The question being taken on Mr. Nixon's motion for striking out the prohibition on exporting specie, was negatived by 50 to 41.

Mr. *Nixon* moved offered the following as a proviso to be added to the 8th and last section (which extends the time for obtaining domestic stocks.)

And that the terms allowed by law for the payment of all bonds on goods, wares and merchandize imported into the United States shall be, and the same is hereby extended and during the term of six months beyond the time specified on said bonds.

Considerable objection being made to this by several gentlemen on the ground of its being too extensive and the difficulty of finding a precise period for the extension of the time when these bonds should become due, and also from the great injury which the revenue would sustain from such a measure,

The above amendment was so modified as to extend the payment of the bonds beyond and during the continuance of the laying an embargo.

This motion was negatived ayes 13.

The bill having been gone through the committee rose and reported it to the House.

A message was received from the President of the U. S. on Indian affairs, and referred to the committee on military and naval establishments.

THURSDAY, DEC. 31.

The bill supplementary to the act laying an embargo was discussed in the House, when, about 1 o'clock, on motion of Mr. Randolph, it was postponed.

Mr. Randolph then rose for the purpose of making a motion, and giving information to the House which he had just received. This was a duty which he owed not only to himself but to the enlightened and independent freeholders who gave him a seat on this floor, and to the country at large. Within a few days information had been put into his possession, of a nature and on a subject which he deemed it proper for the constituted authority to enquire into. Had this information come earlier into his possession, he would not till now have delayed giving it publicity. He would first state certain facts, and those facts would be the ground of his motion, on which he should offer no argument. Mr. R. then read the following documents.

TRANSLATION.

In the gallery the Victoria, Bernardo Malina, Patron, there have been sent to Don Vincent Folch, nine thousand six hundred and forty dollars, which sum, without making the least use of it, you will hold at my disposal to deliver it at the moment that an order may be presented to you by the American general, Don James Wilkinson. God preserve you many years.

New Orleans, 23d Jan. 1796.

The BARON DE CARONDELET.

To Senor Don Thomas Portell.

I certify that the foregoing is a copy of its original to which I refer.

(Signed) TOMAS PORTELL.

New Madrid, 27th June, 1797.

Fort Washington, Sept. 22, 1796.

Ill health and many pressing engagements must be my apology for a short letter. I must refer you to my letter to the Baron for several particulars and for a detail of my perils and abuses. I must beg leave to refer you to our friend Power whom I find so youthful zealous and disinterested; he certainly deserves well of the court and I don't doubt that he will be rewarded.

What political crisis is the present? and how deeply interesting in its probable results, to all its friends—and thereby must hope it may not be carried into execution. If it is an entire reform let the civile and the military establishments of Louisiana will be found immediately indispensable to the security of the Mexican provinces. I beg you to write me fully on this question in cypher by Power, whose presence in Philadelphia is necessary, as well to clear his own character attacked by Wayne, as to support the fact of the outrage recently offered to the Spanish crown in his person, and to bring me either the person or the deposition of a man now under your command, who had been suborned by Wayne to bear false witness against me, and upon which for fear he should recant, bribed him to leave Kentucky. Power will give you the perfect of his information and transactions, and I conjure you by all the ties of friendship and of policy to assist him on this occasion. If Spain does not resume the outcast offer of a Power in the heart of all Kentucky. My letter to the Baron will explain the motives which carry me to Philadelphia, from thence I will write again to you. Power will explain to you circumstances which justify the belief of the *great treachery that has been practised with respect to the money lately sent me.* For the love of God be friendly with my great *secrecy* and caution in all our concerns. Answer *coffee my name to be written or spoken.*

THE *SERVICE OF WASHINGTON IS BEWARE AWARE.* Beware of Bradford, the Fort Pitt refugee, he seeks to make peace—there are spies every where. We have a report here that you are appointed governor of Louisiana. Had Genet it, as I presume the Baron will be promoted. I am your affectionate friend. W.

Copy of a letter in cypher received from general Wilkinson. Natchez 6th of February, 1797.

(Signed) *Manuel Gayoso de Lemos.*

In a separate paper he says what follows:

This will be delivered to you by Noland whom you know is a child of my own raising, true to his profession and to his attachments to Spain. I consider him a powerful instrument in our hands, should occasion offer, and I answer for his conduct. I am deeply interested in whatsoever concerns him and I confidently retend intend him to your tenderest protection. I am evidently your affectionate

WILKINSON.

A copy.

(Signed) *Manuel Gayoso de Lemos.*

N. B. Don Gayoso was then governor of Natchez and the same year was made governor of Louisiana.

Mr. Randolph stated the following to be an extract of a letter signed T. Power, whose hand-writing he understood could be identified:

"On the 27th of the same month [October last] appeared in the Richmond Enquirer a certificate given by myself to Mr. Wilkinson in New Orleans on the 16th of May preceding. Immediately on my getting sight of that paper which was the same of the next day, I addressed a note to his Excellency Gen. Wilkinson [No. 1] which I have in my possession, and therefore dare not vouch that it is an exact literal transcript of the original. But I will be bold to say that it is nearly (or to make use of the General's own language) *substantially* the same. In that paper I expressed some surprise to many of my friends and acquaintances (I must say it with a blush) and the citizens generally at the seeming contradiction. And between this same certificate and the deductions to be drawn from my declaration before the Richmond court, there is an apparent inconsistency which it is now my duty to reconcile if possible.

During Gen. Wilkinson's residence in New Orleans last winter, I used frequently to visit him—sometimes a few days before he left Orleans I waited upon him one morning, and after some conversation on certain transactions that had taken place at a former period in the western country, and on the situation of affairs, and the conduct during the winter was likely to place him, he asked me if I had any objection to give a certificate which might help him to silence that foul mouthed Bradford, and refute the assertions he had uttered of the Western World. I replied without hesitation that I had none, and would give him one in the strongest terms which I dismissed me it should not be published. On this he assured me that the only use he proposed to make of it was to lay it before the President, with the view to prove the falsehood of the charges circulated against him, vindicate his character and secure the confidence of the executive. This if not exactly is the substance of what the general said. He then desired me to sit down and write the certificate. I observed that I might not make it out so strong as to satisfactorily, and as he best knew the points he wished should be embraced in it he had better make it out himself, and I would copy it. To this he agreed. Next morning I waited on his Excellency, and he presented me the certificate which I copied, as it has been published with a few alterations. One, a very material one, is that which he used words, "*do most solemnly declare that I have, at no time carried or delivered any letter or dispatch from Wilkinson.*" I read the words "*either directly or indirectly.*" And declared to the general that I could not in conscience sign it. He did not insist and contented himself with saying that he wished me to sign it, if my conscience would possibly allow it, but not otherwise. This is ingenuously, exactly what passed between the general and myself at that time.

Now let me with the same frankness and ingenuousness, whether referring to my proceeding or subsequent event, narrate the transaction of 1796, alluded to in my certificate, and compare which I offered to give testimony in the Federal circuit court in Richmond. It is the same thats the prefect Duplaix of Mexico, Mr. Dubrey, Derbigney and Mercier. That of the former gentleman is correct as to subject matter, and I have received from Capt. Dn. Thomas Portell, commandant of New Madrid, the sum of 9640 $ the general Wilkinson, mentioned in letter end of June or beginning of July, 1796, which was packed up in the manner described by Mr. Derbigney, and when I was stopped and my boat searched on the Ohio by fleet. Steele, under the orders of Gen. Anthony Wayne, I had other sums on board, but this was the only one I had received for general Wilkinson. On my arrival at Louisville, determined not to expose myself a second time to military insult and fearful of being overtaken by Steele on his return, and of being again overhauled, I landed my cargo, purchased a horse, and proceeded by land to Cincinnati. As I passed through Lexington, I published in Stewart's Kentucky Herald my affidavit concerning this outrage, supported by those of the spectators of my misfortune, Mr. Thomas Fox and Sanson; preceded by a few strictures on this military piracy, signed Immanuel Kant. And I relied upon publicity of clearing gen. Wilkinson of the charge of being the author of it, as it was published by Bradford in his papers and declare it was written by myself, and that, excepting Captain Campbell Smith, no person saw it before it was put into the hands of the printer.

At Cincinnati I acquainted general W. with the circumstances that had occurred, and he gave me orders to deliver the money to Mr. Philip Nolan. These orders I punctually executed. Mr. Nolan conveyed the barrel of dollars safely to Frankfort in a wagon. I there saw them opened in Mr. Brand's store, mixed with the sugar and coffee, I afterwards sold to Mr. Abijah Hunt of Cincinnati.

I shall take no notice of Mr. M'Donough's affidavit. It does not refer to any thing alluded to in my certificate. The part of it which has reference to my mission to Kentucky and Detroit in 1797, I shall also pass over in silence as it has no connexion with the present subject.

I will now endeavor in a few words to reconcile what may appear contradictory between my certificate and declaration, and the declaration I have just laid before you:

I, as I have said, and dishonorable enough, to descend to tergiversation, captious logic, and sophistical evasion, I could contend that the contradiction does not exist, and that I never did carry or deliver to gen. Wilkinson any letter or dispatch of any species. It is true, I delivered a certain sum of money by his order, but I, as a man, in the Spanish Indies is not James Wilkinson; *ergo*, I may with a safe conscience swear that I never carried or delivered to him, on any money, &c. but I scorn to make use of such pitiful, contemptible, and dishonorable evasions. I could contend that such a