NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

VOL. VII. | WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. | No. 968.

FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM. | MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1806. | *PAID IN ADVANCE.*

National Intelligencer.

We congratulate the friends of liberty throughout the union on the following important information. The state of Ohio has done herself honor, and has demonstrated that a republican government not only can, but will act *with an energy* that is irresistible, whenever the great interests of the people are at stake.

Chillicothe, Dec. 11.

Laſt evening the governor of this ſtate cauſed to be apprehended, Dennis Caſſet, eſq. under the act of the legiſlature of this ſtate, entitled, "An act to prevent certain acts hoſtile to the peace and tranquillity of the United States, within the juriſdiction of this ſtate" & he is now under an arreſt.

The governor has forwarded to the Poſt-maſter of Chilicothe diſpatches to John S. Gano, general of the firſt diviſion of the militia, with directions and ſpecial inſtructions how to act on this important occaſion.

The trial of Mr. Caſſet will come on to day, the reſult of which we cannot at this time determine. Witneſſes are ſummonded to attend at the trial, and it is ſaid that acknowledgments will be made that he tendered money to an individual to enliſt under the banners of col. Burr. Many others it is ſuppoſed, will be apprehended on the ſame grounds, or by virtue of the Preſident's proclamation, which has now come to hand.

We underſtand the governor received laſt night, a communication from the Secretary of State of the United States, relative to the expedition now on foot to diſturb the peace and tranquillity of the United States, and more eſpecially that of the weſtern country, with a number of the Preſident's proclamations, one of which we have inserted in this day's paper.

It muſt give ſincere pleaſure to the officers of the general government, and to all the ſtates of the union to find the prompt and patriotic efforts of the government of Ohio, which have taken place in order to detect and bring to condign puniſhment, every perſon engaged in hoſtile and unlawful attempts againſt the peace of the Union, and for arreſting every military preparation that may be diſcovered within or even paſſing by its limits.

As soon as the law of the General Assembly passed both Houses, which clothes the governor with unlimited powers, to enable him to act with energy, and which was bottomed on his confidential communication made to them, (both of which may be found in this day's paper) we are informed he sent off an express to Marietta, to arrest the flotilla and the agents employed in that quarter; and for fear it might escape, and other preparations which we understand was to leave Pittsburg and other points on the Ohio, get under way, we are told an express has gone on to Cincinnati, with orders to plant some artillery on the banks there, and call out such part of the militia as will be competent to arrest and examine every boat passing down the river, and secure any military party or parties that may be attempting to get to their place of general rendevous.

Happy for Ohio and the Union, that the legislature were in session at this momentous crisis; and we congratulate our fellow citizens that Ohio can boast of as patriotic a set of representatives as ever were assembled in one body, who, to a man are feelingly alive to the interests of their constituents and the welfare of the union—and it is no small addition to our joy, that our governor enjoys their unlimited confidence, and whose exertions must endear him to every patriotic mind.

COL. BURR.

Our readers will perceive, by the President's Proclamation, that it is thought the enterprize now on foot is intended against the dominions of Spain, and that by the confidential communication made by the governor of this state to the legislature, it is thought to be against the Orleans and Louisiana territories. We are informed that the gentleman who the governor alludes to in his message as clothed by the U. S. with a public character, was authorised by the President to obtain all the information he could in the western country, and who used every possible means to that effect, and also certainly discovered, from a gentleman who was urged to engage in the enterprize, that it was to attack and seize the city of New Orleans and that territory, and that the person who made that discovery has been sent on to the city of Washington, to be personally examined by the President: It is therefore presumable that by this time, the whole affair has been more fully developed; be this, however, as it may, a little more time will entirely unfold this mysterious business, and we doubt not but the energetic measures of the general government, of the western states' government, and the patriotism of our fellow citizens, will bring all the nefarious schemes to naught, and that the intended evil will recoil, with ten-fold weight on the deluded heads of all traitors to their country.

On Tuesday the second inst. the Governor of this state sent the following *Confidential Communication* to both Houses of the Legislature:

To the General Assembly of the state of Ohio.

A number of concurrent circumstances, received from sources on which the greatest possible reliance may be placed, warrants a belief, that some hostile expedition is on foot inimical to the peace and interest of the U. States, as well as calculated to prove ruinous to the peace and prosperity of the western part thereof. As chief magistrate of this state, I have thought it a duty I owe to my fellow citizens, to this state, and to the general government, to lay the information I have received before the representatives of the people, that their united wisdom might direct to some means of prevention, as far as in their power, towards counteracting the evil designs.

I have it from a gentleman of great respectability clothed by the U. S. with a public character, that a person living near Marietta on the Ohio river, but out of the jurisdiction of this state, has avowed himself the agent of a gentleman late high in office in the U. S. and is empowered, and is actually preparing a flotilla, consisting of from 10 to 15 batteaux. 40 feet long, on the Muskingum river, and is purchasing up provisions to load them with, and endeavoring to engage active, enterprizing young men to sail down the Ohio, who are promised pay and rations from the time of engagement, with promises of future fortunes, &c.—that this agent proposed to two gentlemen of great respectability to join in a plan suggested by his principal, and which he had engaged in, which would procure for them ample fortunes; which plan was to attack and seize the city of New Orleans and its dependencies, the money in the bank and treasury, which amounts to upwards of two million of dollars, the military stores, and a fine park of French brass artillery, laying there, & to erect a government independent of the U. S. under the direction of a foreign European power, and finally to force or draw the people of the western country to secede from the union, by sundry means pointed out. It has also been suggested that three different small armaments below this, on the Ohio, are preparing to join in this expedition, and if all are permitted to join, will amount to 1300 men, the force designed to commence operations with—and from which, owing to the disaffection of the people of that territory, and the expectation that the American troops will be kept in motion by another power success is strongly calculated on. It is also strongly suspected that a foreign gentleman, friendly to the enterprize, has pecuniary means equal to the extent and wants thereof, at command.

On Friday last I received a communication from a general officer in the militia, in the first division, informing me that two boats loaded with artillery, muskets and bayonets, new, and of French manufacture, passed down the Ohio, on board of which were gentlemen who spoke the French language; that for want of legal authority he was not able to gratify his patriotic wishes in arresting them.

Under this state of things it is submitted whether the public energies of Ohio ought not to be directed towards counteracting that part of the preparing forces within our juriſdiction, on the Muſkingum river, and the ſecuring the agent preparing them if poſſible? And indeed, it is thought other forces may deſcend the Ohio from above, and which might be ſtopped in the Ohio while floating down towards the point of junction.

EDWARD TIFFIN.

Chillicothe, Dec. 2d. 1806.

AN ACT

To prevent certain acts hostile to the peace and tranquillity of the United States, within the jurisdiciton of this state.

Be it enacted by the general assembly of the state of Ohio, That if any perſon or perſons ſhall, within the juriſdiction of this ſtate, fit out or arm, or attempt to fit out or arm, or procure to be fitted out or armed, or ſhall knowingly, be concerned in the furniſhing fitting out or arming of any veſſel, boat or water craft, or bring or cauſe to be brought within the juriſdiction of this ſtate, any veſſel, boat or water craft, with intent that ſuch veſſel, boat or water craft, ſhall be employed to diſturb the peace and tranquillity of the United States, or if any perſon or perſons ſhall, within the juriſdiction of this ſtate, raiſe, or attempt to raiſe, enliſt, or attempt to enliſt any perſon, party or army, or attempt to march any party or army through this ſtate, or if any perſon ſhall knowingly enliſt or engage in any project or enterprize, with intent to act againſt the peace and tranquility of the United States as aforeſaid; every ſuch perſon or perſons ſo offending, ſhall, upon conviction before the ſupreme court, be fined in a ſum not exceeding four thouſand dollars each, and impriſoned for a term not exceeding three years—and every ſuch veſſel boat or water craft, with her tackle, apparel and furniture, together with all materials, arms, ammunition or ſtores which may have been procured for the building or equipment thereof, ſhall be forfeited to the uſe of the ſtate.

And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons shall begin, or set on foot, or provide or prepare any vessel, boat or water craft, or any materials, arms, ammunition or stores for any military expedition or enterpize, with intention to disturb the peace and tranquility of the United States, or with such intention shall enter or bring within the jurisdiction of this state, any vessel, boat or water craft, or any materials, arms, ammunition or stores; or if any person or persons shall raise or attempt to raise, enlist, or engage any person, party or army, or attempt to march any party or army through this state, or if any person shall knowingly engage or enlist in any project or enterprize, with intent to act against the peace and tranquility of the United States, as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the governor of this state, or such other person as he shall have empowered for that purpose, to issue his warrant to any sheriff, coroner or any officer of the militia above the rank of captain, authorising and requiring such sheriff, coroner or officer of the militia, to arrest and secure such person or persons, and to take possession of, and detain such vessel, boats or water craft, and such materials, arms, ammunition and stores as aforesaid.

And be it further enacted, That where any person or persons shall be arrested as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the officer so arresting him to make return of his warrant to, and convey the person or persons, before one of the judges of the supreme court, or president of the court of common pleas, whose duty it shall be, if he find probable cause for such arrest, at his discretion to commit the person or persons so arrested to close custody, or to admit him or them to bail, with four sufficient sureties, and in a sum not to exceed fifty thousand dollars each, conditioned for his appearance before the next supreme court for the county in which such person or persons may have been arrested, to answer to the subject matter of the said warrant, and in the mean time that he or they will engage in no enterprize or project hostile to the peace and tranquility of the United States.

And be it further enacted, That when any vessel, boat or water craft, or any materials, arms, ammunition or stores shall be taken possession of, and detained in manner aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the officer so detaining them, to keep them securely until the next session of the supreme court for the county in which they may be so detained, in order to the execution of the prohibition and penalties of this act; and for that purpose it shall be lawful, in every such case, for the governor, or such other person as he may have empowered for that purpose, to employ such part of the power of the state or the militia thereof, as he may judge necessary.

And be it further enacted, That if any sheriff, coroner, or officer of the militia above the rank of captain, to whom such warrant may be directed as aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to obey the direction thereof, or shall not use all possible exertions to carry into effect the said warrant, or shall not convey any person in manner aforesaid, or shall not keep secure the said vessels, boats, or water crafts, or the said materials, arms, ammunition or stores, such officer shall, on conviction thereof, before any court of competent jurisdiction, be fined in a sum not exceeding two thousand dollars, and imprisoned not exceeding four years.

And be it further enacted, That if any captain or other commanding officer, of a company of militia, after having received eight hours notice from any person empowered as aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to give notice to the individuals of his company; or if any person after having received four hours notice, shall refuse or neglect to appear at the place appointed, armed with a musket or rifle, with at least sixteen bullets and sixteen rounds of powder, or when assembled, shall refuse or neglect to obey the person to whom the said warrant may be directed, or any one whom he may appoint, or shall refuse or neglect to obey any directions of the persons empowered as aforesaid, which may be in conformity with the provisions of this act, any such person or persons shall be, on conviction thereof, before any court of competent jurisdiction, fined in a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars, and be imprisoned for a time not exceeding one year.

And be it further enacted, That for all ſervices performed under this act, the perſon or perſons ſo performing, ſhall receive ſuch compenſation as to the governor may ſeem juſt and reaſonable, and that for the purpoſe of defraying the neceſſary expences incident to this act, the ſum of one thouſand dollars be, and the ſame is hereby appropriated ſubject to the order of the governor.

And be it further enacted, That this act ſhall continue in force for the ſpace of one year, and until the end of the next ſeſſion of the general aſſembly, and no longer.

ABRAHAM SHEPHERD,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THOS: KIRKER,
Speaker of the Senate.

Dec. 6th.

On Thursday last Mr. Cass introduced the following resolution, which was agreed to and passed both houses without one dissenting voice.

Resolved unanimously, by the General Assembly of the state of Ohio, That the governor be requested to transmit to the President of the United States the following address:

To THOMAS JEFFERSON, Esq. *President of the United States.*

SIR,

At a time when the public mind throughout the union is agitated with alarming reports, respecting the existence and designs of a party hostile to the welfare and prosperity of our country, we deem it a duty incumbent on us, to express to the executive of the union our attachment to the government of the United States, and our confidence in its administration. Whatever may be the intentions of desperate and abandoned men, respecting the destruction of that constitution, which has raised us to our present elevated rank among the nations of the world, and which is our only security for the future, we trust they will find very few advocates in the state of Ohio. We express the feelings and opinions of our constituents when we say, that no arts of intriguing men; no real or visionary prospect of advantage will ever induce us to sever that bond of union, which is our only security against domestic violence and foreign invasion. Believing that the fundamental maxims of rational liberty have guided you in the administration of our government, we hesitate not to express our full & entire confidence in your councils and conduct. Enjoying every blessing, which as men and as citizens we could desire, and in a country fertile in nature's choicest gifts, we should deem it presumptuous indeed, to hazard, by intestine dissentions, these incalculable advantages. We trust that public rumour has magnified the danger, but should the designs in agitation be as destructive as represented, we have no doubt but all fear will shortly be dissipated before the indignation of our citizens. That you may long live to enjoy the confidence and attachment of the American people, is the sincere and unanimous wish of the legislature of the state of Ohio.

In addition to the foregoing information, extracted from the Scioto Gazette, letters from Ohio state that ten boats have been seized, and that Tyler and Blennerhasset had fled.

We have likewise received the following letters.

Extract of a letter from the governor of Ohio to a member of Congress, dated Dec. 14, at night.

"I have this night received a letter from Marietta announcing the seizure of Blennerhasset's flotilla by a party of our militia in obedience to my orders. Blennerhasset and Comfort Tyler have escaped."

Extract of a letter, dated Frankfort, (Ken.) Dec. 6, to a gentleman in this city.

"On the 22nd ult. a committee was appointed to enquire into, the conduct of the hon. Benjamin Sebastian; the result of the enquiry was, that communications and conferences contrary to the constitution of Kentucky and of the U. S. were had and carried on by Sebastian as the representative of Messrs. Innes, Nicholas, & Murry, with colonel Giozo, the representative of the Baron de Corandelet, the governor-general of Louisiana; in 1795, and 1797, a communication which had for its object the separation of the country west of the Aleghany mountains was made to Mr. Sebastian, and by Sabastian to Innes & Nicholas, but not to Murry, and it was also proved that Sebastian had received in the years 1801 and 2, 2000 as a pension from the Spanish government. He has resigned his office as judge in order to save the trouble of removing him from office.

The whole of the evidence containing 60 pages is ordered to be printed and a copy sent to each representative from the state to the Congress of the U. S.

Indictments have been prepared against col. Burr and John Adair, but they were not found by the Grand Jury, the contents of the indictments I do not know only from report, which says they were for setting on foot an expedition against Mexico, a province of Spain."

Extract of a letter dated Chillicothe, Dec. 11, 1806.

"Our court is procrastinated to considerable length. Yesterday a certain Dennis Cassett, merchant of Wheeling, was arrested by the governor in virtue of the act recently passed. This day the court consisting of judges Tod and Simmes have had the case of Cassett before them—about 12 or 15 witnesses were examined in the cause. The evidence was not conclusive, but highly suspicious and strongly circumstantial of his being concerned in Burr's plot—he offered to enlist men and give 10 dolls. bounty, he insinuated that the President was concerned in Burr's scheme if any was on foot, he drank col. Burr's health, and wished him success in his revolutionizing plan, he induced others to drink Burr's health, and huzzaed for Burr. He had made use of a number of threats and loose expressions—he was going to move to Orleans, he would not suffer his boats to be examined, he would mount a swivel and kill any person that molested him. It was this evening decided that he was a proper subject for the laws to operate on, and ordered to be committed unless he gave bail in 10,000 dollars. At his request a grand jury was ordered, and the cause will be decided this term."

In the legislature of Ohio, on the 11th inst. Mr. Cass presented, according to order, "a bill to suspend the privilege of the writ of Habeas Corpus, and for other purposes," which was read the first time.

Letters have been received in this city from the state of Ohio, which say at the latest dates from Kentucky, the legislature of that state were deliberating with closed doors.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting two statements of the importations in American and foreign vessels, from the 1st of October, 1804, to the 30th of September, 1805, which were referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

On motion of *Mr. Stanton*, the petition of Benony Simmons was referred to the Committee of Claims.

Mr. *R. Nelson* presented the petition of William Law, which was referred to the Committee of Claims.

Mr. *S. Smith* presented the petition of sundry inhabitants of Franklin, Pen. praying for a new post road, which was referred to the Post office committee.

Mr. *Wickes* presented a memorial from a general committee of the republicans of the city of New York, expressing their high confidence in the wisdom and patriotism of the administration of the national government, representing the vulnerable situation of that port, and praying that it may be placed in an adequate and permanent situation of defence.

Referred to the committee appointed on so much of the message of the President as relates to the subject of fortifications.

Mr. Dawson, from the committee appointed for that purpose, presented a bill authorising the proprietors of squares and lots in the city of Washington to have the same subdivided and admitted to record, which was referred to a committee of the whole House on Monday.

Mr. *Goodwyn* presented the petition of William and John Bell, which was referred to the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures.

On motion of *Mr. Claiborne*, the petition of Amy Dardin was referred to the committee on claims barred by the statute of limitations.

Mr. Early called for the order of the day, on the bill prohibiting the importation of slaves.

Mr. *Fisk* hoped the consideration of this bill would be postponed, that the report of the committee on measures for the defence of the frontier might be taken up. He considered it high time to proceed to the consideration of this subject. The chairman of the select committee (Mr. J. Randolph,) had been attending for two days, and was now absent, he presumed, in consequence of the feeble state of his health.

Mr. *Early* said he had no disposition to press his motion, in case other more important business required attention. On this point the House would decide for themselves.

Having disagreed to the motion of Mr. Early—Ayes 20—the House agreed to consider the report of the select committee called for by Mr. Fisk, and went into committee of the whole—Mr. GREGG in the chair.—