kingdom or to Gibraltar or Malta; and any vessel which, after having been so warned, or after a reasonable time shall have been afforded for the arrival of information of this his majesty's order at any port or place from which she sailed, or which, after having notice of this order, shall be found in the prosecution of any voyage contrary to the restrictions contained in this order, shall be captured, and, together with her cargo, condemned as lawful prize to the captors.

And whereas countries, not engaged in war, have acquiesced these orders of France, prohibiting all trade in any articles the produce or manufacture of his majesty's dominions; and the merchants of those countries have given countenance and effect to those prohibitions, by accepting from persons styling themselves commercial agents of the enemy, resident at neutral ports, certain documents, termed "Certificates of Origin," being certificates obtained at the ports of shipment, declaring that the articles of the cargo are not of the produce or manufacture of his majesty's dominions, or to that effect:

And whereas this expedient has been directed by France, and submitted to by such merchants, as part of the new system of warfare directed against the trade of this kingdom, and as the most effectual instrument of accomplishing the same, and it is therefore essentially necessary to resist it:

His majesty is therefore pleased, by, and with the advice of his privy council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that if any vessel, after reasonable time shall have been afforded for receiving notice of his majesty's order at the port or place from which such vessel shall have cleared out, shall be found carrying any such certificate or document as aforesaid, or any document referring to, or authenticating the same, such vessel shall be adjudged lawful prize to the captor, together with the goods laden therein, belonging to the person or persons by whom, or on whose behalf, any such document was put on board.

And the right honorable the lords commissioners of his majesty's treasury, his majesty's principal secretaries of state, the lords commissioners of the admiralty, and the judges of the high court of admiralty and courts of vice admiralty, are to take the necessary measures herein, as to them shall respectively appertain.

W. FAWKENER.

BRITISH DECREE, No. II.

At the court at the queen's palace, the 11th of November, 1807.

PRESENT,

The king's most excellent majesty in council.

Whereas, articles of the growth and manufacture of foreign countries cannot, by law, be imported into this country, except in British ships, or in ships belonging to the countries of which such articles are the growth and manufacture, without an order in council specially authorising the same.

His majesty, taking into consideration the order of this day's date, respecting the trade to be carried on from the enemy, and deeming it expedient that any vessel belonging to any country in alliance, or at amity with his majesty, may be permitted to import into this country articles of the produce or manufacture of countries at war with his majesty.

His majesty, by and with the advice of his privy council, is hereby pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered: That all goods, wares and merchandize, specified and included in the schedule of an act, passed in the 43d year of his present majesty's reign, entitled, an act to repeal the duties of customs payable in Great Britain, and to grant other duties in lieu thereof, may be imported from any port or place, belonging to any state not at amity with his majesty, subject to the payment of such duties, and liable to such drawbacks as are now established by law upon the importation of the said goods, wares or merchandize, in ships navigated according to law, and with respect to such of the said goods as are authorised to be ware-housed under the provisions of an act, passed in the 43d year of his present majesty's reign, entitled, an act for permitting certain goods imported into Great Britain, to be secured in warehouses without payment of duty, subject to all the regulations of the said last mentioned act, and with respect to all articles which are prohibited by law from being imported into this country, it is ordered, that the same shall be reported for exportation in any country in amity or alliance with his majesty.

And his majesty is further pleased by and with the advice of his privy council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that all vessels which shall arrive at any port of the United Kingdom, or at the port of Gibraltar or Malta, in consequence of having been warned pursuant to the aforesaid order, or in consequence of receiving information in any other manner, of the said order, subsequent to their having taken on board any part of their cargoes for exportation, and shall be allowed to proceed upon their voyage, to their original ports of destination if not apprized before the issuing of the said order) or to any port at amity with his majesty, upon receiving a certificate from the collector or comptroller of the customs at the port at which they shall so enter, which certificate the said collectors are hereby authorised and required to give; setting forth that such vessels came into such port in consequence of being so warned or of receiving such information as aforesaid, and that they were permitted to sail from such port under the regulations which his majesty has been pleased to establish in respect to such vessels; but in case any vessel so arriving shall prefer to import her cargo, then such vessel shall be allowed to enter and import the same upon such terms and conditions as the said cargo might have been imported upon according to law, in case the said vessel had sailed after having received notice of the said order, and in conformity thereto.

And it is further ordered, that all vessels which shall arrive at any port of the united kingdom, or at Gibraltar, or Malta, in conformity or obedience to the said order, shall be allowed in respect to all which may be on board the same, except sugar, coffee, wine, brandy, snuff, and tobacco, to clear out to any port whatever, to be specified in such clearance, and with respect to the last mentioned articles, to export the same to such ports, and under, such conditions and regulations only, as his majesty, by any licence to be granted for that purpose may direct.

And the right honorable the lords commissioners of his majesty's treasury, his majesty's principal secretaries of state, the lords commissioners of the admiralty, and the judges of the high court of admiralty and the courts of vice admiralty, are to take the necessary measures herein, as to them shall respectively appertain.

W. FAWKENER.

DECREE, No. III.

At the court at the queen's palace, the 11th November, 1807.

PRESENT,

The king's most excellent majesty in council.

Whereas, the sale of ships by a belligerent to a neutral is considered by France to be illegal; and

Whereas, a great part of the shipping of France and her allies, has been protected from captures, during the present hostilisies, by transfers or pretended transfers by neutrals; and

Whereas, it is fully justifiable to adopt the same rule in this respect towards the enemy, which, is applied by the enemy to this country.

His majesty is pleased, by, and with the advice of his privy council, to order, that in future, the sale to a neutral of any vessel, belonging to his majesty's enemies, shall not be deemed to be legal, nor in any manner to transfer the property, nor to alter the character of such vessel; and all vessels now belonging, or which shall hereafter belong to any enemy of his majesty, notwithstanding any sale or pretended sale, to a neutral after a reasonable time shall have elapsed, or receiving information of this, his majesty's order, at the place where such sale or pretended sale was effected, shall be captured and brought in, and shall be adjudged as lawful prize to the captors.

And the right hon. the lords commissioners of his majesty's treasury, his majesty's principal secretaries of state, the lords commissioners of the admiralty, and the judges of the high court of admiralty and courts of vice admiralty, are to take the necessary measures herein, as to them shall respectively appertain.

W. FAWKENER.

MESSAGE

From the President of the United States, communicating documents and information touching the official conduct of BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES WILKINSON.

In pursuance of a resolution of the House of Representatives, of the 13th instant.

TO THE HOUSE OF RESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Some days previous to your resolutions of the 13th inst. a court of enquiry had been instituted, at the request of General Wilkinson, charged to make the enquiry into his conduct which the first resolution desires, and had commenced their proceedings. To the judge advocate of that court the papers and information on that subject, transmitted to me by the house of representatives, have been delivered to be used according to the rules and powers of that court.

The request of a communication of any information which may have been received, at any time since the establishment of the present government, touching combinations with foreign agents for dismembering the union, or the corrupt receipt of money by an officer of the United States, from the agents of foreign governments, can be complied with but in a partial degree.

It is well understood, that in the first or second year of the presidency of General Washington, information was given to him relating to certain combinations with the agents of a foreign government, for the dismemberment of the union; which combinations had taken place before the establishment of the present federal government. This information, however, is believed never to have been deposited in any public office, or left in that of the president's secretary; these having been duly examined: but to have been considered as personally confidential, and therefore retained among his private papers. A communication of the governor of Virginia to president Washington, is found in the office of the president's secretary, which, although not strictly within the terms of the request of the house of representatives, is communicated, inasmuch as it may throw some light on the subjects of the correspondence of that time, between certain foreign agents and citizens of the United States.

In the first or second year of the administration of president Adams, Andrew Ellicott, then employed in designating in conjunction with the Spanish authorities, the boundaries between the territories of the United States and of Spain, under the treaty with that nation, communicated to the executive of the United States, papers and information respecting the subjects of the present enquiry, which were deposited in the office of state. Copies of these are now trsnsmitted to the house of representatives, except of a single letter and a reference from the said Andrew Ellicott, which being expressly desired to be kept secret, is therefore not communicated; but its contents can be obtained from himself in a more legal form; and directions have been given to summon him to appear as a witness before the court of enquiry.

A paper, "on the commerce of Louisianna," bearing date the eighteenth of April, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, is found in the office of state, supposed to have been communicated by Mr. Daniel Clark, of New Orleans, then a subject of Spain, and now of the house of representatives of the United States, stating certain commercial transactions of General Wilkinson in New Orleans: an extract from this is now communicated, because it contains facts which may have some bearing on the questions relating to him.

The destruction of the war office by fire, in the close of one thousand eight hundred, involved all information it contained at that date.

The papers already described, therefore, constitute the whole of the information on these subjects, deposited in the public offices, during the preceding administrations, as far as has yet been found; but it cannot be affirmed that there may be no other, because the papers of the offices being filed, for the most part, alphabetically, unless aided by the suggestion of any particular name which may have given such information, nothing short of a careful examination of the papers in the offices generally could authorise such an affirmation.

About a twelvemonth after I came to the administration of the government, Mr. Clark gave some verbal information to myself, as well as to the secretary of state, relating to the same combinations for the dismemberment of the union.—He was listend to freely; and he then delivered the letter, of governor Gayoso addressed to himself, of which a copy is now communicated. After his return to New Orleans he forwarded to the secretary of state other papers, with a request that after perusal they should be burnt. This however was not done: and he was so informed by the secretary of state, and that they would be held subject to his orders. These papers have not yet been found in the office. A letter therefore has been addressed to the former, chief clerk, who may perhaps give information respecting them. As far as our memories enable us to say, they related only to the combination before spoken of, and not at all to the corrupt receipt of money by any officer of the United States; consequently they respected what was considered as a dead matter, known to the preceding administrations, and offering nothing new to call for investigations, which those nearest the dates of the transactions had not thought proper to institute.

In the course of the communications made to me on the subject of the conspiracy of Aaron Burr, I sometimes received letters, some of them anonymous, some under names true or false, expressing suspicions and insinuations against general Wilkinson. But one only of them, and that anonymous, specified any particular fact, and that fact was one of those which had been already communicated to a former administration.

No other information within the purview of the request of the house, is known to have been received, by any department of the government, from the establishment of the present federal government. That which has been recently communicated to the house of representatives, and by them to me, is the first direct testimony ever made known to me, charging general Wilkinson with a corrupt receipt of money: and the house of representatives may be assured that the duties which this information devolves on me shall be exercised with vigorous impartiality.—Should any want of power in the court to compel the rendering of testimony obstruct that full and impartial enquiry which alone can establish guilt or innocence, and satisfy justice, the legislative authority only will be competent to the remedy.

TH: JEFFERSON.

January 20, 1808.

WASHINGTON CITY, January 25.

City of Washington, Saturday January 23d, 1808.

In pursuance of notice given to the republican representatives of each House of Congress, the number of eighty-nine members convened in the Senate chamber at the Capitol; and at half past six o'clock, P. M. STEPHEN R. BRADLEY was appointed President, and RICHARD M. JOHNSON, Sec'ry.

The meeting proceeded to recommend persons to the citizens of the United States, to fill the offices of President and Vice-President of the United States. The ballot being taken first upon a recommendation for the office of PRESIDENT—John Milledge and Joseph B. Varnum being appointed tellers—the votes were as follows:

For James Maddison,	83
For George Clinton,	3
For James Munroe,	3

The ballot being taken then upon the recommendation for VICE-PRESIDENT, the votes were as follows:

For George Clinton,	79
For John Langdon,	5
For Henry Dearborne,	8
For John Q. Adams.	1

Upon motion of Wilson C. Nicholas, a committee of correspondence and arrangement was appointed, in case of the death or resignation of the person recommended; to consist of the following persons, viz. Mr. Milledge of Georgia, Mr. Taylor of S. Carolina, Mr. Franklin of N. Carolina, Mr. Giles of Virginia, Mr. John Montgomery of Maryland, Mr. Smilie of Pennsylvania, Mr. Kitchel of New-Jersey, Mr. Kirkpatrick of New-York, Mr. Howland of Rhode Island, Mr. Varnum of Massachusetts, Mr. Parker of New Hampshire, Mr. Bradley of Vermont, Mr. Tiffin of Ohio, Mr. Pope of Kentucky, Mr. Anderson of Tennessee.

Upon motion of Mr. Giles, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, As the sense of this meeting, that James Maddison of the State of Virginia, be recommended to the people of the United States, as a proper person to fill the office of President of the United States, for four years from the 4th of March, 1809; and that George Clinton, the present Vice-Preisdent, of the state of New-York, be recommended as a proper person to fill the office of Vice-President for the same term. That in making the foregoing recommendation, the members of this meeting have acted only in their individual characters as citizens; that they have been induced to adopt this measure from the necessity of the case; from a deep conviction of the importance of union to the Republicans throughout all parts of the United States, in the present crisis of both our external and internal affairs; and as being the most practicable mode of consulting and respecting the interests and wishes of all, upon a subject, so truly interesting to the whole people of the United States.

Upon motion of Mr. Montgomery, the following letter was received and read:

Being too unwell to attend the republican convention this evening, agreeably to notice, I hereby constitute my friend Mr. John Montgomery, my proxy, to vote for me in favor of James Maddison as President and George Clinton as Vice-President of the United States. Given under my hand and seal this 23d of January, 1808.

*LEMUEL SAWYER.

And then the meeting adjourned.

STEPHEN R. BRADLEY, *President.*

RICHARD M. JOHNSON, *Secretary.*

**Mr. Sawyer's proxy was not received.*

Remarks from the National Intelligencer.

The great question "WHO SHALL BE OUR NEXT PRESIDENT," is at length brought fully before the public. Those, who heretofore have been accustomed to take the lead in the nomination of candidates, have proposed JAMES MADISON for President and GEORGE CLINTON for Vice Fresident for the four years subsequent to the current Presidential term. We have, until this moment, refrained from publicly expressing any opinion on this momentous subject, not from the want of a decided conviction upon it; but from a strong, and anxious wish, that the public sentiment should be collected, from a calm and dispassionate consideration of the subject, without those biasses and prejudices but too likely to flow from a premature discussion. Aware, too, that it might possibly produce extensive collisions, possibly local irritations, among those who on the great principles and the leading measures of our republican institutions are undivided, we have thought it advisable not unnecessary to precipitate a discussion, that might embarrass or frustrate the important measures of defence and protection called for by the crisis.

But the season has now arrived for every independent man to speak out and to exercise this prerogative of a freeman without fear, and, it is to be hoped, likewise without reproach. While, however, this right is asserted with fearlessness, let its exercise not be sullied by intemperance. Let it be uniformly accompanied by a tolerant spirit, that in asserting its own rights, knows how to respect those of others.

If there be a division among the republicans, let it be candid, honorable, magnanimous. Let no good man's character be traduced to brighten that of another. Let the virtues and talents of the respective candidates be spoken of as they really are. While we "*nothing extenuate, let us set down naught in malice.*"

The nominations made by the republican Representatives and Senators have our decided approbation; they are the nominations which we have long confidently anticipated, and which we believe the great body of the people have expected.

In forming this opinion we have strove to form an honest and impartial opinion; and in forming it, we are sensible of no biasses personal, local, or political, not directly and necessarily emanating from a regard to our country; from that regard, which should at all times direct the judgement of a good citizen, and which ought at this time to banish every consideration unconnected with the maintenance of those principles, which have established among us the empire of reason and will finally, if firmly adhered to by us, extend it over the globe. He, who is the best fitted to guide us through the impending storm, without sacrificing these principles, ought to be the man of our choice. Such, we believe, to be James Madison. Whether we contemplate his irreproachble morals, or solid talents, we are supplied with the strongest reasons for approbation. While in private life he has invariably sustained the unassuming character of modest merit, his discharge of public duty has been no less distinguished by intelligence, fidelity and zeal. And above all, we consider him best fitted for the highest honors in the gift of his country, because amidst the various public scenes in which he has been engaged, and in the exercise of the high functions devolved upon him, he has invariably displayed a dignity and moderation, which are at once the best evidence, and the surest preservative of republican principles.

As many of our readers may wish to know how the *law stands* in military cases, without the trouble of searching for information, we act the part of *pioneer* on this occasion. The law regulating the military establishment now in force, is dated 16th March, 1802, (see vol. V. laws congress p. 17.) The *tenth section* of that law says, the army "shall be governed by the rules and articles of war "previously established, or that may "hereafter be established by law." "Sentences of general courts martial, &c. "which shall, with the whole proceedings, be laid before the president of "the United States, who is authorised "to act upon them."

§ 25. Authorises the appointment of judge advocate by president.

§ 26, To defray expences of witness.

The rules and articles of war now in force, are those passed in the venerated and immortal congress of 1776, on the 20th September of that year; and an appendix passed May 31, 1786, and form part of the law of the land as it relates to persons in military service.

The 1st articles of 1776, declares that for civil offences, every officer or other military person is punishable by the known laws of the land, and the military are required to aid the civil authority.

Art. 18. of § XIII. makes it penal to correspond with an enemy, and the punishment death.

Art. 5. § XVIII. "All crimes tho' not specified in the articles, are to be taken cognizance of by a court martial, according to the nature and the degree of the offence.

The appendix, article XX. "Whenever a commissioned officer shall be convicted before a general court martial, of behaving in a scandalous or infamous manner, &c. he shall be dismissed the service."

Article XXV. of the appendix, says —"In cases where the general or commanding officer, may think proper to order a court of enquiry, to examine into the nature of any transaction, or imputation, &c. the court shall be conducted by the following regulations—

"It may consist of one or more officers, not exceeding *three*, with a judge advocate to reduce proceedings to writing, &c. all of whom shall be sworn to the faithful performance of their duty. This *court shall have the same power to summon witnesses as a court martial*, and to *examine them on oath*, &c. the parties accused shall also be permitted to *cross-examine* and *interrogate witnesses, so as to investigate fully the circumstance in question.*"

By the 25th article, courts of enquiry are allowed only on the *request of an accused* person.

These, we apprehend, are all the matters of mere law, that apply to the case now on the tapis at Washington.