NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

VOL. VII. WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. No. 1075.

FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1807. PAID IN ADVANCE.

TRIAL OF COL. A. BURR.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19.

Examination of WILLIAM LOVE.

Mr. Hay. Were you on Blannerhassett's island?

A. Yes; but not there at the time when colonel Tyler's boats arrived there. I was then at Mari tta; and it w s on Sunday that I went down in a skiff with two barrels of salt.

Q. How many boats were at the island?

A. Four.

Q. How many men?

A. I cannot tell you: but I suppose about betwixt 20 and 25 belonging to colonel Tyler's boats.

Q. Did ou see any arms?

A. I saw the men had rifles. I know th t Mr. Blannerhassett took away with him two blunderbusses, one pair of horse pistols, a pair of pocket pistols and a dirk. Some fusees were put in the boats; but not more than three or f ur.

Q. And what arms had Tyler's men?

A. P stols, dirks and rifles they bro't there—but not all were armed with ri fles. I know not whether they were armed with different things. B ing as how, Mr. Blannerhassett's servant, that is his groom, I went down the river with him.

Q. Did you see Taylor and Allbright there?

A. I knew Peter Taylor very well, and I saw Allbright, *I* saw Mr Woodbridge too.

Q. What time did you set sail?

A. We were the last to embark—an we set off between twelve and one. W parted with general Tupper in the gre est friendship.

Q. Did you see the prisoner on the island?

A. I never saw colonel Burr on the island. I first saw him at Natchez, about two and a half years ago.

Q. What took place after you left the island?

A. That night was very cold. The next morning we stopt and made fires. Mr. Blannerhassett and colonel Tyler went ashore and called the company together; and the best I could make out was, that the governor of Ohio had issued state warrants against Mr. Blannerhassett and Tyler: and that they wanted to make their escape as fast as possible. I went down with the party to Bayou Pierre—where

Mr. *Burr* expressed a wish that the attention of the witness should be at present confined to the transactions on the island.

Mr. *Martin.* Gentlemen had better confine themselves to facts within the district of Virginia. When they travel beyond the district, we shall have some important questions to bring forward. We shall object to the production of such evidence.

Mr. *Hay* acquiesced for the present in this arrangement.

Croſs examined.

Mr. *Burr.* Were not ſome of Mr. Blannerhaſſett's clothes put up in the boat's?

A. Yes.

Q. Were not his books put up in boxes and trunks?

A. None; that ever I ſaw.

Q. How long had you lived with Mr. Blannerhaſſett?

A. Ten or 12 days.

Q. How many guns had the party?

A. I do not know—a great many of the men went out a hunting.

Q Did you ſee any thing like military appearance?

A. The men were in a ſtate of preparation to defend themſelves, becauſe they expected people from the mouth of Kanawha to attack Blannerhaſſett and the iſland; and to the beſt of my opinion, they did not mean to be killed without ſome return of the ſhot. It was ſaid at Marietta, that the people of Kanawha were to attack him; and I ſuppoſe they would have done the beſt to reſiſt—I ſhould be ſorry if a man ſlapped me on my face without returning the blow.

Q. Was there no diſturbance among the party on the iſland?

A. None; I did not part with my friends in England more comfortably than in parting with the people on the iſland.

Mr. *Parker*, a juror. Did you ever see all the men with arms?

A. I cannot say. When I got to the mouth of Cumberland river I ſaw a cheſt of arms opened.

Mr. *Burr.* Were any cheſts of arms put into the boats at the iſland?

A. Not that I ſaw. They might have been put on board without my ſeeing them; many things were put into the boats, before I got in.

Mr. *McRae* Was the cheſt which you ſaw opened at the mouth of Cumberland, the ſame as thoſe that you ſaw go from the iſland?

A. No.

Q. What did you think of this buſineſs?

A. I underſtood the object of the expedition was to ſettle Ouachita lands.

Mr. *Hay.* Were the perſons who went from the iſland young active men?

A. Yes.

Mr. *Burr.* What kind of looking men were hey?

A. They looked like gentlemen; ſuch as live upon their own property.

Q. Did they look like men uſed to work?

A. They did not. The witneſs added, that Mrs. Blannerhaſſett was at the boats when they ſtarted; & that the night was rainy and freezing

Examination of DUDLEY WOODBRIDGE.

Mr. *Hay.* Were you on the island when Blannerhassett's party left it?

A. I slept there on that night.

Mr. *Wirt.* What party do you mean?

A. I allude to the 4 boats, with Mr. Israel Smith, Comfort Tyler, and others.

Q. Were you at the boats?

A. I passed them about dusk.

Q. Did you see any of the men?

A. I saw 5 or 6 about the boats, and and about 15 or 20 men together in one of the rooms of the house.

Q. What do you conceive was the whole number?

A. About 30.

Q Was it about dusk when you arrived there?

A. It was.

Q. Had they any arms in their hands when you saw them?

A. No—I recollect no arms, but 2 pair of pistols on the bureau of the room where I slept: which were gone in the morning.

Mr. *Hay.* Will you inform us of what you know on this subject?

Mr. *Woodbridge.* About the beginning of September or the last of August, Mr. Blannerhassett in company with col. Burr, called at our compting house at Marietta—I had been connected in commercial business with Mr. Blannerhassett for 6 or 8 years past, under the firm of Dudley Woodbridge and Co. Mr. Blannerhassett observed, that col. Burr wished us to purchase a quantity of provisions. Col. Burr went into the enquiry about the price of different kinds of provisions, and the expence of boats best calculated to carry those provisions up and down the river. After his making a number of enquiries and my giving him all the information that I could, he left a memorandum of such provisions as he wanted, and of the boats that he wished to have built. They were to be on the Shenectady model—10 feet wide and 50 feet long. This memorandum ordered 15 of them; but 10 only were completed.

Q. What provisions were ordered?

A. Pork, flour, whiskey, bacon, and kiln-dried meal were wanted; but no articles were to be purchased except the pork, unless they came under certain prices—Next day I made contracts with col. Baker for building the boats, and proceeded to make arrangements for purchasing provisions. The boats were built up the Muskingham about 7 miles above Marietta, and were to be brought down by the 9th of December—On the morning of the 9th I saw 6 or 8 armed men going to take possession of the boats. I went down to Blannerhassett's island; but met Blannerhassett, Comfort Tyler, Smith and a number of men from Bel Pre going up to take the boats; I informed them of the proceedings that morning at Marietta, and advised Blannerhassett not to go: They held a consultation and returned to the island. I returned to Marietta to get some necessary papers, and in the evening returned to the island.

Mr. *Hay.* On what terms was the contract for the boats made?

A. I made the contracts for the boats with colonel Burr. He wished to give me a draft on Ogden in New York, for payment. With this arrangement I had express d myself dissatisfied, and Blannerhassett asked with some warmth, whether I doubted colonel Burr's honor. After some altercation, he consented to guarantee the draft; and to have it charged to himself if Ogden did not pay it. The draft presented by Blannerhassett to me was payable on the tenth D cember. It was finally paid by Mr. Ogden.

Q. B the tenor of your contract, where were the boats to be delivered? At the island?

A. At no particular place. But when colonel Bark r was bringing them down to Marie ta, from about seven m les up the Muskingum; they were taken by gener l Buel, as I understood, by the order of the governor of Ohio.

Q. What occurrences took place on the island?

A. I arrived at the island about dusk. *I* saw five or six men at the landing; and fifteen or twenty men in the rooms. *I* nquired for Mr. Blannerhassett, and requested him to be told, that I h d brought my papers and money to settle our accounts. After our accounts were adjusted, I wished to leave the island on that night; but Mr. B lnap turned me back. About eight or nine o'clock *I* retired to bed, wh re *I* remained; and as to what the witness says about seeing me out afterwards, he is mistak n. *I* was at the shore about eight o'clock; but at Mr. Belnap's request, returned.

Mr. *Wirt.* In having these boats built, did you understand that they were built for Burr, or for Burr and Blannerhassett?

A. It was not particularly specified. *I* thought there was very little distinction in the case, as Mr. Blannerhassett had secured the payment of them. As to these boats, Mr. Blannerhassett made some communications to me respecting their use. Shall *I* state these circumstances now to the court?—Early in September he mentioned to me that he had embarked in an enterprize with colonel Burr; that general Eaton and some others were engaged in it. He observed, that their prospects were flattering; our first conversation lasted but a f w minutes. The next week *I* was at the island, and he then went into further particulars; and the inference *I* drew from his remarks was, that his object was Mexico. *I* inferred it from the map which he shewed me of that part of the country, he spoke highly of that country; of its fertility and its healthiness. He asked me, if *I* had any disposition to join. *I* evaded his question; but could not forbear telling him that *I* thought my situation was better than a precarious one. Afterwards on his way up to Marietta, he requested me to say nothing of the conversation which had taken place.

Q. What articles did you furnish the prisoner?

A. *I* purchased no other articles than pork, and this was afterwards sold by general Buel, as *I* understood by order of the gov rnment. As to the boats they were fitted up by order of the United States to convey certain troops from Marietta to St. Louis.

Cross Examined.

Mr. Burr. Do you not recollect that I told you I had se n such boats used in the Mohawk river? and did I not complain of the clumsiness and inexperience of your ship builders?

A. You did. The boats were calculated for a shallow stream.

Q. At what distance could Mr. Blannerhassett distinguish a man from a horse? Ten steps?

A. He is very near sighted; and when he reads, the book almost touches his nose.

Q. Is he a military man?

A. Not that I ever understood.

Q. What became of his library?

A. *I* understood that a part of it went down with M. Blannerhassett; the rest was left behind and perhaps sold.

Q. What became of the draft on Mr. Ogden?

A. It was paid; amounting to 2000 dollars.

Q. How much pork did you purchase for me?

A. About 100 barrels.

Q. At what price?

A. It was charged to you at 13 dollars.

Q. What became of it?

A. *I* had it stored in Mr. Green's cellar, adjoining to our store, and it was afterwards sold by general Buel.

Q. And when seized whose loss did you consider it; yours or mine?

The witness (smiling) I know not; it may hereafter become a dispute between us.

Q. What were the boats estimated to be worth?

A 12 or 1300 doll rs.

Mr. Martin. Were you on that evening at the water's side, in company with Mr. or Mrs. Blannerhassett?

A. *I* was not.

Mr. Wirt. You were asked, sir, about Blannerhassett's military talents; permit me to ask you about his pecuniary resources.

A. *I* gave him 6000 dollars for his moiety of the profits of the stock; and there was besides about 3000 dollars in stock.

Q. What was his fortune worth? how much could he command?

A. It was much less, *I* think than is generally supposed. He had 5 or 6000 dollars in the hands of his agent at Philadelphia. His landed property on the island cost him about 50,000 dollar, a price which no man but himself or some other like him would have consente to have given. The improvements cost him about 10,000 dollars more.

Q. Had he no foreign funds?

A. *I* think he had none—The funds which he owned abroad had been vested in the American funds—His prop rty by his father amounted to 20,000 pound, which he vested in 3 per cent—Exclusive of his property on the island, he was worth about 17,000 dollars cash and four or five negroes, over and above what he owed.

Mr. Wirt. Is he esteemed as a man of vigorous talents?

A. He is; it was the common opinion through the country, that he had every sort of sense but common sense.

Mr. Burr. What are his favorite pursuits?

A. Chemistry and music.

Mr. Hay. Was not Colonel Burr to have returned to the island?

A. *I* believe so—*I* expected him to return in about two months, when his boats were to have been delivered.

Mr. Lee. What was the size of the island?

A. Blannerhassett owned 180 acres, which were about the half of it, and cost him 5000 dollars.

Mr. Hay. Was not one of the boats fitted up for Mrs. Blannerhassett and family?

A. One of the large boats was.

Q. Which of the boats?

A. One of the 11—Mr. Blannerhassett had tak n a keel boat, belonging to the firm, up to colonel Barker's, to be fitted up for the reception of his family—colonel Barker advised him to have one of the large boats fitted up; on account of its superior accommodation—this was accordingly done.

Mr. Hay. Had not the delivery of the boats b en interrupted by the armed ment, would not they have been delivered to Blannerhassett?

A. *I* suppose they would have been delivered at Marietta; I considered for my own part that it would have made but little difference whether delivered to the one or the other; as Mr. Blannerhassett had guaranteed the payment

Mr. Martin. Was not the contract made by colonel Burr with your firm?

A. It was.

Mr Bur. Had *I* authorised you to deliver them to Blannerhassett?

A. No.

Mr. Hay. If delivered to Blannerhassett would you not have considered yourself as delivering them to one of Burr's associates?

A. *I* cannot say what *I* should have thought.

Mr. Baker. Did you make any stay upon the beach on the night of their departure?

A. I did not; for I returned immediately to the house with Mr. Bellnap.

Mr. Botts. Were the people peaceable on that night?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you hear any noise like that of war; the roaring of cannon or the rattling of small arms?

A. None.

Mr. Wirt. Did you hear any alarms about the militia?

A. There was some in the evening

Mr. Parker. (a juror) Did you see the President's proclamation on that day?

A. Not for three days after We received it by the mail.

Mr. McRae. Did you hear any thing of it before?

A. I do not recollect—I believe a printer who had been at Pittsburg had brought some information about the enterprize being stopped. The proclamation might have been sent on by a dispatch before the mail arrived.

Mr. Hay. Did you hear any thing of a State Warrant?

A. No. I did hear that the Legislature of Ohio was then sitting with closed doors, with Mr. Graham before them; and that it was supposed, they would suppress the enterprize.

Q. Did you hear of any particular observations from any of the party on the island?

A. *I* think that Comfort Tyler said, he would not resist the constituted authorities, but he had no notion of being stopped by a mob.

Mr. Wirt. At the time he said so, was the legislature of Ohio understood to be in session with closed doors?

A. It was.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

Examination of SIMEON POOLE.

I never was on the island at that time; but was opposite to it—I saw boats and men there; if I mistake not about the 10th of December—I arrived opposite the island about dusk at the distance of about 150 or 200 yards from it—I do not know how many boats were there. I saw people walking about in the evening; and in the course of the night they built a fire, and I saw some persons by the light that appeared to be armed, and as if they were centinels.

Mr. *Hay.* Why did you think they were?

A. I don't know they were; but they appeared so to my view.—I did not go over that night, nor did I offer to go. Boats were passing and repassing during the night, from the islan to the main land, which I supposed belonged to the island; not large boats but small craft. I did not speak to them. I stood as much undiscovered as possible,— I was authorised by the governor of Ohio to apprehend Blannerhassett, and I went for that purpose.

Q. Were there any indications of arrangements about a watch word?

A. Yes; in the evening, I saw some boats crossed, when a particular word was given. When the people on the Ohio side wanted to go across, they would hail for a boat; the people on the island would ask, "what boat?" If the answer was I's boat, the boat immediately put off.

Cross Examined.

Mr. *Burr.* How long did you stay out that night?

A. Perhaps till 10 o'clock.

Q. Was it not cold enough to render a fire pleasant?

A. It was.

Q. Is it not usual for boats to build fires on the bank, when it is so cold?

A. It is. *The witness* also stated in the course of his examination, that there seemed to be a good many men on the island; that lanterns were passing during the night between the house and boats, as if there was business between them; that he could not say, wheth r the persons whom he had called centinels, were not merely loitering around the fire; that he thought it likely, that if he too had used the watch word, that the boats would have put off for him; that he heard several hails from the Ohio side that did not give the word, and no boat came from the island, but a boat always came, when that answer was given. He himself was on the Ohio side.

Examination of MAURICE P. BELLNAP.

Mr. *Hay.* Will you tell us, sir, what you saw on the island?

Mr. *Bellnap.* On the evening of the 10th of December, I was at the island of Mr. Blannerhassett. *I* arrived there between eight and nine o'clock in the evening. I hailed a boat, and they asked my name. Having given it, a skiff was immediately sent over with two of Blannerhassett's servants. Having crossed, I met with Mr. Woodbridge, who returned to the house with me. When I went into the house, I observed a number of men, who from the promiscuous view *I* had of them, might have been about twenty. The two or three I noticed near the door had rifl s, and appeared to be cleaning them. These were all the arms *I* saw: for *I* merely passed through the room where they were. Near the place where I landed, I noticed two or three boats and p ople about them. It was a dark evening, and the lights in the boats was the only circumstance which made me notice them.

When *cross examined*, Mr. B. said, that he had given no watch word, when he hailed, but only his name. He was not certain whether any other person had crossed during the night. He saw Mr. Dana there, but does not know when he crossed.

Examination of EDMOND P. DANA.

On the evening of the 10th December, I understood that the boats were to start with Comfort Tyler and his men down the river. Two other young men and myself were determined to cross over from Bellepre, where I live. We went down to the landing opposite the island, about dusk; took a skiff and landed at the upper part of the landing. We then went to the house. Tyler's boats lay below our own, about 7 or 8 rods. I heard some persons talking; but it was dark and I could not distinguish any one. We went into the hall, a large room, where there were a number of men; I remained but a short time, and did not count them; but I suppose there were about 15 or 16: One of them was running bullets; and there was nothing but hub-bub and confusion about the large fire. I was then introduced into a chamber, where there were Tyler, Blannerhassett, colonel Smith, of New York, and several other gentlemen. I was introduced to Mr. Smith, and Dr. M'Castle, who had his lady there.—Colonel Tyler I had seen the day before.

Mr. *Coleman* (a juror.) Is it proper to ask any questions about the conversations which took place with those gentlemen?

Chief Justice. It is left to the consent of the accused.

Mr. *Burr.* If any of the jury think proper, I can have no objections. The enquiry was not pressed.

When *cross examined*, Mr. D. said, that he was a perfect stranger to the people in the hall, but that on his going in they did not appear to be alarmed.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21.

Examination of ISRAEL MILLER.

Mr. *Miller* stated, that he had arrived on the island between the 7th and 10th December last, in company with col. Tyler and Israel Smith; with 4 boats and about 32 men, with 5 rifles and and about 3 or 4 pair of pistols in all, that he knew of; that he had joined them at Beaver and gone down with them to Blannerhassett's island, and there he saw 1 blunderbuss and 2 pair of pistols—He saw but one man running bullets.

Examination of PURLEY HOWE.

Mr. *Howe* stated, that he had not been on the island, during their stay—that he had been applied to by Blanner-