pride, and that the system she has chosen for enslaving the world, should be the first cause of her ruin. The gaining of a battle at sea might retard for some years the restoration of the French Navy; but it may shortly come to pass that England will not accept all those which will be offered to her.

MADRID, May 23.—The Commandant General at Cadiz has published an order, requiring all persons who have not had the epidemic disorder of last year, to leave the city in a short time. This measure is founded on the observation, confirmed by experience, that whenever this distemper breaks out anew, it always first attacks those persons who had before escaped it.

As the warm season of the year approaches, our Government redoubles its vigilance and activity, to prevent the distressful consequences of the revival of the contagion. The cordon in Andalusia, and on the Tagus, has been strengthened. His Excellency the Prince of Peace, among other measures of precaution, has ordered 150,000 fumigating apparatus to be prepared, according to the invention of the celebrated French chemist, Guyton Morveau. These machines will be distributed through the whole kingdom, and particularly in the provinces which have been ravaged by the yellow fever. They are to be fabricated under the inspection of that able professor of chemistry, Don Pedro Bueno.

POST-OFFICE,

BALTIMORE, August 30, 1805.

Letters for the British Packet Princess Elizabeth, captain Kidd, for Falmouth via Halifax, will be received at this office until Monday the 2d September next, at 12 o'clock, noon.

N. B. The inland postage to New York must be paid.

COCOA.

80,000 lbs. first quality RED CARRACAS COCOA. For sale by

J. F. KENNEDY.

August 28

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