NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

VOL. IV. | WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. | No. DLXXI.

FIVE DOLLS. PER ANN. | MONDAY, JUNE 4th, 1804. | PAID IN ADVANCE.

WILL be ſold at Public Auction if not previouſly diſpoſed of to a private purchaſer. On Friday the thirtieth of June at Mr. Semmes's tavern—Lot no 57 at the corner of Fayette and Firſt ſtreets next to Mr C. Lowndes' facing the Roman Chapel. There is a two ſtory Frame Houſe with an excellent well on the premiſes, and the ſituation cannot be exceeded for health. The dower in the property will be properly relinquiſhed and ſatiſfactory ſecurity given that the ſubſcribers conveyance of the property upon the purchaſers fulfilment of the terms. The conditions are one half of the purchaſe money in caſh, and the other in a note of twelve months with approved endorſers negotiable in the Bank of Columbia.

EDWARD NOUN BUTLER.

June 1—tf

For further particulars enquire at Mr. Lee's ſecond brick houſe weſt of the War Office Pennſylvania avenue.

TH. W. PAIRO,

Has just received in the Schooner Hiland from Philadelphia a handsome assortment of SPRING & SUMMER GOODS, amongst which are

Twilled nankeens,	London hats,
Plain and ſtriped do.	Handſome fans,
Cambric & India muſlins colored and glazed do.	Ladies veil
Muſlinet,	Fancy boxes,
Linen cambric,	Lace and edging,
Jeans,	Straw bonnets,
Dimities,	Willow do. & ſheets,
Marſeilles,	Silk cord,
Cotton counterpanes,	Wax beads,
Silks,	Purſes,
Cotton thread and ſilk hoſe,	Bandana, Madras and other handkerchiefs,
Silk and red gloves,	Ribbons,
Iriſh Linen,	Chintzes and callicoes,
Dowlas and diaper,	Writing paper,
Check Linen,	Cotton and ſilk ſuſpenders,
Bed ticking,	Furniture, fringe, taſſels and cord,
Umbrellas & paraſoles,	Gold & ſilver watches,
Silk & muſlin ſhawls,	Watch chains, ſeals & keys.
Spaniſh ſegars,	

ALSO,

Two Engliſh Piano Fortes, firſt quality, with additional keys, violins, muſic, and a great variety of ſongs, all of which will be ſold very low, wholeſale and retail.

Georgetown, 1ſt June.—3t.

Public Sale.

BY virtue of a decree of the circuit court of the diſtrict of Columbia for the county of Waſhington ſitting as a court of chancery, at the ſuit of William H Dorſey, Nicholas Hedges, George Craig and Adam Whann, againſt Agnes Jackſon, executrix; William Jackſon, executor; Jonathan Jackſon, Matthew Jackſon, Elizabeth Jackſon and Suſanna Jackſon, infant heirs of Jonathan Jackſon, deceaſed, defendants—Will be expoſed at public auction to the higheſt bidder at the premiſes on Thurſday the 14th day of June next, at 11 o'clock A. M. all the right, title, and intereſt of ſaid Jonathan Jackſon, deceaſed, to the following lots of ground in the city of Waſhington——the lots numbered 21 and 22 in ſquare numbered 75, the lot numbered 2 in ſquare numbered 164, and part of a lot numbered 14 in ſquare numbered 75, which ſaid part of a lot has now on it the ruins of a brick houſe, burned together with a houſe of Mr Hodgſon's then occupied as a War Office. And all the right, title and intereſt of the ſaid J. Jackſon to the following lots or parcels of ground in George Town, that lot of ground on the north of Cauſeway ſtreet, beginning on the north of ſaid ſtreet at the diſtance of 23 feet weſterly from the ſouth weſt of Joſeph Peck's houſe, and running thence weſterly 25 feet and running back 125 feet—alſo that lot of ground on Waſhington ſtreet adjoining to the ſouth ſide of the houſe now occupied by Wm. A. Rind, fronting on ſaid ſtreet 47 feet and running back 120 feet——and alſo that lot of ground on the north weſt corner of Congreſs and Weſt ſtreets of Beall's ſecond addition to George Town fronting on each ſtreet 40 feet.

The terms of ſale are one years credit from the day of ſale, the purchaſer or purchaſers giving their bonds with approved ſecurity for the purchaſe money, with intereſt thereon.

AGNES JACKSON, WILLIAM JACKSON, } truſtees.

May 18—5tw

N. B. We hereby give notice to all perſons having claims againſt the eſtate of the ſaid Jonathan Jackſon, deceaſed, either for debts due, or legacies bequeated, to bring them into court within three weeks after the above ſale.

A. J.
W. J.

WANTED,

An APPRENTICE to the SADDLERY buſineſs—A boy of about 14 years of age will be taken on liberal terms.

GEORGE BLOUNT,
Pennſylvania avenue.

May 18—9.

THEATRE.

THE Theatre committee requeſt a meeting of the ſubſcribers and other gentlemen deſirous of promoting that object, at Mr. Rhodes's tavern on Thurſday the 7th day of June next, at 6 o'clock in the evening—As matters of importance will then be laid before the meeting, it is hoped there will be a full attendance.

WILLIAM BRENT, Sec of the Theatre Co.

Waſhington, 30th May.

National Intelligencer.

Extracts from "The Political and Confidential Correspondence of LEWIS THE SIXTEENTH, *with observations on each letter.* By Helen Maria Williams. In three volumes Octavo.

LETTER
TO M. DE MALESHERBES.

Verſailles, April 17, 1776.

"I had no power to expreſs to you, my dear Maleſherbes, in our laſt interview, all the chagrin I felt at your determined reſolution of reſigning your place in the miniſtry. After having maturely reflected on this ſubject, I ſhall unfold my heart to you, and ſhall commit my ideas to paper, that they may not eſcape from my memory.

"Surrounded, as I am, by men who are intereſted in miſleading my principles, and preventing the voice of public opinion from reaching my ear, it is of the higheſt importance to the proſperity of my reign, that I ſhould ſometimes be able to repoſe my eyes on a few ſages of my own choice, whom I may call the friends of my heart, and who will warn me of my errors, before they have influenced the deſtiny of twenty four millions of men.

"You, together with the wiſe de Maurepas and the intrepid Tugot, are the men in my dominions who have the higheſt claim to my confidence; and you muſt not lead our common enemies to imagine that you are on the point of loſing that confidence, at the very moment when you have moſt deſerved it.

"When Maurepas preſented your name to me as one of thoſe who were beſt fitted to give weight to my plans of beneficence, I examined in ſilence your public and private life, and perceived that I ſhould perhaps be happier in offering you a great place, than you in receiving it.

"Before your firſt preſidency, my Cour des Aides was a company ill organiſed, and corrupted by the financiers, whom we had placed under its inſpection. A comptroller general never found any oppoſition when he preſented odious fiſcal edicts. You appear, my der Maleſherbes; you have driven from this corps the members which diſhonored it; and it is now become, agreeably to its primitive inſtitution, the aſylum of the indigent and the oppreſſed.

"Nature gave you the the ſoul of a citizen; and you have transfuſed it into your Cour des Aides; at leaſt if I may judge by the vigorous remonſtrances which you have dictated, and which I have placed, in my choſen library, between the Catilinarians of Cicero, and the Philippics of Demoſthenes. I am not indeed ſure whether it be uſeful to throw maxims ſo philoſophical acroſs a monarchical conſtitution, which ſo many have an intereſt in ſhaking; but your remonſtrances breathed the ſpirit of public good; they explained to me the diſorders which my court and my miniſters had conſpired to hide; and I have conſidered them only under this point of view. Notwithſtanding, therefore, they hold forth ſome principles to which I could not aſſent, I inwardly applauded your courage, and felt that you had a right to my gratitude.

"Our interviews, at which Maurepas was preſent to judge us both, ſerved to increaſe my eſteem; and I gave you that department of my houſe, vacant by the diſmiſſion of la Vrilliere. You long balanced whether you ſhould come, and breathe the air of my court, ſo ill in ſympathy with the intereſting ſimplicity of your manners. Turgot made you underſtand, that, without your aid, he could operate no durable good; he determined you; and I eſteemed him the more.

You began your miniſtry with a degree of vigor no way contradictory to my principles, by refuſing to make uſe of *lettres de cachet*, which were ſo much complained of, and of which your predeceſſors diſpoſed at the will of his favorites. The Baſtile overflowed with priſoners, who, after years of confinement, were ſometimes ignorant of their crimes; and you reſtored to liberty all thoſe who had only to reproach themſelves with having diſpleaſed thoſe gentlemen in power, and ſuch of the guilty as had been too ſeverely puniſhed.

You undertook uſeful reforms in my military eſtabliſhment; but many perſons conceived alarms. I had reaſon to apprehend that the diſcontent might produce troubles reſembling thoſe of the League, and the Fronde; and I was obliged to reſerve for a happier period the moment ſo dear to my heart, when baniſhing vain pomp, I ſhall have compoſed my houſehold of men of worth, ſuch as you, who ſurround me, and ſhall have, for guards, the hearts of the French.

It is in this trying conjuncture, my dear Maleſherbes, that you aſk leave to retire? No, I will not grant your requeſt; you are too neceſſary to my ſervice; and, when you have read the whole of this letter, I know enough of your ſenſibility, to believe that you will ceaſe your demand. Beſides, it is not at the very moment when you are obliged to yield to circumſtances, that you ought to give in your reſignation. The court will think you in diſgrace; and that word, when it relates to a ſubject ſo reſpectable as yourſelf, ought never to paſs my lips.

"I expect you to-morrow at Maurepas'. Be aſſured of my eſteem and friendſhip."

"LEWIS."

Observations on the fourth letter.

M. DE MALESHERBES is a character on whom we may be laviſh of praiſe, without the cenſure of extravagence. This celebrated perſonage had occupied the place of ſecretary of ſtate about nine months from the date of this letter, having ſucceeded the duke de la Vrilliere, the July preceding. Under Lewis the Fifteenth, he held an office unknown in civilized countries, which in France was called *Directeur de la librairie*, and which may be tranſlated, *Inspector of the press*. This place he appears to have filled with conſiderable ſatiſfaction to all thoſe whom it was his office to perſecute and impugn; and the conſtituted gaoler of the human mind was hailed as the friend of freedom and philoſophy, and the protector of all enlightened men.

But it appears that M. de Maleſherbes not only protected philoſophy and literature, but carried the heroiſm of his office to a ſtill further exceſs, and placed the tribunal of letters on a level with juſtice, pretending that its deciſions had the force of law. Under his adminiſtration, aroſe that formidable power called public opinion, which was deſtined not only to brave, but finally to overpower and cruſh, deſpotic authority. M. de Maleſherbes was a diſciple, or rather a profeſſor, of the doctrine of the perfectibility of the human mind, which doctrine at that period had many illuſtrious votaries. It was in purſuance of this theory, that numerous reforms took place in the French government on the acceſſion of Lewis the Sixteenth. This prince was too juſt, not to feel and acquieſce in the neceſſity of thoſe reforms, but unfortunately had neither ſufficient ſtrength to direct, nor conſtancy to ſupport them.

M. de Maleſherbes, therefore, comes forward on the ſcene, only to make us regret his loſs; but it does not appear what were the immediate motives which led him to have formed ſo decided a reſolution as that mentioned in the opening of this letter. It was with conſiderable repugnance, and after many interviews with the king that he was prevailed on to accept the place of miniſter. He ſtipulated his conditions on his entering into office—conditions, not ſuch as the intereſted uſually bargain for in ſimilar circumſtances—conditions for himſelf—but ſtipulations of benevolence and mercy for others. Before he undertook the charge, he received the royal promiſe that no *lettres de cachet* ſhould be ſigned, but ſuch as he preſented; that his place ſhould be held during his own pleaſure, and that his retreat ſhould not be obſtructed by any royal reclamation.

M. de Maleſherbes was preſident of the Cour des Aides at the time when Lewis the Fifteenth determined to ſuppreſs the parliaments. Whatever oppoſition might have exiſted in theſe judiciary corporations againſt the royal authority, the remedy propoſed by M. de Maleſherbes in the convocation of the ſtates-general, would have had little tendency to diminiſh. He was right in obſerving that courts of Juſtice were imperfect organs of the public will; but national repreſentation, ſuch as that by the ſtates-general, was ſtill leſs likely to be the ſupport of arbitrary power. How fatal to ſuch power was this plan of M. de Maleſherbes, when carried into execution twenty years afterwards, the hiſtory of the revolution has ſhewn. In the preſent inſtance, it is his integrity as adminiſtrator, and his knowledge as financier, which the king mentions with ſuch diſtinguiſhed eulogium.

"Nature," ſays the king, "has given you the ſoul of a citizen." The expreſſion does honor to the perſonage by whom it was penned, and ſtill more to the virtuous miniſter to whom it was addreſſed. Great credit is due to the judgement of the king, as ſuch, in the critique which he paſſed on the philoſophical maxims which pervaded the remonſtrances in queſtion. The knowledge of M. de Maleſherbes' democratic & anti-catholic principles was not diſſembled by him; but he knew alſo how to diſtinguiſh between the real lover of his country, and the ſecret enemy of the altar, if not the lukewarm friend of the throne.

No part of the adminiſtration entruſted to M. de Maleſherbes appears to have occupied him more than the abuſes relative to *lettres de cachet*. In a memorial preſented to the king, he ſtates that he found more than half the number of priſoners in the Baſtile, and the dungeons of Vincennes, had been confined upwards of fifteen years, and that their loſs of reaſon rendered them unfit for the enjoyment of liberty. The horror which a benevolent mind muſt feel at ſuch a diſcovery can be eaſily comprehended: but it was leſs the ſight of the victims, than the power of making ſuch, which excited thoſe emotions. "I ſhuddered," exclaims this benevolent miniſter, "on my entering into office, when I found myſelf ſeated at my bureau, oppoſite to a ſingle ſecretary, and abſolute maſter of pronouncing arbitrarily, and without appeal, ſentences, of ſo dreadful a nature."

Our limits compel us reluctantly to poſtpone until the publication of our next paper the high gratification our readers will find in the obſervations on Mr. Tugot's diſmiſſion.

COURT MARTIAL.

Head Quarters, New Orleans, February 1st, 1804.

GENERAL ORDERS.

A General Court Martial under the orders of the Secretary of War, was convened at Frederick town (Maryland) on the 21ſt of November, and continued its ſeſſion until the 6th of December.—This court was compoſed of the following officers, viz.

President.—Col. Berbeck.

Members.—Lieut. Col. Freeman,	
Major Mac Rea,	Capt. Biſſ,
Capt. Read,	Capt. Still,
Capt. Freeman,	Capt. M'Clellen,
Capt. Boote,	Capt. Beall,
Capt. Saunders,	Lieut. Oſborne.

Judge Advocate.—Lieut. Houſe.

Col. THOMAS BUTLER, of the 2nd Regiment of Infantry, was arraigned before this tribunal on the following charges, viz.

Disobedience of Orders and neglect of Duty.—Specifications.

1. For diſobedience of the general orders of the 30th of April, 1801, regulating the uniform of the hair, as will appear from the ſaid orders, and his (the Col's.) correſpondence with the commanding general during the month of May laſt.
2. For diſobedience of the orders of the Preſident of the United States, communicated to him through the regular conſtitutional channel, the inſpector of the army, on the 9th of April, 25th of May and the 8th of June, 1802, as will appear from the letters of the Colonel addreſſed to the Secretary of War, the 8th May, 1802, and to the commanding general, the 7th and 9th of Auguſt, 1802, and by other teſtimony.
3. For neglect of duty in not deſcending the Miſſiſſippi to take command of Fort Adams and organiſe the troops, agreeably to the peace eſtabliſhment, but proceeding to Pittſburg with a military command on his private buſineſs and without permiſſion, as will alſo appear from the correſpondence before referred to, and other teſtimony.

To theſe charges the colonel plead *not guilty*, and the court having examined the teſtimony produced and heard the priſoner on his defence, after mature deliberation, delivered the following ſentence, viz.

"That the priſoner is guilty of diſobedience of the general order of the 30th of April, 1801, and taking into conſideration his long and faithful ſervices, and his general character as an officer, do ſentence him under the 5th article of the 2d ſection of the rules and articles of war, to be reprimanded in general orders.

"The court are alſo of opinion, after due inveſtigation, that the priſoner is not guilty of the 2d and 3d ſpecifications, and that he did according to the true intent and meaning of the orders of the 9th of April, 25th of May, and 8th of June, 1802, faithfully perform his duty, and do therefore acquit him."

The general is induced, by his reſpect for this tribunal, and by conſiderations of expediency, in relation to the public ſervice, to confirm the preceding ſentence, and he hereby commands the priſoner to conform the cut of his hair to the order of the 30th of April, 1801, to reſume his ſword, and join his regiment in this city without delay.

In conforming to this ſentence of the general court martial, the general would feel happy could he add his approbation of the proceedings ſubmitted to him;—but after the moſt patient examination, he finds this irreconcilable to his ideas of juſtice and of duty, and in juſtification of his conduct he thinks proper to aſſign his profeſſion, the conſiderations which direct his judgment—the miſguided ſympathies of the public in perſonal concerns particularly, are as common as falſe alarms, and their effects are ſometimes more extenſive and pernicious, in the caſe which gives birth to theſe remarks we have ſeen much pains taken and great art employed, to pervert the current of juſtice, to vindicate an act of inſubordination and to exculpate a military offender, at the expence of every delicate regard for character, and even of truth itſelf. It is difficult to reſiſt the torrent, of popular opinion, as it is eaſy to excite our ſenſibilities by the cry of perſecution, the war-worn veteran dragged by the iron hand of deſpotiſm, while in vain he pleads his long ſervices, his meritorious deeds, his ſcars, grey hairs, hardſhips and ſufferings, exhibits a ſpectacle to the eye and to the mind, which ſtifles candid enquiry and intereſts the general affections of the human breaſt.

It would ſeem that this court, deluded by artifice and beguiled by the ingenious ſophiſtry of the colonel's defence, have ſuffered their attention to be diverted from the true queſtion on which they were to decide, and permit the beſt faculties of the mind to enliſt on the ſide of error, and inſubordination; an amiable but dangerous infirmity, which can alone account for the priſoner's acquittal from the charge of diſobedience of orders and neglect of duty, or excuſe the conduct of the court, as will be made manifeſt by the following ſummary examination:

On the 9th of April, 1802, the priſoner received an order to "haſten to Fort Adams with all poſſible expedition," in order to carry certain ſpecific arrangements into execution: but if any unforeſeen circumſtance ſhould prevent him from doing ſo, he ought to commit the truſt to diſcreet officers to be retained at that poſt, whom he was to furniſh with the neceſſary inſtructions for his government, and to follow with all practicable expedition.

In the mean time the colonel feeling himſelf indiſpoſed to ſerve longer, proffers his commiſſion to the Preſident for as many months pay as he had ſerved years—this propoſition was rejected, and in reply to the colonel's application for a furlough, we find he received the following order from the Secretary of War, dated the 25th of May, 1802.

"Conſidering your precarious ſtate of health, the ſituation of your children, and your ſervices, he (the Secretary of War) is willing to indulge you with a reaſonable relaxation from duty, and he therefore conſented, that as ſoon as you have completed the organiſation of the troops in the Miſſiſſippi territory, and furniſhed the next officer in rank with the neceſſary information and inſtructions for his government, you return to the ſtate of Pennſylvania, where you will be permitted to remain for the ſpace of three months, after which you are to return to Fort Adams and reſume the command of the poſt."

Here then we find three poſitive mandates impoſed upon the colonel, by the higheſt authority, viz. to "follow the officer he might ſend to Fort Adams with all practicable expedition to take the command, and to furniſh the neceſſary information and inſtructions for his government."

What is the ſequel? Does the colonel follow his officer with "all practicable expedition?" Does he take the command of Fort Adams and "furniſh the officer next in rank with information and inſtructions for his government?" No. It is evident he did neither; but appalled by the mephitical exhalations of the Miſſiſſippi, he feigns pretexts for maintaining his poſt near Naſhville, reiterates his application for a furlough, and finally, in the face of his orders, and under the conſciouſneſs that he was about to tranſgreſs them, [as is apparent from his correſpondence with the ge-