

The presence of the highest judicial authorities, to be assembled at this place within a few days, the means of pursuing a sounder course of proceedings here than elsewhere, and the aid of the executive means, should the judges have occasion to use them, render it equally desirable for the criminal, as for the public, that, being already removed from the place where they were first apprehended, the first regular arrest should take place here, and the course of proceedings receive here their proper direction.

TH: JEFFERSON.

January 22, 1807.

New-Orleans, 25th November, 1806.

His Excellency Gen. Wilkinson.

Fauxbourg Marigny, the house between Madam Trevigne, and Ma. Macarty.

On the 30th of the same month I waited in person on Dr. E. Bollman, when he informed me that he had not heard from col. Burr since his arrival here—that he (the said Dr. E. Bollman,) had sent dispatches to col. Burr by lieut. Spence of the navy, and that he had been advised of Spence's arrival at Nashville, in the state of Tennessee—and observed that col. Burr had proceeded too far to retreat; that he (col. Burr) had numerous and powerful friends in the United States, who stood pledged to support him with their fortunes, and that he must succeed. That he, the said Dr. E. Bollman, had written to col. Burr on the subject of provisions, and that he expected a supply would be sent from New-York, and also from Norfolk, where col. Burr had strong connexions. I did not see or hear from the Dr. again until the 5th inst. when I called on him the second time. The mail having arrived the day before, I asked him whether he had received any intelligence from col. Burr. He informed me that he had seen a letter from col. Burr of the 30th of October, in which he (col. Burr) gave assurances that he should be at Natchez with 2000 men on the 20th of December inst. where he should wait until he heard from this place. That he would be followed by 4000 men more, and that he (col. Burr,) if he had chosen, could have raised or got 12,000 as easy as 6,000, but that he did not think that number necessary. ~~Concluding idly in this information I became indifferent about further disguise. I then told the doctor that I should most certainly oppose col. Burr if he came this way. He replied, they must come here for equipments and shipping, and observed that he did not know what had passed between col. Burr and myself, obliquely at a sham defence and waded the subject.~~

From the documents in my possession, and the several communications, verbal as well as written, from the said Doctor Erick Bollman on this subject, I feel no hesitation in declaring, under the solemn obligation of an oath, that he has committed misprision of treason against the government of the U. States.

Signed, JAS. WILKINSON.

Signed and sworn to this 14th day of December, 1806, before me, one of the justices of the peace of this county.

Signed,

I. CARRICK.

Philadelphia, 25th July, 1806.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Swartwout, the brother of col. S. of New-York, being on his way down the Mississippi, and presuming he may pass you at some post on the river, has requested of me a letter of introduction, which I give with pleasure, as he is a most amiable young man, and highly respectable, from his character and connexions. I pray you to afford him any friendly offices which his situation may require, and beg you to pardon the trouble which this may give you.

With entire respect,

Your friend and obedient servant,

A. BURR.

His Excellency General Wilkinson.

Extract of a letter from Gen. James Wilkinson, dated New-Orleans, December 14, 1806.

"After several consultations with the governor and judges, touching the arrest and confinement of certain known agents and emissaries of col. Burr, in this city and territory, whose intrigues and machinations were to be apprehended, it is with their privity and approbation that I have caused three of them to be arrested, viz. Doctor Erick Bollman, Samuel Swartwout and Peter V. Ogden, against whom I possess strong facts, and I have recommended to the governor to have James Alexander, Esq; taken up on the grounds of strong suspicion. These persons and all others, who, by their character and deportment may be considered hostile to the interests of the U. States, or dangerous to this feeble frontier, under the menacing aspect of things from above, will, if my influence can prevail, be seized and sent by sea to the U. S. subject to the disposition of government, and accompanied with such information as may justify their confinement, and furnish a clue to the development of the grounds, progress and projects of the treasonable enterprise in which they are engaged.

"This letter will accompany Doctor Bollman, who is to be this day embarked in a vessel bound to Charleston, under the charge of lieut. Wilson of the artillery, who has orders to land with his prisoner at Fort Johnston, or Fort Moultrie, to forward this dispatch by mail and to wait the orders of the executive. Mr. Swartwout will be sent to Baltimore by a vessel which will sail sometime the ensuing week in custody of another subaltern, who will be the bearer of strong testimony against him and also col. Burr, and the others will follow under due precautions, by the earliest opportunities which may present.

"I deem it essential to keep these prisoners apart, to prevent the adjustment of correspondent answers or confessions, to any examination which may ensue, and I hope the measures of the executive may be so prompt and efficient, as to relieve the officers in charge of them from their trust, before the interposition of the friends of the prisoners may effect their liberation.

"By this procedure we may intimidate the confederates, who are unquestionably numerous in this as well as the adjacent territory, disconcert their arrangements, and possibly destroy their intrigues, and I hope the zeal which directs the measure may be justified and approved, for whilst the glow of patriotism actuates my conduct, and I am willing to offer myself a martyr to the constitution of my country, I should indeed be most grievously disappointed did I incur its censure.

"Here, sir, we find the key to the western states, and here we must form one grand depository and place of arms—combine to this disposition a river fleet competent to its occlusion and post it thirty or forty leagues above the Yazou river, and we may repose in security; for the discontent and sufferings of our insurgent citizens, which must immediately ensue, will soon open their eyes to the wickedness of their leaders and work a radical reformation without bloodshed. This is my plan for resisting an internal attack—for external defence, gun-boats and bomb ketches with floating batteries at the mouths of the Mississippi and the passes from Lake Ponchartrain will be necessary."

Extract of a letter from General James Wilkinson, dated New-Orleans, December 18, 1806.

SIR,

Since my last of the 14th inst. writs of habeas corpus have been issued for the bodies of Bollman, Swartwout and Ogden, the two latter by judge Workman, who is strongly suspected for being connected with Burr in his conspiracy, as I have proof this man declared sometime since, that "the republican who possessed power and did not employ it to establish a despotism was a fool." His writ for Ogden was served on capt. Shaw of the navy, who had been in charge at my request, on board the Etna bomb ketch, and delivered him up, and Mr. Workman discharged him without giving me a word of information, although he knew he was confined by my order for treasonable combination with Burr, and Mr. Ogden now struts at large. Swartwout I have sent off and shall so report, holding myself ready for consequences. Bollman was required by the superior court, but I have got rid of that affair also, under the usual liability for damages, in which case I shall look to my country for protection.

I James Wilkinson, Brigadier-General and Commander in Chief of the army of the United States, do warrant the arrest of Dr. Erick Bollman on a charge of treason, misprision of treason, or such other offence against the government and laws of the U. S. as the following facts may legally charge him with—on my honour as a soldier, and on the holy evangelists of Almighty God, do declare and swear, that on the sixth day of November last, when in command at Natchitoches, I received by the hands of a Frenchman, a stranger to me, a letter from Dr. Erick Bollman, of which the following is a correct copy:

New-Orleans, September 27, 1806.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to forward to your excellency the enclosed letters, which I was charged to deliver to you by our mutual friend. I shall remain for sometime at this place, and should be glad to learn where and when I may have the pleasure of an interview with you. Have the goodness to inform me of it, and please to direct your letter to me, care of _____, or enclose it under cover to them. I have the honour to be with great respect, Sir,

Your excellency's most obedient servant,

(Signed) ERICK BOLLMAN.

"Gen. Wilkinson."

Covering a communication in cypher from colonel Aaron Burr, of which the following is substantially as fair an interpretation as I have heretofore been able to make, the original of which I hold in my possession: I (Aaron Burr) have obtained funds and have actually commenced the enterprise—detachments from different points and under different pretences will rendezvous on the Ohio 1st November—every thing internal and external favours views—Protection of England is secured—*T— is gone to Jamaica to arrange with the admiral on that station and will meet at the Mississippi—England—Navy of the U. States are ready to join and final orders are given to my friends and followers—it will be an host of choice spirits—Wilkinson shall be second to Burr only—Wilkinson shall dictate the rank and promotion of his officers—Burr will proceed westward 1st August—never to return—with him go his daughter—the husband will follow in October with a corps of worthies—send forth—with an intelligent and confidential friend with whom Burr may confer. He shall return immediately with further interesting details—this is essential to concert and harmony of movement. Send a list of all persons known to Wilkinson west of the mountains, who could be useful, with a note delineating the characters. By your messenger send me 4 or 5 of the commissions of your officers which you can borrow under any pretence you please—they shall be returned faithfully—Already are orders to the contractor given to forward six months provisions to

* Truxton.

points Wilkinson may name—this shall not be until the last moment, and then under proper instructions—the project is brought to the point so long fired—Burr guarantees the result with his honour—the lives, the honour and fortunes of a dred, the best blood of our country—Burr's operations is to move down rapidly from the 15th of November with the first five hundred one thousand men in light boats now constructing that purpose—to be at Natchez between the 15th of December—then to meet Wilkinson—to determine whether it will be expedient in the instance to seize on or pass by Baton Rouge—except of this tend Burr an answer—draw on Burr all expences &c. The people of the country which we are going are prepared to receive us—agents now with Burr say that if we will protect religion and will not subject them to a foreign yoke that in three weeks all will be settled. The God vites to glory and fortune—it remains to be seen whether we deserve the boon. The bearer of this expresses to you—he will hand a formed letter of introduction to you from Burr, a copy of which is here to be subjoined—he is a man of inviolable honour—perfect discretion—formed to execute rather than project—capable of relating facts with fidelity and capable of relating them otherwise. He is thoroughly informed of the plans and intentions of _____ and will disclose to you as far as you inquire and further—he has imbibed a reverence for your character and may be embarrassed in your presence—part at ease and he will satisfy you. Doctor Bollman is equally confidential, better informed on the subject—more intelligent will hand this duplicate—" 29th ly."

The day after my arrival at this city, the 28th November last, I received another letter from Doctor, of which the following is a correct copy.

"Sir,

"Your letter of the 6th instant has been duly received. Supposing that you will be much engaged this morning I defer waiting on your excellency till you will be pleased to inform me of the time when it will be convenient to you to see me."

"I remain with great respect

Your excellency's most obedient servant,

(Signed)

ERICK BOLLMAN.

The foregoing message was referred in the house of representatives to messrs. J. Randolph, Boyle, Campbell, Ten, Morrow Ohio, R. Nelson, Clinton, and Bidwell.

The sloop Sally, capt. Cooke, of New-York, bound to North Carolina, was dismasted and wrecked, the 11th instant, in long. 71, lat. 36, 44—the crew were taken off the wreck (where they had remained six days) by the ship Althea, capt. Manly, and brought into the Chesapeake. She was spoken the 12th by the sloop Sally, of Nantucket, who requested to lay by them, which they refused.

Lieut. John Pratt's house, in New-Ipswich, (New Hampshire) was burnt in the morning of the 12th of December. A child perished in the flames.

From a Jamaica paper, of December 6.

By capt. Nelson, arrived at New York from Havana, it appears that a Spanish packet had anchored at Trinidad in Cuba, bringing accounts that East and West Florida had been ceded by Spain to France, and afterwards by France to the U. States also that the island of Cuba had been ceded by Spain to France, on Buonaparte agreeing to reinstate the king of Naples on his throne.

We understand, that in consequence of the cession of Cuba to France, as mentioned in the above paragraph, the governor of the Havana, has made a proposal to the governor of this island (which has been communicated here by the way of New-Provident) to deliver up to the British, immediately on a sufficient force being sent for the purpose, the island of Cuba, and all Spanish and French vessels of every description, lying in the different ports, bays, &c. of that colony.

BOSTON, January 19.

FIRE!—It is with peculiar regret we record, that about half past one o'clock, on Friday morning, the new and elegant building of the Columbian Museum, owned by Messrs. Bowen and Doyle, was discovered to be on fire, and which, with a part of the valuable collections, was soon destroyed. The fire is supposed to have taken, by some accident, in the story in which Mr. Martin exhibited his experiments and Phantasmagoria, as advertised in the papers. Some time before the flames were seen, a loud report was heard, supposed to be the explosion of some chymical preparation, and which was the cause of the disaster. We are confident not the smallest blame can attach to Messrs. Bowen and Doyle, for want of care and vigilance; and at half past 11 o'clock, on Thursday night, Mr. Doyle was in the museum to see if all the fires and lamps were extinguished. It is remarkable that Thursday was the anniversary of the destruction of the museum in 1803. At that time, Mr. Bowen, then sole proprietor, did not feel it incumbent on him to solicit the public aid in the re-establishment of the institution: But this second calamity has so impaired the means of the proprietors, that an appeal to the public benevolence, we understand is an indispensable duty. We hope the appeal will not be made in vain; and that a liberal subscription will enable them to recreate their building, and re-establish an institution which has done credit to the town; afforded an in-