CASE OF JOHN WOOD.

Nashville, April 9, 1828. Editor of the Kentucky Reporter.

To the Editor of the Arminary superior Sir. Whoever undertakes to expose a misrepresentation, which he knows to have originated in unworthy motives, and to be designed for dishonourable ind to be designed for purposes, must subdue that repugnance being concerned with an infamous man. This repugnance I experience in noticing the communication of Dr. Armof A Tennessean, No. 3 in the Kentucky Reporter of the 5th March last.

I shall briefly correct his falsehoods and succinctly describe his motives. He represents the sentence and execu-tion of John Wood, a militis soldier of this state, in Pebruary, 1814, as an act of cruelty on the part of Gen. Jackson, who commanded the army to which Wood belonged, and to colour this charge, adduces the certificates of four persons, purporting to state the impres-sions of their memories, as to the trans on, at the distance of 14 years. a long memory or the looseness of exat the instigntion of a secret slander er, are of course exposed. Nor will insist on the fact that these willing with nesses had been themselves implicated in a former mutiny, and notwithstand their statements were procured, they admit an amount of offence on the part of Wood justifying the punishment he

It will be enough to show hiat the court was legally composed, and that the testimony given on oath before it by competent witnesses, authorized the sentence, as the condition of the army and the deportment of the prisoner in fact demanded it.

John Wood having been once par depend for the cities of matters and the

doned for the crime of mutiny and de sertion, was found guilty on the 11th March, 1814, of the charges of disobedience of orders, disrespect of his commanding officer, and mutiny, by a court consisting of five officers, citizens of the same state and members of the same corps to which they belonged These officers, as the record of the pro

ceedings show, were Capt. Thus Gray, President. Capt. Joel Parrish, Capt. Nathan Davis, Licut. Wm King, Ensign Mich'l Holt, Capt. Joel Parrish.

Wm. R. Hess, Judge Advocate. It was proved by the testimony of his fellow soldiers, and by that of two officers, that he had positively refused to obey an order from his adjutant in the most disrespectful and insubordi nate language—that in resistance to an order to arrest him for this disobedi ence and disrespect he had brought his gun to a shooting position and threatened to kill any man who attempted to take his gun or lay hands on him.

this glaring fact see the testimony of Lieut. Barrett, Ensign Holt and private Westmoreland, in the proceed-ings of the court martial. It is known to every member, that in addition to the presence of the court, were rude and abusive, and that such was his in temper of a large portion of the troops, that he and others openly declared, even if he should be found guilty, the General would not dare to execute the sen-tence. This spirit of defiance had taken encouragement and audacity from the lenity of Gen. Jackson in former ca ses, and especially from his having par-doned Moore, who was convicted some time before, and was rescued from death at the instant it was to have been in-flicted on him. It was unfortunate that this set of humanity was attributed to fear, and that the delusion of Wood and of others, should have provoked the everity of the law and absolutely interdicted a recommendation for mercy, or the part of the court, or an interposi tion of authority on that of the Gene ral. The crime of the unhappy man was wantonly committed, foolishly agwas wantonly committed, foolishly aggravated, and necessarily punished; for had he been pardoned, it is unquestionable that subordination would have been at once destroyed.

ent, have prevailed. The mistatements of Dr. Armstrong's witnesses are too numerous to be notic ed and their teatimony altogether too vague and unsubstantial to be regard

Breck certifienthat Col. John Williams was Judge Advocate, and that Lieut's Parrish, Davis and Ensign Hall, composed the court. The detail given above is copied from the proceedings, and the sentence of the court is as follows:

'The court after mature deliberation on the teatmony addition, as a sentence of the court after mature deliberation.

on the testimony adduced, unanimously find the prisoner guilty of the three charges, and specification exhibited a gainst him, and do sentence John Wood the prisoner, to suffer death by shootthe prisoner, to suffer death by shooting, at such time as the Commanding General may direct.

Tho's. Grey. Pres'dt.
of the Court Martial. W: R. Hess, Judge Adv.

Before an impartial man can believe the allegations of the Doctor, the must be allegations of the Doctor, the must be following letter:

Shelly file, March 25, 1828.

Dear Sir Di the 20th last at wait-neats procured for gelitical and calum thous purposes, fourteen years states on Dr. structures and delivered to the event, and when the some lelivered under the sanction of an oath, to legal testimany his reply, which to say the seaso of the presence of the prisoner and of the court, and when the transaction was regent, and the circumstances fresh and the circumstances fresh and the circumstances fresh and the preparing the 4th number for the duced the Doctor to write those numbers published the audior of several number Before an imparital man can believe the allegations of the Doctor, he must bring his mind to prefer ex parts statements pricared for political and calum nious purposes. Tourteen years subsequent to the event, and without the solution of the political and calum. leannity of an oath, to legal testimany delivered under the sanction of an oath, in presence of the prisoner and of the court, and when the transaction was re-

cent, and the circumstances fresh and clear is the knowledge of the witnesses --and he must also be willing to believe that five officers of American Militia. young in the trade of war and unaccus tomed to the infliction of capital pun ishments, would sentence a fellow citi zen and fellow soldier to death, from motives of cruelty, or without due con sideration. He must still go farther in unreasonable and unfair presumption, and suppose that the Commanding General would sanction such a sentence and declare in the face of the whole ar

and declare in the face of the whole ar my, that there was 'no circumstance of alleviation in the case of Wood.' The address of General Jackson to the Prisoner, delivered at a time when he could have had no idea of Doctor Armstrong's slanders, gives a history of Wood's character and case; made a deep impression, and had a salurary of feet upon the same and had a salurary of feet upon the same and feet went the same and the sa fect upon the army, and is in the foilow

GENERAL ORDER.

JOHN WOOD-You have been tried by a court martial, on the charges of disobedience of orders, disrespect to disobedience of orders, disrespect to your commanding officer, and mutiny; and have been found guilty of all of them. The court which has found you guilty of these charges, has sentenced vnu to suffer death by shoating, and this seatence the Commanding General has thought proper, and even felt himself bound, to approve, and to order it

to be executed.

The offences of which you have been found guilty, are such as cannot be per mitted to pass unpunished in an army, but at hazard of its ruin. This is the second time you have been guilty of of fences, the punishment of which is

When you had been regularly mus tered into the service of your country, and descended the Mississippi for the and were marched to Head Quarters defence of the lower country; those under the immediate command of Brigadier General Roberts, you were one of those, who, in violation of your en-gagement—of all the principles of ho nour and of the order of your Command. ing General, rose in mutiny and de serted. You were arrested, and brough claim you had to mercy, your General, unwilling to inflict the severity of the law, and influenced by the hope that you would atone, by your future goo conduct, for your past error, thought proper to grant you all a pardon. This ought to have produced a salutary im-pression on a mind not totally dead to every honourable sentiment, and not perversely and obstinately bent on spreading disorder, and confusion in the army. It, unfortunately, produced no such impression on yours. But a few weeks after you had been brought back, we have been found only of officers. you have been found guilty of offence not less criminal than those for which which, if the law had been rigidly en forced, would have subjected you to death. This evinces, but too manifestly, an incorrigible disposition of heart ebellious and obstinate temper of mind, which, as it cannot be

ought not to be permitted to diffuse its influence amongst others.

An army cannot exist where order and subordination are wholly disregard itself, or service to the country which employs it, but where they are observ This disobedience of orders and the funteer Cavalry, commanded by Col. this disponential of officers speedily lead to a John Alcorn.

State of disorganization and ruin; and Yours, &c. state of disorganization and ruin; and mutiny which includes the others, aims still more immediately at the dissolu-tion of an army-of all these offences you have been twice guilty, and have he is engaged in, and to the country sanction measures which would bring is an important crisis, in which, if we all act as becomes us, every thing is to ment of the objects of our government, if otherwise, every thing is to be feared. How it becomes us to act, we all been at once destroyed, and that the know, and what our punishment shall mutinous spirit which the General had be, if we act otherwise, must be known been long contending with, would, from also. The law which points out the

one prescribes the other. Between that law, and its offender, the Commanding General ought not to be expected to interpose, and will not where there are no circumstances of alteriation. there are no circumstances of allevia-tion. There appear to be none such in your case, and however as a man he may deplore your unhappy situation, he cannot, as an officer, without intringing his duty, arrest the sentence of the court martial.

Andrew Jackson, Maj Gen.

Fort Strother, 4th March, 1814.

(Signed) Joel Parrish, Jr. Sec'y
L'nuw proceed to consider the initia
ry character and services of Dr. Armstrong, the value of his pretensions to patriotism and the motives which promp

his slanders.
Although in answer to a letter from me he declines to avow or to deny the authorship of the wretched publications under the signature of a 'Tennessean,' yet in conversation with my friend Col.

then preparing the 4th number for the press. I have, therefore, an healtation in saying he is the author of the Tennessean, his equivocations to the contrary notwithstanding. You are at it berty to use the above statement as you

Very respectfully, yours, &c.

A. Yell.
I make no difficulty therefore in treat ing Dr. Armstrong as the author, and as he deserves. Like all the other slanders of Gen. Jackson's military life, this originated in the misconduct and dishonour of its author.

It is well known, that in fighting a-

grinst Indians whose attacks are by sur-prise, and whose fury makes no dis-tinction between combatants and non and republican feelings at the Dictor, (which he professes in his third num-ber) and therefore just as the General (Fallilegr.) he received a note from to me by the Doctor, tendering his resignation—which is as follows:— "I wish yo

Camp Strother, Nov. 7, 1813. Maj. Gen. Andrew Jackson commanding the expedition into the Creek Nation.
Sir: It is with extreme regret that I

find myself compelled to adopt a resolution that may, possibly to so ne, appear improper; especially at the time when the army is in expectation of more battles. My intimate acquaintances know that I have always done every know that I have always done every thing in my power, (both at home and in the army) for the successand welfare of this detachment. of this detachment. I was one of the three surgeons who were appointed to attend the different regiments, when defence of the lower country; those three regiments are now in service; three Surgeons have resigned, and others have been appointed in their place. I wish equal and impartial jus tice, and it is a general rule in our army, that the officers should rise agreeably to the date of commission, or by election; but in the appointment of hos pital surgeon, neither of these rules have been followed. Dr. Shelby is pronave been followed. Dr. Shelby is pro-moted who filled the place of Dr. Hogg. I acknowledge that my experience in surgery has not been commensurate with my wishes; and was there a physician of established celebrity and emi nence, and one of superior standing ap pointed over me, I should cheerfully remain in my present situation. But agreeably to military rule, I think that unless such an appointment had been made, my pretensions were preferable to any other, and to continue would be degradation. I do not wish to be understood in the least, to detract from the medical skill of Dr. Shelby, or any other of the Surgeons, all I claim is an equality with any of them, and if so a prefence in the promotion. In the regiment there is not one of the field or staff officers who have not been promoted at least one grade, and shall I continue in service when a young surgeon is promoted over me? I am as willing to serve my country as any other man, but wish to contend for my

For these considerations, you will please accept my resignation as Sur-

(Signed) James J. Armstrong.
The plea assigned for this recreant act, is as destitute of truth as it is of patriotism. In the claim to the advan-tage which former rank and services are alledged to have given him over Dr. Shelby, it was forgotten by the Doctor that his services in Col. Coffee's regiment were so little acceptable that the soldiers had importunately required the attendance of Dr. Hogg, the Surgeon of another regiment—and that the de-tachment which General Jackson then commanded was not of sufficient mag-nitude to justify the appointment of a

This appointment, at the time Dr. Armstrong speaks of, was an original one-and Gen Jackson had a right to ill it with any one of his medical staff. Besides, it is impossible to believe that such a man as Dr. Armstrong, whose qualifications and zeal were so limited, qualifications and zeal were so limited, could have realty believed his professional character injured, or his rights overlooked by the appointment of Dr. Shelby—a men of regular education and established celebrity as a Surgeon.

Ilaving thus avoided a share in the General's Indian battles. I have no feet the patriotic or professions.

knowledge of his patriotic or professi-onal career until he reached New Oronal career until he reached New-Or-leans as Surgeon in a regiment of Gen. Coffee's brigade. Dr. Hogg, the Hos-pital Surgeon of the army, under whose authority he was then placed, gives the following description of his virtues and services as a citizen and a Surgeon.

Nashville, 9th April, 1828.

Dear Colonel,
Your letter of yesterday has been received, in which you state, "you have understood from undoubted autho-

bers, Thope the respect I have for the benefactor of my country, will be re-ceived by him as my apology for this

I served with the Doctor part of two a served with the Doctor part of two appaigns during the war, and am sor-ry to say that he has neither distin-guished himself, by a strict attention to the duties of his office, nor his exemplary humanity towards the sick, and feel justified in saying that there was no Surgeon in our army quite as obnoxious to the soldiers generally as he was, and if he rendered any services after his arrival at New Orleans, I have yet to learn what they were, for on his first attempt to visit the lines, which was I believe on the first of Ja combatants, the post of Suggeon is not creaming the first of Suggeon is not creaming from danger. This fact was strongly impressed on the patriotic mind and republican feelings of the Ductor, system, that he immediately retreated and republican feelings of the Ductor, ber) and therefore just as the General came sick, and the first intelligence I was mirching to fight his first battle, had of him, was from a note addressed (Pathland). near as I can now recollect, as follows of wish you would order Doctor Arm strong to duty, for he has three of the best signs of a well man, he eats hear tily, sleeps soundly, and laughs loud bat on consulting with Gen. Cof we concluded to let him remain where he was. He afterwards became where he was. He afterward became inclispised again, went up the country apon furlough, and joined the army near Natchez on their return march. I am respectfully yours, SAML, HOGG.

The misconduct here alluded to na turally degraded him in the eyes of the army and the General, and he has hat ed the latter ever since. Respectfully.

JOEL PARRISH.

From the Doylestown Democrat.

DAYS OF YORE.

The administration prints are stiff he administration prints are all builty engaged in endeavouring to mis lead the public mind respecting Gen. Jackson's past life, and particularly that part of it which relates to his conduct during the late war. We have thereduring the late war. We have there-fore thought it but justice due to the character of General Jackson, to lay before the public some sketches of the history of our country, in order to show how far that great patriot has become victim of malicious persecution.

nerican Revolution, that General Washington, and the officers under his

ominand, pursued the most high handed measures which, in the end, effecand finally gained them the lasting gra-titude of every friend to American freedom. We have now a proclamati-on before us, issued by Gen. Washingon before us, issued by Gen on before us, issued by Geli, vashing ton, from head quarters, Morristown, New Jersey, in the winter of 1777, in which he orders 'That all found guilty of desertion, shall be punished with death,' and Marshall's Life of Wash ington states, that while the army was quartered here executions for desertion Fort Schuyler, in the state of New York, in the year 1780, and thirty one York, in the year 1780, and thirty one of the men of that garrison marched off in a body. Being pursued by general Washington, 16 of them were overtaken, and 13 of the sixteen were instantly killed. In the year 1781, one hundred and sixty of the Jersey trees mytinial. The American gen roops mutinied. The American gen Howe, with a considerable force, was ordered to take methods for reducing them to obedience. Convinced that there was no medium between dignity and servility but coercion; and that no and servility but coercion; and that no other remedy could be applied without the deepest wound to the service, he determined to proceed against them with decision. Gen. Howe marched from Kingwood about midnight, and by the dawning of day had his men in lour different positions, to prevent the revolters from making their escape. revolters from making their escape.— Every avenue being secured, Col. Bar-ber was sent to them, with orders to parade immediately without arms, and some hesitation appearing among them,
Col. Spruat was directed to advance. mutineers to comply with the orders which had been sent them. This had its effect; and they, to a man, march ed without arms to the appointed army was in the most distressed con-dition; many of them were kept in service beyond the period for which they had been engaged to serve—no

\*For the truth of our statements, w refer the reader to Ramsay's History of the American Bevolution.

this too is an inclement meason. And what tendered their conditions still more writtened, they were kept on acanty dispersion of provision. The English were also using every artifice in their principal still more to desert, promising them all the arrear ages of pay due them by the American government, if they would only join the British standards and if they de which have been at both the results and the results are for the standards and if they de which have been at both the results and the results are set in the set in the results are set in the s the British standard; and if they de-sired it, an exemption from military service. Is it not strange, then, taking the misery and sufferings of the army into consideration, that both mutinies and desertions were frequent. But notwithstanding all this, mark how notwithstanding all this, prompt the American officers were in punishing disobedience of orders. In the year 1779, the whigs and tories had a severe and bloody conflict in South Carolina; the former was companied to the conflict of in South Carolinas the former was com-manded by Col. Pickens, and the lat-ter by Col. Boyd. The tories were defeated with great slaughter, and a number of them fell into the hands of the victors. Seventy of them were tried and condemned to death; the sentried and condemned to death; the sentence, however, was not carried into effect upon more than eight or ten of them. The residue were pardoned, on condition of their joining the American Condition of their joining the Condition of their joining the American Condition of their joining the Condition of their joining the American Condition of their joining the Condition of th can standard. In the year 1780, Co can standard. In the year 1,000 of the lonels Lacy, Campbell and Cleaveland, with a body of American volunteers, attacked a strong force of British and tories commanded by Col. Ferguson, on the top of King's mountain, near the confines of North and South Caro lina. Col. F's force was defeated, with the loss of 225 in killed and wounded and 800 prisoners. Ten tories who had surrendered, were immediately anged by the conquerors. In the year under the command of Gen. Picken and Col. Lee, had another most bloody engagement with about 250 tories North Carolina, commanded by Col. l'vies. In this action the tories were completely beaten; and nearly the whole of their force was either killed

or made prisoners. The conquerors

of the most obnoxious among the van-

n this occasion hung a great

quished.

while Gen. Greene lay with his ar my in the neighbourhood of Camden. S. Carolina, in 1781, he ordered eight of his mento be hung in one day for desertion. This had a very salutary desertion. This had a very salutary effect, and in a great measure prevented the evil practice for a length of time. In the same year, the British and Americans had an engagement at Guilfold court house. Gen. Stevens, the commander of the Virginia militia, post of the virginia militia, post of the virginia militia. ed forty riflemen at equal distances about 20 paces in the rear of his mili-tia brigade, with orders to shoot down every man who should leave his post. General Greene also pursued the same course with the militia in his southern campaign.t and in obedience to thes were put to instant death. A short time after the battle of Eutaw Springs. General Greene detected a conspiracy in his camp; and after making an investigation into the affair, twelve of the ringleaders were put to death. He is the act of the government saction with the ringleaders were put to death. He is the act of the government saction with the ringle of some of the government saction with the crample of some of the collection. took this step in order to insure that ed by the example of some of the subordination which is so essentially requisite for the government of an army. This is sufficient for me. necessary. What we have already stated is amply sufficient to give colouring to the high handed and malicions persecution which has been deal out against General Jackson, respect-

ing the 'six militia men.' Before we proceed further, let us els of our hickory? Why it is a knot of political intriguers who are daily lapping in the treasury porridge—fat ening on the 'wages of sin,' and Swiss fightting the battles of those wh pay them best. But what has been the result of the investigatio institut ed by this pensioned corpa? Why, that in a military service of more than eix years, General Jackson has sancder his command, at different periods, when we take into consideration the numerous descritions and frequent mu tinies with which he had to contend. But what were these six men executed for? Was it for descrition? No. General Jackson never sanctioned the execution of a man for descrition only—these six men suffered for mutiny of the most outrageous nature, for menacing the lives of the officers—enthe most outrageous nature, for me-nacing the lives of the officers-enground. The officers gave a list of the leaders of the revolt, upon which Gen. How desired them to select three of the greatest offenders. A field cours martial was immediately held upon these three, and they were unanimously sentenced to death. Two of there were executed on the spot, and the executioners were selected among the most active in the mutiny. It should be recollected, that at the periods to spice which we have referred the appointed ground and leaders that the periods to spice which these wolves in the crimes which the purely and deceive the people, and will and deceive the people, and the purely and deceive the people, and the purely and deceive the people, and the purely and the pu most active in the mutiny. It should be recollected, that at the periods to which we have referred, the American General Jackson promptly remitted the General Jackson promptly remitted the sentence. What a noble example! How benevolent and humane? Not willing to punish his fellow beings (though richly merited,) further than the public good absolutely demanded.

thee the life of General Greens.

called in apertion. We invite four into this man's character—we challed scrutiny—the more it is assumed to, the more heartrending will be a groans of the pensioned 'Ebony' in the more signal out 'Hickory' bread to the property of the service of t From the Baltimore Republican

From the Baltimore Republicar.
The following communication is fine a candid honest and respectible fars of the Eastern shore, who become disgusted at the many foul cities most distinguished friends, determine to abandon a cause which he could to abandon's "cause which he could longer conscientiously support live addressed to the editor of an Atapaper, to which he had long been an scriber, and whom the writer informus, declined its publication. We cheefully comply with the request mode us by the author, who appeared to to be an open, frank & honourable man and the feditor—You will year. Mr Editor-You will very much blige a subscriber by answering then lowing queries, and by publishing your paper Mr. John Q. Adam' let to Levitt Harris, as you have alrea published General Jackson's letter published General Jackson's letter George W Campbell, Esq. I hope to you will comply with my request, as is but fair that the people should both sides of the question. Query 1st. If Gen Jackson had no

been brought forward by the people their favourite candidate for the Pre dency, would the Adamsites have a sed him as they have done, and if sed him as they have done, and if was not in the way of John Q. Ada getting into the presidential chairwo ne not still have been considered them as a hero, a patriot and statesas Instead of abusing his pious and u able wife in the most shameful man & degrading tehmselves by the circumstant of Coffin Handbills to mislead deceive the people, would they ask been creeting triumphant arche in hero's path? And if Gen. Jacking a cold blooded murderer for approf of the sentence of the court may who tried the six militia men, was our great and good Washington.

our great and good Washington Greene, and Lafayette. and Brava. cold blooded murderers? Did they all have men executed for described lone? But in the case of the sir tia men, so shamefully misrepresent for party purposes, there was both tiny and desertion, accompanied by most aggravated circumstances— let any man whose object is truth justice, read the report of the mili-committee, and they will be then a fied that General Jackson and the

Query St. If John Randolph Roanoke went with the Adams not this time, would they not be pres hail him as the great champion of it ty, as their must distinguished le But as he has taken his stand sa side of the people, and has expose the eyes of this nation, what he or the coalition, as he like a incentinel upon the watch tever a berty, has sounded the alarmand ed upon the American people to around the Republican candidate drew Jackson, he is denounced by Adams presses as creary a material which I have no doubt will resu in condemnation and overthrow of ill governed administration. Randolph of Roanoke, the long patriot, the incorruptible states

Virginia's favourite son, the pride racter—and as far as my limited a mation extends. I am decidedly of t able and spirited efforts of the Jac papers. I am a plain farmer, who i no other object in view but the go my country. All I want is to see rect information spread fairly be the people, leave them to decide all important question, who she our next President.

Your Friend, BRUTU

ACNAPOLIS Diriday , May 22, 1828.

the Priends of General Andrew is first Election District of Anniently, are requested to meet at 1 are on Saturday the 24th of Najde purpose of transacting busing busing process to consider JACKSON MEETING.

COL. THOMAS HOOD.
With the supported at the October e
was as a candidate to impresent AnArradel county in the next General
ministry of Maryland, by
Many Voters.

ARYFR LINTHICUM, Senior, recetfully notifies his fellow-citizens in Arundel county, that he is again skiteto represent them in the next inter-

Corain UP FON D. WELCH, of sin election district, will serve, letted, as a Delegate to represent a tradel county in the next Le-

BARZILLAI MARRIOTT andidate to represent Anne-Arun-leonty, in the next General Assembly will be strenuously anpported by MANY VOTERS.

NETEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL

g by a gentleman residing near River Bridge.

be with some had, cold, try, cold, ice-us thick sea italiar, but, hail and rain, cold, they, cold, frost, fresh breeze, fix, cold, fresh breeze, fix, cold, fresh breeze, fix, moderate; white frost, n w-

light frost,

Blin morning and evening.
Blin, light, nearly all day,

Ernet of a letter from Norfolk, May 8.

es de Brinvilliers, as pe

was, and perhaps exceeds, the infamous factioness de Brinvilliers, as persons daily mee forward whose debilitated health is with the property of the property of the fact of t right whose boue she last kept, was the first who discovered her enormities, as he had been poisoned by her, and is in a language of the last in a language of the last in the corpus delicti.