enquiry to be made, that request ought to be granted. It was due to members who believed enquiry necessary. They became themselves responsible for the correctness of their information, and became pledged for the propriety of acting upon it. The House must certainly recollect, a few years since an enquiry was demanded into the official conduct of the Post-Master General, and it was in his opinion very properly granted.

Mr. B. said he should protest against being implicated in all the sentiments which might be expressed by those who intended to vote in the same way he should himself; nor should a fear of that sort ever induce him to abandon the course his judgment approved, and his conscience sanctioned. He thought, however, that the mover of the resolution ought to have laid on the table all the papers which he had read in his place; they might have been examined, and estimated with more correctness by the different members.

(DEBATE TO BE CONTINUED.)

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13.

Mr. Rhea, (T.) moved that the deposition laid on the table by Mr. Clark (N. O.) be printed—Agreed.

Mr. Lewis from the committee to whom the subject was referred, reported a bill authorising the proprietors of squares or lots in the city of Washington, to have them sub-divided. Read twice and referred to a committee of the whole.

Mr. Lloyd obtained leave of absence for ten days.

Mr. W. Alston from the committee to whom was referred the message from the President on the subject of the mint, reported a bill further to prolong the continuance of the mint at Philadelphia. Read twice and referred to a committee of the whole.

Mr. Morrow (Ohio) presented a petition from a number of purchasers of public lands, stating that they were not able to pay the proper instalments, and praying indulgence in point of time. Referred to the committee on public lands.

Mr. Parke offered the following resolution, which was adopted, and Messrs. Parke, Bard, Taggart, Gardner and Sawyer, appointed a committee.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the expediency of extending the right of suffrage in the Indiana territory, and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

The bill for continuing the Mediterranean Fund was returned from the Senate, with amendments.

The House took up for consideration the resolution offered by Mr. Rowan on Monday. The amendments made yesterday by Messrs. Rowan and Love being incorporated with it.

Mr. Alston moved to strike out all the resolution after the word "Resolved" except the part relating to the transmission of the evidence to the Executive.

Mr. Rowan withdrew his resolution, that a decision on the principle might not be evided by the amendment just proposed—and

Mr. Randolph immediately renewed the motion which he originally proposed in the following words:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause an enquiry to be instituted into the conduct of Briga. Gen. James Wilkinson, commander in chief of the armies of the United States, in relation to his having, at any time, while in the service of the United States, corruptly received money from the government of Spain, or its agents.

After a debate of three hours, which shall be given hereafter, the question was taken on this resolution by Yeas and Nays, and carried—72 to 49.

Mr. Eppes said he had stated on a former day in his place that no information had at any time been received by the present administration which went to charge Brigadier General Wilkinson with being a Spanish pensioner. This statement was made in reply to a gentleman from Kentucky, who thought it unnecessary to forward to the Executive the evidence exhibited against General Wilkinson, on the ground that this evidence was already in possession of the Executive department. A fact so important to the public ought not to rest on the assertion of any individual. If corruption has at any period of our political existence fixed its fangs on this government, if men known to be Spanish pensioners have at any period been honored with confidence by any administration; it is proper the people should understand at what period this confidence commenced, and by whom it was reposed. So far back as the year 1789 or 1790, information was forwarded to the Executive department of this government, that a combination between citizens of the United States and the Spanish government, had been formed, for the purpose of dismembering the United States. This information (together with the names of most of the persons concerned in the combination) was forwarded to the first administration formed under this government, at the head of which General Washington was placed. It was known to the second administration under Mr. Adams, and additional information forwarded to him by Mr. Ellicot. If General Wilkinson was originally concerned in this combination, he must have been appointed to office by the first administration under this government, and continued by the second, with a full and complete knowledge of this fact. The present republican party found General Wilkinson in office, and abundant proof can be produced that he possessed the confidence of the two preceding administrations. If he was originally a member of the old Spanish combination, or has at any period prior to the year 1801, been guilty of any act calculated to destroy the public confidence, let the responsibility rest on those who appointed and continued him in office. We have seen in one state of the union a member of this combination removed from the important office of judge, on the ground of being a Spanish pensioner. A charge of the same kind is now made on oath by a member of this House, against an officer of the United States. It is time that all the information possessed by the government of the United States on the subject of this combination, should be brought fairly before the public. With a view to obtain this information, he offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to lay before the House of Representatives all the information which may at any time from the establishment of the present federal government to the present time, have been forwarded to any department of the government, touching a combination between the agents of any foreign government and citizens of the United States, for dismembering the union, or going to shew that any officer of the United States has at any time corruptly received money from any foreign government or its agents. Distinguishing as far as possible the period at which such information has been forwarded, and by whom.

Mr. Randolph seconded this motion.

After a few objections to this resolution from *Mr. Quincy*, on account of its being too comprehensive, not giving the President power to withhold confidential correspondence, the question was on motion of Mr. Rhea (T.) taken by Yeas and Nays, and *carried unanimously*, every member present, to the number of one hundred and twenty, voting in the *affirmative*.

Mr. Rowan said that although a decision on his resolution had been eluded, out of respect for the opinions of gentlemen who objected to particular parts of it, he had modified it, and offered it as follows:

Resolved, That a special committee be appointed to inquire into the conduct of Brigadier General Wilkinson, in relation to his having at any time whilst in the service of the United States, either as a civil or military officer, been a pensioner of the government of Spain, or corruptly received money from that government, or its agents; and that the said committee have power to send for such persons and papers as may be necessary to assist their enquiries; and that they report the result to this House, to enable this House the better to legislate on subjects of the common weal, and our foreign relations, and particularly our relation with Spain, as well as on the subject of the increase of the army of the United States and its regulations.

A motion to consider this resolution was negatived—60 to 46.

Mr. Holland moved that a committee be appointed to wait upon the President with the resolutions this day adopted.

Mr. Love moved that the evidence or information laid before the House relative to the conduct of Gen. Wilkinson be transmitted to the Executive.

Mr. Randolph moved an adjournment.—Negatived—Ayes 47—Nays 57.

The House agreeing to consider Mr. *Love's* motion—Ayes 67.

On motion of Mr. *Rowan*, seconded by Mr. Randolph, the words "copies of" papers, &c. were inserted; and

The resolution for transmitting copies of the papers was agreed to without a division.

The motion for appointing a committee to wait on the President with these resolutions and copies, was agreed to without a division. Messrs. Randolph and Eppes form the committee.

MR. CLARK'S STATEMENT.

In obedience to the direction of the House of Representatives expressed in their resolution of Friday last, I submit the following statement:

I arrived from Europe at New Orleans in December 1786, having been invited to the country by an uncle of considerable wealth and influence, who had been long resident in that city. Shortly after my arrival, I was employed in the office of the Secretary of the government. This office was the depository of all state papers. In 1787 Gen. Wilkinson made his first visit to New Orleans, and was introduced by my uncle to the governor and other officers of the Spanish government.

In the succeeding year, 1788, much sensation was excited by the report of his having entered into some arrangements with the government of Louisiana to separate the western country from the U. States, and this report acquired great credit upon his second visit to New-Orleans in 1789. About this time I saw a letter from the Gen. to a person in New Orleans giving an account of Col. Connolly's mission to him from the British government in Canada and of proposals made to him on the part of that government, and mentioning his determination of adhering to his connexion with the Spaniards.

My intimacy with the officers of the Spanish government, and my access to official information disclosed to me shortly afterwards some of the plans the general had proposed to the government for effecting the contemplated separation. The general project was, the severance of the western country from the U. States, and the establishment of a separate government in the alliance and under the protection of Spain. In effecting this, Spain was to furnish money and arms, and the minds of the western people were to be seduced and brought over to the project by liberal advantages resulting from it, to be held out by Spain. The trade of the Mississippi was to be rendered free, the port of New Orleans to be opened to them, and a free commerce allowed in the productions of the new government with Spain and her West-India islands.

I remember about the same time to have seen a list of names of citizens of the western country which was in the hand writing of the General, who were recommended for pensions, and the sums were stated proper to be paid to each, and I then distinctly understood that he and others were actually pensioners of the Spanish government.

I had no personal knowledge of money being paid to General Wilkinson or to any agent for him on account of his pension previously to the year 1793 or 1794. In one of these years, and in which I cannot be certain until I can consult my books, a Mr. La Cassagne, who I understood was post-master at the falls of Ohio, came to New-Orleans, and as one of the association with General Wilkinson in the project of dismemberment, received a sum of money, four thousand dollars of which or thereabout, were embarked by a special permission free of duty on board a vessel which had been consigned to me, and which sailed for Philadelphia, in which vessel Mr. La Cassagne went passenger. At and prior to this period I had various opportunities of seeing the projects submitted to the Spanish government, and of learning many of the details from the agents employed to carry them into execution.

In 1794, two gentlemen of the names of Owens and Collins, friends and agents of General Wilkinson, came to New-Orleans. To the first was entrusted, as I was particularly informed by the officers of the Spanish government, the sum of six thousand dollars to be delivered to General Wilkinson on account of his own pension, and that of others. On his way, in returning to Kentucky Owens was murdered by his boat's crew, and the money it was understood was made away with by them: This occurrence occasioned a considerable noise in Kentucky, and contributed with Mr. Power's visits at a subsequent period, to awaken the suspicion of General Wayne, who took measures to intercept the correspondence of General Wilkinson with the Spanish government, which were not attended with success.

Collins, the co-agent with Owens, first attempted to fit out a small vessel in the port of New-Orleans, in order to proceed to some port in the Atlantic states; but she was destroyed by the hurricane of the month of August of 1794. He then fitted out a small vessel in the Bayou St. John, and shipped in her at least eleven thousand dollars which he took round to Charleston.

This shipment was made under such peculiar circumstances, that it became known to many, and the destination of it was afterwards fully disclosed to me by the officers of the Spanish government, by Collins, and by Gen. Wilkinson himself, who complained that Collins instead of sending him the money on his arrival had employed it in some wild speculations to the West-Indies, by which he had lost a considerable sum, and that in consequence of the mismanagement of his agents he had derived but little advantage from the money paid on his account by the Spanish government.

Mr. Power was a Spanish subject, resident in Louisiana, and the object of his visits to the western country became known to me in 1796, when he embarked on board the brig Gayoso at New-Orleans for Philadelphia in company with judge Sebastian, in which vessel as she had been consigned to myself, I saw embarked under a special permission four thousand dollars or thereabout, which, I was informed, were for Sebastian's own account, as one of those concerned in the scheme of dismemberment of the Western country.

Mr. Power, as he afterwards informed me, on his tour through the western country, saw General Wilkinson at Greenville, and was the bearer of a letter to him for the Secretary of the government of Louisiana, dated the 7th or 8th March, 1796, advising that a sum of money had been sent to Don Thomas Portell, commandant of New-Madrid, to be delivered to his order. This money Mr. Power delivered to Mr. Nolan, by Wilkinson's directions. What concerned Mr. Nolan's agency in this business I learned from himself, when he afterwards visited New-Orleans.

In 1797, Power was entrusted with another mission to Kentucky, and had directions to propose certain plans to effect the separation of the western country from the U. States. These plans were proposed and rejected, as often solemnly assured me, through the means of a Mr. George Nicholas, to whom among others they were communicated, who spurned the idea of receiving foreign money. Power then proceeded to Detroit to see Gen. Wilkinson, and was sent back by him under guard to New Madrid from whence he returned to New-Orleans. Power's secret instructions were known to me afterwards, and I am enabled to state that the plan then contemplated entirely failed.

At the periods spoken of, and for some time afterwards I was resident in the Spanish territory, subject to the Spanish laws, and without an expectation of becoming a citizen of the U. States. My obligations were then to conceal and not to communicate to the government of the United States, the projects and enterprizes which I have mentioned of General Wilkinson and the Spanish government.

In the month of October of 1798, I visited General Wilkinson by his particular request at his camp at Loftus's heights, where he had shortly before arrived. The General had heard of remarks made by me on the subject of his pension, which had rendered him uneasy, and he was desirous of making some arrangements with me on the subject. I passed three days and nights in the General's tent. The chief subjects of our conversation were the views and enterprizes of the Spanish government in relation to the U. States, and speculations as to the result of political affairs. In the course of our conversations he stated that there was still a balance of ten thousand dollars due him by the Spanish government, for which he would gladly take in exchange Governor Gayoso's plantation near the Natchez, who might reimburse himself from the treasury at New-Orleans. I asked the General whether this sum was due on the old business of the pension—he replied that it was, and intimated a wish that I should propose to Governor Gayoso a transfer of his plantation for the money due him from the Spanish treasury. The whole affair had always been odious to me, and I declined any agency in it. I acknowledged to him that I had often spoken freely and publicly of his Spanish pension, but told him I had communicated nothing to his government on the subject. I advised him to drop his Spanish connexion. He justified it heretofore from the peculiar situation of Kentucky, the disadvantages that country laboured under at the period when he formed his connexion with the Spaniards, the doubtful and distracted state of the Union at that time, which he represented as bound together by nothing better than a rope of sand, and he assured me solemnly that he had terminated his connexions with the Spanish government, and that they never should be renewed. I gave the General to understand that as the affair stood I should not in future say any thing about it. From that period until the present I have heard one report only of the former connexion being renewed, and that was in 1804, shortly after the General's departure from New-Orleans. I had been absent for two or three months and returned to the city not long after General Wilkinson sailed from it. I was informed by the late mayor, that reports had reached the ears of the governor of a sum of ten thousand dollars having been received by the General, of the Spanish government while he was one of the commissioners for taking possession of Louisiana. He wished me to enquire into the truth of them, which I agreed to do, on condition that I might be permitted to communicate the suspicion to the general, if the fact alledged against him could not be better verified. This was assented to. I made the enquiry and satisfied myself by an inspection of the Treasury book for 1804, that the ten thousand dollard had not been paid. I then communicated the circumstance to a friend of the General, Mr. Evan Jones, with a request that he would inform him of it. The report was revived at the last session of Congress by a letter from Col. Ferdinand Clairborne of Natchez to the delegate of the Mississippi territory. A member of the House informed me that the money in question was acknowledged by Gen. Smith to have been received at the time mentioned, but that it was in payment for tobacco. I knew that no tobacco had been delivered and waited on Gen. Smith for information as to the receipt of the money, who disavowed all knowledge of it, and I took the opportunity of assuring him and as many others as mentioned the subject, that I believed it to be false, and gave them my reasons for the opinion.

This summary necessarily omits many details tending to corroborate and illustrate the facts and opinions I have stated. No allusion has been had to the public explanations of the transaction referred to, made by gen. Wilkinson and his friends. So far as they are resolved into commercial enterprizes and speculations, I had the best opportunity of being acquainted with them, as I was during the time referred to, the agent of the House who were consignees of the general at New Orleans, and who had an interest in his shipments, and whose books are in my possession.

Washington City, 11th January, 1808.

DANIEL CLARK.

District of Columbia, to wit: January 11, 1808.

Personally appeared before me, William Cranch, chief judge of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia, Daniel Clark, Esq. who being solemnly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, doth depose and say, that the foregoing statement made by him under the order of the House of Representatives, so far as regards matters of his own knowledge is true, and so far as regards the matters whereof he was informed by others he believes to be true.

Sworn before me,

W. CRANCH.

FRESH RAISINS, TEAS, &c.

Now landing from on board the schooner CITIZEN, Capt. Sturges from New York, and for sale by

W. & C. SMITH.

50 boxes fresh Muscatel raisins,
50 chests choice hyson, young hyson, hyson skin and imperial teas,
10 quarter casks Lisbon wine,
11 boxes Prussian fig blue.

Also just received,

10 puncheons well flavored Antigua rum,
10 pipes cogniac brandy, 4th proof, and a small supply of excellent fresh nutmegs.

Georgetown, Jan. 15—w1f

PUBLIC SALE.

BY virtue of a decree of the honorable the High Court of Chancery of Maryland, the subscriber will sell at public sale on the premises on Monday the 22d day of February next, All the real estate of Dr. William Lansdale, deceased, lying and being in Saint Mary's county, consisting of the following tracts of Land, to wit: "The Ramble," "Hounslow," and "The Street," adjoining each other and containing about 1000 acres. The above estate is situated in a healthy genteel neighborhood about two miles from Leonard town. The improvements consist of a large and convenient Brick Dwelling House, four rooms below and four above stairs, with a Kitchen adjoining, meat house, stables, corn house and granery, and a young thriving apple orchard. The dwelling house stands on an eminence commanding a view of the whole of the flat land of said estate, which is esteemed to be of the first quality in the county, and is adapted to the cultivation of tobacco, corn, small grain, and clover, and is deemed the finest grazing land in the county—a few acres of said land are now in grass and much more may be easily laid down; there is a fine stream of water that runs through this estate, on which has been heretofore a valuable mill. A further description is unnecessary. Persons inclined to purchase, will be shewn the premises and the title papers and decree, on application to the subscriber at the county court office, in Leonard town.

This property will be sold entire or in such parcels as may be deemed advantageous, after an actual survey, a plot of which will be shewn before and on the day of sale. The terms of sale are that the purchaser of the whole or any part thereof shall give bond with approved security for the paying the purchase money with interest, within twelve months from the day of sale.

Those persons having claims against the said deceased are hereby requested to exhibit the same with the vouchers thereof to the subscriber on or before the 22d day of August next.

JOSEPH HARRISS, Trustee.

Leonard Town, Jan. 15—wtds