NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

VOL. VI. | WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. | No. DCCCXI.

FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM. | FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1805. | *PAID IN ADVANCE.*

DOCUMENTS

Accompanying a MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT of the United States.

Comprizing at full length all the papers not previously inserted in the National Intelligencer.

LETTER, No. 6.

The Governor of the Mississippi territory's orders to Col. Ellis of the 5th regiment of the militia of said territory.

HEAD QUARTERS, Washington, M. T. Sept. 9th, 1805.

SIR,

You will on the receipt of this order immediately assemble from your regiment the following detachment for duty, viz. Two captains, two lieuts. two ensigns, eight sergeants, eight corporals, two drummers or buglehornmen, and eighty two privates to compose two equal companies. They are to be well armed, and supplied with 12 rounds of ammunition per man. Not having the state of your regiment by actual return, it must rest with yourself from which battalion you are to detach them. This detachment is to act as a patrole near and along the line of demarcation, to prevent or check irregularities of every kind. They are to rendezvous at Pinckneyville from whence they will be detached to their different posts. As soon as they are assembled a return of them will be made, naming the commissioned officers, and reporting the strength, and the state of arms, &c. &c. and forwarded to the inspector at this place, when you will receive further orders. In the mean time the detachments will be active as patroles, examining all equivocal characters passing the line from below, and especially if by night, stopping and securing any armed parties, improperly passing the line as in some late instances: and in short affording all proper protection in their power to the citizens of the U. States and their property. The better to effect this, one captain and his command, will be detached to the eastern part of the line to be guarded, and take post on or near the Tichfau, from whence the communication must be kept up to meet the patrole detached from post near the west end of the line.

Every occurrence worthy of note can and must be communicated in this way to the senior captain whose post will be in or near Pinckneyville; and who will report either direct to head quarters or to the inspector's office. Should any hostile attempt be made, either on the citizens, their property or the detachment on duty, force must be repelled with force.

Signed,

R. WILLIAMS.

John Ellis, esq. lieut. col. commanding the 5th regiment of militia.

Washington, Sept. 28, 1805.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 20th instant, informing me of the arrival of the prisoners from Point Coupee, at fort Adams.

I request that they may all be delivered over to judge Rodney, or some justice of the peace, to be examined as to any offences they may have committed within the limits of this territory, or that may be cognizable by the civil authority thereof.

The Spanish subjects, to the number of six as I am informed, should they be discharged by the civil authority, I request that you will cause them to be escorted, by a sufficient guard, to the line dividing this territory from that possessed by his Catholic majesty, there liberated and suffered to pass into his jurisdiction.

As to the Kempers, I presume they will be dealt with as the law will authorise, and my hope is, that they may be bound to their good behavior, and to keep the peace as well towards the citizens of the United States as the subjects of his Catholic majesty.

Accept my best respects, &c.

Signed,

R. WILLIAMS.

Capt. Richard Sparks, military commandant at Fort Adams.

Washington, Sept. 23, 1805.

SIR,

Finding you had left this when I returned from Natchez, Mr. Shields follows with my orders to captain Sparks, commanding at the fort. Inclosed is a copy of my letter to him, indicative of the wish of the executive of this territory on the occasion, which I trust will be compatible with the civil authority.

I am, &c.

Signed,

R. WILLIAMS.

Judge Rodey.

Town of Washington, Sept. 30, 1805.

DEAR SIR,

On the twenty-fifth or twenty sixth of this inst. I made examination into the truth of the outrage committed in this territory at and near Pinckneyville, on the night of the 3d of this inst. on the persons of Reuben, Nathan, and Samuel Kemper. This outrage appears to have been committed by a combination of persons, some residing above and some below the line of demarkation. Among them was a doctor Bonner, a Henry Flower, son of doctor Flower, and a Mr. M'Dermot who were active above the line, and are said to reside below. The party, composed of twelve white men and seven negroes, first assaulted and broke the house of Nathan Kemper, and seized and tied him and his brother Reuben, then a part of them went to the house of Samuel Kemper, broke into his room and took and tied him, and the two parties met again near the line; and went in company on the high road till they got a few feet below the line, where captain Alston, with a party of twelve men lay in wait and marched out of the bushes and took possession of the Kempers, at the instant all the other party dispersed, and run off. Alston, and his party, then conducted the Kempers down to Bayou Tunica landing and put them on board of a boat and ordered six of his men, to wit, William Barker, Charles Stewart, John Morris, John Ratcliff, Geo. Rowe, and Adam Bingamin to take them down to Baton Rouge. On their way down when they got opposite the American garrison at Point Coupee, the boat was taken by captain Wilson, the Kempers released, and the Spanish subjects made prisoners. It appearing on examination of the Kempers, that the six persons last mentioned, had not acted above the line, they were liberated, as will appear by a document I inclose. None of the Spanish subjects that were active in the outrage above the line, were taken into custody; but if they had been in custody they would have been detained for trial. And indeed it was so evident that the party below the line were acting confederate with those above, had they not been the subjects of a government in amity with us, the six persons discharged might have been legally detained, until due satisfaction was made. I was careful, however, to avoid any thing that would in the least tend to violate the amity of the two nations, and therefore thought proper to liberate them. Though, I think our military officers fully justified in detaining them till legally discharged.

I am, respectfully, &c.

Signed,

THOMAS RODNEY.

P.S. Justice Baker was also directed to require bail of Reuben, Nathan, and Samuel Kemper respectively, to keep the peace, especially towards the subjects of the king of Spain, and to do no injury to any one below the line of demarcation.

T. R.

CAMPTE, in the district of Natchitoches,

SEPT. 14, 1805.

Personally appeared before me, John Sibley, one of the magistrates for the county of Natchitoches, Mary Pulegie Grape Fontineau, aged 46, who being duly cautioned and sworn, deposeth and saith, That she believes she was born at the ancient Caddo village, where was an establishment of French inhabitants and some soldiers, and that she perfectly recollects descending the river with her father; she was then about six years of age; and that her mother remained behind to collect some debts, and came down about six weeks after, and that she had always understood her family had lived there for a considerable number of years, and that there were a number of French Families had lived there for many years.

SIGNED,

FONTINEAU,

SEPT. 14, 1805, sworn before me.

SIGNED,

JOHN SIBLEY, J. P.

I, John Horn, being duly sworn as interpreter, declare that the above declaration of Mary Pulegie Grappe Fontineau, is truly interpreted as above written.

Signed,

JOHN HORN.

NATCHITOCHES, *Sept.* 15, 1805.

Personally appeared before me, John Sibley, one of the justices of the peace for the county of Nachitoches, Julian Beson, an inhabitant of Campte, in said county, aged 57, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, That he well recollects being carried from Nachitoches by his father to the ancient Caddo village, commonly called by the course of the river, about one hundred and seventy leagues above Natchitoches on Red river, and that at that time there were there living several French families and some soldiers, the number of soldiers he does not remember, but only that it was a sergeant's command (which sergeant was then his father) & that his father, by order of the then French governor general of Louisiana, built a small fort at that place; erected a flag staff, on which the French flag occasionally used to be hoisted, the name of the fort was called fort *St. Louis de Carlorettto*, and that, from the appearance of the place, and every thing he heard and understood about it, the establishment had been made for a considerable number of years before he went there, which is more than fifty years ago, and that he lived there 14 or 15 years, during all which time there were continued a detachment of French soldiers there, with a number of French families, who continue to cultivate corn, tobacco and garden vegetables: and that he recollects two small pieces of cannon being there, and one of them bursting by firing, and he believes the other slipped into the river by an excavation of its bank, as it lay near the edge of the bank, and that he recollects there being some mill stones there, but has no remembrance of seeing them in use. And at the same time he lived at the above mentioned place, some French families were settled at the Yatasse Point so called, being a part of what is now called Bayou Pierre settlement, and that the same place has continued to be occupied by French families ever since, and which is now under the jurisdiction of the Spanish government in the province of Taxus: and that said Yattasse Point used to be a place of great deposit by Indian traders before Louisiana was ceded to Spain; and farther that he has knowledge that some French hunters, while Louisiana belonged to France, planted several crops of corn more than fifty leagues above the ancient Caddo village on Red river, at or near the mouth of Boggy river, or the Vossures as 'tis called, and that the settlement at the old Caddo village was abandoned about 38 years ago, and that he believes the cause of their removal was their having large families of children growing up, and after the cession of Louisiana to Spain the settlement did not appear to augment, and the inhabitants were desirous their families of children should have the benefits of a better society, but that the country is exceedingly pleasant and fertile, and is capable of becoming a rich and populous settlement, and farther the deponent saith not.

Signed,

JULIAN BESON.

Sworn to before me at Natchitoches the 16th of Septemb r, 1805.

Signed,

JOHN SIBLEY,

Justice Peace.

I the subscriber, being duly sworn as an interpreter of the French language, do hereby certify that the above or foregoing deposition of Julian Beson is truly interpreted.

Signed,

JOHN HORN.

NACHITOCHES, *Sept.* 16, 1805.

Personally appeared before me, John Sibley, one of the justices of the peace in said county, Louis Lamalaty, of Campte in said county, esq. who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that he is now 66 years of age, and that he was born at the place now called Natchitoches: altho' he never was at the place where the ancient Caddo village was, he was in the constant habit of seeing the French inhabitants and the soldiers who were then living and stationed there, & has no more doubt of the fact than tho' he had seen it: he saw Mr. Grappe and his family when they returned from there. And farther, that he has no knowledge of the ancient French establishment at the Yatasse point in the vicinity of Bayou Pierre, and that three French families lived there before Louisiana was ceded to Spain, and that Mr. Verge lived there for a number of years; and that said place was usually a place of deposit for the Indian traders, &c. And farther, that he has knowledge of Mr. Bourne, formerly commandant of Nachitoches, having had a trading house established on the south west side of the Sabine river, and distant from the river about 6 leagues, and from Natchitoches about 50 leagues, and about north west from it; which establishment was antecedent to the Spanish government's taking place in Louisiana: and that the same place was occupied by sundry persons afterwards, as well before as after the change of government. And that he has been informed that the millstones that were at the old French establishment at the Caddos, being brought down. And that, according to the best of his recollection, it is now about thirty-eight years since the said settlement was abandoned; and further the deponent saith not.

Signed,

LOUIS LAMALATY.

Sworn to the 16th Sept. 1805, before me,

Signed,

JOHN SIBLEY,

Justice Peace.

I, the subscriber, being duly sworn as the interpreter of the French language, do hereby certify that the foregoing declaration of Louis Lamalaty, esq. is truly interpreted and translated.

Signed,

J. HORN.

NATCHITOCHES, *Sept.* 16, 1805.

Personally appeared before me, John Sibley, one of the justices of the peace for the said county of Natchitoches, Mary Louisa Brevell, widow of Antoine Grillette, deceased, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that after she married Mr. Grillette, she went with him to the ancient Caddo village, where she remained about 18 months. At that time there were a few French inhabitants who were settled and lived there, and a French commandant who was Mr. Grappe, and as near as she recollects, four soldiers; that the French inhabitants cultivated every thing that was common for the French inhabitants to cultivate in other parts of Louisiana, and that she does not recollect the exact number of years that has elapsed since she was there, but believes it was at least ten years before the government of Spain took place in Louisiana, and that she always understood by her parents, she was there when a child, but she was too young to have remembrance of it. And further the deponent saith not.

Signed,

her
MARY LOUISA ✕ BREVELL.
mark

Sworn to before me at Natchitoches aforesaid, the day and year aforesaid.

Signed,

JOHN SIBLEY,

Justice of the Peace.

I, the subscriber, being duly sworn as interpreter of the French language, do hereby certify that the above deposition of Mary Louisa Brevell is truly interpreted.

Signed,

I. HORN.

NATCHITOCHES, *Sept.* 16, 1805.

Personally appeared before me, John Sibley, one of the justices of the peace for the county of Natchitoches, John Baptiste Grappe, an inhabitant of Campte in said county, and likewise one of the justices of the peace for the peace for the same, aged forty-two years, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that thirty five or thirty six years ago, he went with his father from Nachitoches to the ancient Caddo village, where he remained about four months; at that time there were no families or soldiers living there, but the houses of the French families who had lived there but a few years before together with the fort and the flag staff and the barracks, or houses occupied by the soldiers, were all standing entire, and that his father told him which of the fields and houses his family had occupied for a number of years; and likewise he remembers to have seen in the fort the ambusiers and platform where the cannon were placed. And that he recollects his father used to call the distance from Natchitoches to said place by water about the same as from Natchitoches to New Orleans, viz. about 170 leagues. And further that he well recollects some French families, particularly a Mr. Verge and a Mr. de Coto, living at the Yatasse Point so called, and that he always understood they had lived there for many years before Louisiana was ceded to Spain, and that the same place has always continued to be occupied by some French inhabitants and is situate on the western division of Red river, about 25 leagues above Natchitoches, and is now part of what is called the Bayou Pierre settlement, under the jurisdiction of the Spanish government in the province of Taxus. And that he has been several times at a place called the Dout, on the east bank of the Sabine river, at a prairie, and towards the head of said river, where there was an appearance of some works having been erected by the French as a trading establishment, and where his father and many Indians had told him the French flag had been hoisted, and the arms of the king of France buried. And farther the deponent saith not.

Signed, BTE. GRAPPE.

Sworn to before me at Natchitoches, the 16th day of September, 1805.

(Signed)

JOHN SIBLEY, Justice Peace.

I, the subscriber, being duly sworn as an interpreter of the French language, do hereby certify that the foregoing deposition of John Baptiste Grappe, Esq. is truly interpreted and translated.

(Signed)

J. HORN.

NATCHITOCHES, SEPT. 22d, 1805.

Personally appeared before me, John Sibley, one of the justices of the peace for the county of Natchitoches, Francis Grappe, of Campte, in said county, aged fifty-seven, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that to the best of his knowledge and belief, he was born near the ancient Caddo village on the Red river, which by the course of the river he believes to be upwards of five hundred miles above Natchitoches, where his parents then lived, and had lived, he believes, a number of years before he was born, and where they continued to live until he was sixteen or seventeen years of age. As long ago as he can remember he recollects a Mr. Francois Hervey, a French gentleman, who lived there, and who he understood was the first white man that settled there, and that his father settled there about two years after, but he always understood there had been a company of French traders settled for a number of years about forty miles higher up the river, and that Mr. Hervey was one of them, but they were broke up before he was born; it was always called the Company, and that during the whole time he lived at the ancient Caddo village there were three settled families, besides a number of single persons and a detachment of soldiers, and that the number of soldiers assigned by the French government for that post was always fifteen, but he never knew the number complete, and that his father was commandant of the place for many years, and was succeeded by a Mr. Gloso, who continued to be commandant till it was abandoned after the cession of Louisiana to Spain, and that his father, by order of the then governor of Louisiana, built a small fort there, in which were two small pieces of cannon, and in which was a flag staff, on which the French flag was occasionally hoisted. He believes the whole time that that place was occupied by the French as a military post and a settlement of families, was about thirty years, and that the inhabitants pursued the same agriculture that was then common in other parts of the French settlement of Louisiana, viz. corn, tobacco, indigo, cotton and garden vegetables, with some wheat, which grew well, but having no way of manufacturing flour, there was but little wheat raised though there were a pair of excellent European mill stones and mill irons there, but were not in use in his time; the stones he himself brought down in the year 1778, and they were carried to Oppelousas; he understood they had been carried to the Caddo country by the Company, as it was called; and that he has knowledge of a French trading establishment being at the place called the Dout, on the Sabine river, near where the Mandaco Indians now live, and that it was an ancient establishment, and a place of great trade and resort at the time his father's family lived at the Caddos, and that he has several times been at the place; the French flag used to be hoisted there; and there are the remains of the buildings and works now to be seen; and that the Dout is about 150 miles north west from Natchitoches; and that there was at the same time a similar trading establishment and a number of settled French families at the Yattasse Point, on the south west division of Red river, about twenty-five leagues above Natchitoches, on what is now called the Bayou Pierre settlement, which is now under the jurisdiction of Spain, and which place is now, and ever has continued to be, occupied by French inhabitants, and that some of whom have antient French grants or titles for their lands, and that Mr. Verge, who lived there for many years before Louisiana was ceded to Spain, had the exclusive Indian trade granted him by the French governor of Louisiana of the Traiscannes, or Tauacanos, the Keyekies, Yattasses, and several other tribes that then lived on the river Sabine, and southward and westward of it, in what is now called the province of Taxus

(Signed FRANCOIS GRAPPE.

Sworn to before me the 30th September, 1805.

(Signed)

JOHN SIBLEY, J. P.

The subscriber, being duly sworn interpreter of the French language, doth hereby certify, that the foregoing declaration of Francois Grappe is truly interpreted and translated.

(Signed)

JOHN HORN.

SUPPLEMENTARY

DOCUMENTS communicated by the President December 10, 1805.

(COPY.)

Natchitoches, Oct. 2d. 1805.

Personally appeared before me, John Sibley, one of the justices of the peace for the county of Natchitoches, Gaspard Bodin and Andrew Chamar, all of Natchitoches aforeforesaid, who being duly sworn, deposed and said, that, on the eighth day of September last, they (the deponents) were all travelling in company from Natchitoches to Oppolousa, on the usual road; and that, when within fourteen or fifteen miles of the Oppolousa church, they were met by five armed Spanish soldiers on horseback, who drew their arms upon them and ordered them to stop: one of the deponents (Madam Bodin) who speaks Spanish well, asked the one who appeared to be the commander of the party, what business he had to order them to stop, that they were all Americans, and that was American ground. The commander of the Spanish party replied, that he had a right to command there, and would do as he pleased; and that he must have such a horse for the use of the king, (pointing to Mr. Chamar's) which he immediately took possession of, and took away with them, proceeding on the Nacogdoche road. And the deponent, Chamar, has never seen or heard of his horse since.

(SIGNED) GASPARD BODIN,
LEWIS BODIN,
ANDREW CHAMAR.

Sworn to before me, the day above written.

(SIGNED) JOHN SIBLEY, J. P.

A true copy of the original deposition,

(SIGNED) JOHN SIBLEY.

Natchitoches, Oct. 3d, 1805.

Personally appeared before me, John Sibley, one of justices of the peace for