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From the American Citizen.

MILITARY EXPEDITION.

Before we proceed farther with the trial of col. Smith, we have deemed it proper to lay before the reader the following voluntary testimony and depositions taken in the first proceedings of the United States vs. Smith and Ogden, that he may have all the facts necessary to inform his mind respecting the expedition of Miranda, and their agency in it.

No I.

Voluntery examination of Mr. Ogden,

1st March, 1806. Dey st.

Samuel G. Ogden brought up this morning upon the warrant issued by me yesterday and examined as a party charged in having provided and prepared the expedition mentioned in the warrant says: He is the sole owner of the Leander; Gen. Miranda's name is Francis; he sailed in her, and she was bound to Jacquemel. He prefers not to say what other place the Leander was to touch, or where Gen. Miranda was to land, and does not say. There were 180 person on board, including every person. She had 17 cannon on board mounted as the compliment of the ship. He declines answering any question relating to the vessels cargo or what was in her hold.

The persons who went out in the Leander are set down in a list, a copy of which he annexes hereto.*

The persons on board were not organised as a troop to act in any military duty, other than to defend the vessel in case of attack—He does not admit he has set on foot or prepared any expedition of a hostile nature against any foreign state. He first saw Gen. Miranda the 27th or 28th of December last, then in New-York, where he remained principally till he sailed in the Leander. The General lodged at Mrs. Avery's, State street, in this city.

SAML. G. OGDEN.

Taken and subscribed before me the first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and six.

M. B. TALMADGE.

No. 2.

Ogden's deposition.

District of New-York, to wit:

Samuel G. Ogden, of the city of New-York, merchant sworn to make true answers touching a certain expedition fitted out and sailed from this port in the Leander deposes, that Col. Smith had no particular agency in fitting out the ship Leander or procuring the cargo—this deponent did that himself. Col. Smith and Gen. Miranda were frequently together; William Armstrong was the principal agent of this deponent in procuring certain articles of the cargo of the ship and getting the men on board. There were pikes, cannon and cutlasses for the use of the ship on board.—Gen. Miranda is gone out in the ship as passenger merely; is bound to a place as he, this deponent, thinks in latitude between 10 and 15 N. and longitude between 60 and 75 W. Gen. Miranda was to land as was intended either upon an island or on the Spanish Main within that latitude and longitude.—That the men on board were at liberty to act or not to act in any enterprise with Gen. Miranda as they should agree, or to land with the general or not to land, at their pleasure. Gen. Miranda was born, as he understood, in the province of Carraccas, and he thinks in the town of Carraccas, where he had a great number of friends. That Gen. Miranda shewed this deponent a great number of papers in the Spanish language, the substance of which, as he told him, were assurances from his friends in Carraccas, that they would assist him in any views he might have when he arrived there; they were papers both recent and old, and some of them very recent and mostly received by General Miranda while in Europe—that general Miranda came here from London and brought with him a letter of credence on Daniel Ludlow of this city for 800l. sterling, which sum this deponent received from Mr. Ludlow for Gen. Miranda.

The engagement between this deponent and gen. Miranda is that the Leander shall carry what she has on board to the port of destination, and the capt. of the ship is there to receive for this deponent in cash its price and the amount of the outfits; and two hundred per cent. advance on the amount of the cargo and outfits, the vessel is then to proceed to Jacquemel, and with the cash to purchase a return cargo of coffee. This deponent has several bills on London drawn by gen. Miranda to the amount of 800l. sterling; one on Nicholas Van Sittart and John Turnbull, the others on Trinidad to about the amount of 5000l. sterling, on Joseph Lambert and William Brown, merchants, which he is to give gen. Miranda credit when paid—This deponent saith the amount of the cargo on board the ship Leander is about forty thousand dollars, the outfits he estimates at thirty thousand more. Gen. Miranda is at liberty to receive or not to receive the cargo when it arrives at the port of destination.—The estimated amount to be received there was about two hundred & seventeen thousand dollars.

This deponent farther saith, that gen. Miranda went to Washington not long before he sailed, and as he understood was introduced to the officers of our government; and this deponent understood from gen. Miranda that he had several interviews with the President and Mr. Madison, & conversed among other general topics with them upon the subject of the situation of South America and the oppression of its inhabitants.

That from conversations between this deponent and gen. Miranda, this deponent understood the Leander was to land her cargo and gen. Miranda near the town of Carraccas, in the province of Carraccas, so that the same might be conveyed to that place. That the military force of Laguira he understands is about five hundred men. This deponent understood from Gen Miranda that he was on good terms with the British government, and that that government were disposed to promote and second his views upon the Spanish Main. The ship's cargo was furnished at the request and according to the directions of gen. Miranda, and she is expected to return in all the month of March, and not expected to stay at the port of her destination more than about a fortnight.

Question. What arms were on board the Leander when she sailed?

Answer by this deponent. Pistols, pikes, muskets and cannon, cutlasses or sabres and bayonets; this deponent does not recollect of any other arms on board.

There were between one and three hundred pistols, bought of various persons in the city; about four or five thousand pikes; between five and six hundred muskets; between thirty and forty cannon in the hold, among which were two brass pieces, four pounders and carriages for all the cannon—not so many bayonets as muskets—the cannon were procured from gen. Stevens's, Corp, Ellis and Shaw, Rippey, Center and co. and Bernard Hart—ten or twenty tons of balls, one half a ton of musket balls, one hundred and fifty quarter casks of powder, bought of Low and Wallace, and Jonathan Ogden; about one or two dozen saddles and bridles, blue cloth jackets and Russia sheeting trowers, such as are worn in the West Indies, made by Mr. Weyman, about one thousand or 1500 in number; the quantity of articles, arms and equipments were purchased according to the advice of Gen. Miranda—all the above articles this deponent believes were put on board before the vessel dropped down to the Narrows, and to the best of this deponent's knowledge, recollection and belief the above warlike articles were designedly omitted to be entered in their proper name in the manifest of the vessel's cargo; this deponent does suppose from his knowledge of the expedition that there was to be some arrangement among the men on board the Leander as to subordination of rank after their arrivial to their destination.

Question. Did you not understand from Gen. Miranda that it was his object to heave off the yoke of the present Spanish government from the inhabitants of the country to which he was bound?

This deponent answers that he understood his object was to relieve the people from oppression, but did not understand how this was to be effected by him, and does suppose the above warlike articles were intended as auxiliaries in effecting that object. This deponent further saith that he was introduced to gen. Miranda by Col. William S. Smith as he recollects.

SAML. G. OGDEN.

Sworn the 1st day of March, 1806, before me,

M. B. TALMADGE.

No. 3.

Voluntary examination of Col. Smith.

District of New-York, ss. William S. Smith brought up by a warrant issued against him upon suspicion of his having been concerned in preparing the means of an expedition against a foreign state, on board of the Leander, on his examination voluntarily says, that he knows general Miranda, his christian name is Francisco—this examinant has every reason to believe that general Miranda sailed in the Leander, which vessel was bound to Jacquemel—Gen. Miranda stated to this examinant that he had been invited by his friends at Carraccas, his native country, to return to his native place. Carraccas is a Spanish province on the Main in South America. That gen. Miranda invited this examinant to accompany him there which this examinant declined, unless it should be by the permission of this government. That gen. Miranda thereupon went to the city of Washington, & as he stated to this examinant communicated the object of his return to Carraccas to the President of the United States, and the Secretary of State, and if they should admit him to a second interview, he the said general Miranda was at liberty to ask of them permission for this examinant to return with the said general Miranda to his country; that while general Miranda was at Washington he wrote to this examinant, that he had had those interviews with the President and Secretary of State, and made the request in favor of this examinant aforesaid, that he was answered by the President and Secretary that it would not be correct for them to give this examinant a letter or service as it might commit our government, but that this examinant was at liberty to go if he pleased, and this examinant did thereupon relinquish the idea of accompanying him the said general Miranda: that gen. Miranda enquired of this examinant about a vessel proper to be employed for his use in returning to his country—this examinant for the purpose of procuring a fit vessel, introduced him to a captain Lewis, who had commanded a vessel in the W. India trade, and Mr. Lewis referred him to Samuel G. Ogden, of this city, as the owner of a vessel proper for his use, and as being then in the W. India trade: that this examinant was informed that Mr. Lewis and gen'l Miranda went to Mr. Ogden's to treat with him about the engagement of the said vessel, and this examinant has been informed by the said gen'l Miranda and Lewis, that the agreement was made with Mr. Ogden, that the vessel called the Leander should go out with gen'l Miranda, bound to Jacquemel, from thence should take him over and land him upon the Spanish Main, as near the town of Carraccas as might be, or if this could not conveniently be done, was to bring him back again to the city of New York—that this examinant has been a long time an intimate friend of gen'l Miranda, and when this examinant was by him solicited to suffer the son of this examinant, William Steuben Smith, to accompany the said gen'l Miranda to the Spanish Main, this examinant consented and suffered his son to go with him on board the said vessel Leander, under promises from his said friend the said gen'l Miranda, that the said William Steuben Smith should be taken care of by him as a father—that gen'l Miranda represented to this examinant the distressed and oppressed situation of the people of that country to which he was bound, and that the people were generally desirous that a change should take place as to their political situation, and that the said gen'l Miranda had that object very near his heart, and it was his wish and intention to effect it if it could be done—and the said gen'l Miranda represented to this examinant that on his arrival there he should be in the bosom of his friends, whom he expected would join him in endeavoring to heave off the yoke of the present Spanish government from the people of that country—and this examinant understood from gen'l Miranda, that he was to proceed to extremities to separate that country from the Spanish government, if he found the people favorable to such an event—that gen'l Miranda told this examinant that he had freely and openly communicated his views and plans to the President of the U. S. and Mr Madison, upon the subject of his return to his native country, and that the President and Secretary told him the said gen'l Miranda, that they were not now ready to go to war, and could not give him any public aid or countenance, but that they had no objection that any individual citizens of the U. S. should engage in such an enterprize, provided they did not thereby infringe any of the laws of the U. S.—that on the Saturday before the said gen. Miranda left this city on board the said Leander, he wrote two letters, one to the President of the U. S. and the other to the Secretary of State of the U. S. which this examinant saw and read, and which this examinant put himself into the post office of this city, to be forwarded, the contents of which were, that the said general Miranda had finished his business in this city in a decorous manner, and in a way he hoped that would be pleasing to them, the President and Secretary; but that the said letters did not explain what that business was, nor what he the said general Miranda had done—That general Miranda informed this examinant that he was on good terms with the british government, and had been some time in England, and lately came from there to this city, and that the said British government were not favorable to the project of liberating the said Spanish country from the oppression of that government. That this examinant's son went with Miranda as a companion, who was to take care of him and provide for him for life, and it was left to gen. Miranda, in case there was a necessity to proceed to extremities in favor of his friends, and to free his native country, to provide for this examinant's said son as he should think fit in relation to promotion and command. This examinant does not know how many men were on board the Leander, that she cleared out with one hundred and fifty men in her manifest, but this examinant understood from capt. Lewis that there were more than one hundred and fifty men on board, to wit, one hundred and eighty—that about 50 of this last number were passengers on board, and went as attendants of gen. Miranda. That this examinant at the request of gen. Miranda asked and engaged about fifteen or twenty men himself to accompany him—and this examinant also desired John Fink, of the Bowery lane, butcher, to engage some more men, and who thereupon did engage about 23 to go on board as part of the crew of the Leander. The ordinary crew of the vessel is about 150 men, that the monthly compensation and payment of the 150 men, who went on board as aforesaid, were to have common wages, fifteen dollars per month; but those who went as attendants on the general were not stipulated with as to their wages or compensation—that the aforesaid men who were engaged by Mr. Fink were to serve as marines on board of the ship, and obey the orders of captain Lewis, and on the land obey the orders of the general—that the name of the general was not mentioned to the said men—that subordination of rank was contemplated to be made while on board of the said vessel, and to take effect in case they should land and go into land service—that in the organization of these men, these fifteen or twenty mentioned as attendants of gen. Miranda, were to have command as officers, and be subject to the arrangement of the general in that respect; the others who were engaged by Mr. Fink, were to attend the general on land on horseback as a body guard—that not a man of those engaged on board as aforesaid, knew where they were to go or the nature of the service, and all were engaged without any knowledge of the object of the enterprise. This examinant does not know that any of them signed any articles to go, and all except those who were particularly to attend gen. Miranda, were engaged at ordinary seamen's wages, 15 dollars a month. This examinant is positive that there were no representations made or authorised by him, that the engagement was for the service of the U. S. nor any false objects held out to view—the service was declared to be secret and optional—that this examinant received of S. G. Ogden aforesaid, the advance of a month's pay to all the men engaged by Mr. Fink, which he this examinant gave to Mr. Fink to pay the said men, the whole sum being about three hundred and twenty dollars, and which Mr. Fink receipted to this examinant as received from capt. Lewis, as payment of part of the crew under his command and on board the Leander—The men were told they were to have horses provided for them where they should land—This examinant was told by the captain there were arms and ammunition on board the Leander. This examinant did not make any advances to his son, except pocket money to equip or prepare him to go: he is nineteen years old—but this examinant gave him letters of credit, authorising him to draw upon this examinant in case he should wish to return, for his accommodation and expences home. This examinant was informed of the bargain between Miranda and Ogden for the voyage of the Leander, and her cargo very soon thereafter; he thinks next day. This examinant thinks the residue of the men on board the Leander not engaged as aforesaid by himself, and Mr. Fink, were engaged by the captain thereof, and several by a capt. Armstrong, who is himself on board. This examinant knew that this expedition was going on from the time of the return of general Miranda from Washington, and supposed it was with the knowledge and consent of the President and Secretary. This examinant was informed by gen. Miranda that he had fully communicated the views and objects of his enterprize to Rufus King, of this city, who this examinant was informed thought well of the expedition.

W. S. SMITH.

The above examination was taken and subscribed before me this first day of March, 1806.

MATTHIAS B. TALLMADGE.

No. 4.

JOHN FINKS DEPOSITION.

District of New York, to wit:

John Fink, of the city of New York, butcher, deposes and says, that some time in the latter part of January last he was requested by Wm. S. Smith to make an enlistment of a number of men, a serjeant, and a corporal for governmental service, and as he supposed the service of the United States; that accordingly he did enlist twenty men, fifteen or seventeen of which were sent off; that the men were all enlisted for the service of America; that there being among them some uneasiness as to the kind of service: col. Smith gave a certificate that the men should not go into English or French service;* that the men enlisted were spoken to by him, this deponent, and then sent to col. Smith's; that the enlistment was made by the serjeant principally; that it was often repeated by col. Smith that the men should not go out of the U. States; that they were to go on board of a vessel, and finally departed on board of the Leander; that col. Smith advanced a month's pay, fifteen dollars and fifty cents to each enlisted man; that the money was delivered to this deponent by col. Smith and was paid by this deponent to each of the men enlisted; that the rendezvous was at the house of this deponent in the Bowery; that the men so enlisted were to be horsemen constituting a general's guard; that col. Smith's son was to be captain of the troop and had a commission from government as this deponent was informed by col. Smith; and that this deponent was shewn a large bundle of papers which col. Smith said he had received from government; that captain Daniel R. Durning finally took command of the men when on board the Leander; that this deponent was informed that horses were prepared at the southward, and bridles and saddles were on board the Leander and that every other equipment and cloathing for the men should be shewn to them on board the Leander; that col. Smith told this deponent that the expedition was a secret one set on foot by government; that all the men signed an article of enlistment; that they were several times on shore after they first went on board, and this deponent was informed by the enlisted men that there were about three hundred men on board the Leander; that col. Smith told this deponent that a like expedition was to go from the other states; that the men were enlisted to serve under capt. Smith, son of col. Smith, but this deponent afterwards understood that col. Smith's son was to be an aid to the general, but what general this deponent does not know; that the young men after having come ashore refused to return on board the vessel; and that young Smith came up to this deponent's house with a paper from his father which he read to the men and told them that they should be discharged if they were unwilling to go; that finally they agreed to go and signed enlistments under capt. Daniel R. Durning on condition of receiving five dollars more of their monthly pay, which sum was paid to them by capt. Durning, and part of which was lent him by this deponent for that purpose; that capt. Durning gave this deponent an order upon col. Smith therefor; which was presented to col Smith by this deponent and accepted by him but referred this deponent for the payment to Samuel G. Ogden; that this deponent went to Mr. Ogden and was offered his note at sixty days sight for the payment of it; that this deponent at first refused; but afterwards by the advice of col. Smith, who promised this deponent discount upon it, accepted it; that the note was for two hundred and sixty-four dollars and ninety-five cents; payable in sixty days from the 11th of February; that this deponent furnished at two several times 1100 weight of beef, one sheep and a few fowls on the order of Mr. Ogden for the use of the Leander, which sum was included in the amount of the note; that this deponent was informed by col. Smith at the time of enlisting the men, that he, col. Smith, was going in the spring, and was to take command of the expedition; and he this deponent farther says, that one of the original papers hereto annexed* is a list of some of the persons above mentioned who enlisted as aforesaid and is in the hand writing of John Burke, the first person named therein; that another original paper hereto annexed* is in the hand writing of col. Smith and was written by him in the presence of this deponent, and contains a statement of the terms upon which the men were to be enlisted.

JOHN FINK.

Sworn before me the first day of March, MDCCCVI.

MATTHIAS B. TALLMADGE.

* *The list of names will be hereafter given in its regular order in the course of the testimony delivered in court at the trial.*

* *This paper shall be published in its order in the course of the testimony on the trial.*

FOR SALE,

I will sell two Tracts of LAND

lying and being in Allegany county in the state of Maryland; one called and known by the name of "Harvey's Meadows" patented 31st December 1805, for 341 acres, near Shellys or Sellys Little Meadows; the other "Mount Parnassus," patented 31st December 1805, for 298 acres; this tract lays on a branch of Savage river about five miles below the Little Meadows. I have never seen the lands, consequently know nothing of their value. Mr. Thomas Beall of Cumberland who is well acquainted with the above lands informed me they were as valuable as any in that part of Maryland. Daniel Clark and Robert Cowden Stone, esqs. also informed me that from their acquaintance with the situation of the aforesaid tracts of Land they must be of an excellent quality.

Any person inclined to purchase, it is preferred will view before he contracts. A great bargain may be had for cash, or good paper on short credit—a good and indisputable title will be given when the land is paid for. For terms apply to the subscriber in Upper Marlborough, Prince Georges county.

SAMUEL J. COOLIDGE.

June 23—8w