Continued from first page.

of course dismissed from office, sunk under the weight of a vote of the House of Representatives, he neither enjoyed public nor private confidence and without trial by jury or the hopes of relief, this early patriot was consigned to penury and infamy by such a vote as is now urged by the mover.

The council of censors, a political body appointed by the constitution of that state to examine and censure the deviations from the constitution made by the different branches of the government, that body along with many other cases passed a just censure on this. The oppressed took courage, had his action brought on before a court and jury, and it was found that so far from being a defaulter he was found a creditor for a considerable sum from the state, which was awarded him by the court, but what was still more remarkable he was unanimously elected secretary of the Senate on the same floor on which he had been unjustly degraded, by members many of whom differed from him in political sentiments. He still enjoys public confidence and office. That legislature under the influence of popular leaders to gratify personal or party enmities assuming in various instances the powers of the other departments was a principal cause of the constitution of that state being revised.

The same conduct will produce the same effects in all very numerous bodies. They were well calculated for legislation, but badly calculated for judicial decisions, or holding inquisitions on the characters and conduct of invividuals, and happily they are vested with no such power by the constitution. Whatever the guilt or innocence of Gen. Wilkinson was, had nothing to do with the question, the House were not judges of it. It is a good, and generally approved maxim, that persons are to be presumed innocent till they were legally convicted; but if the House countenanced this proceeding, they would be giving their weight, and a mighty weight it was to pronounce the person guilty before trial; doing this as had been well expressed yesterday by his colleague, would subject an individual to punishment by the state judiciaries, because exciting prejudices against the person had a tendency to prevent a fair trial. Courts of justice were provided for deciding and awarding punishments to every crime, why distrust the constitutional authorities, and attempt to assume the powers vested in them? Where such irregular and unauthorised attempts are made, there is good ground to suspect the motives for which they are made. Indeed the mover of the resolution the other day, on the question of postponement, informed the House that he had in part accomplished his object, but left us to guess what that was, this however was not difficult to do. When the usual course of proceeding is deserted and irregular and extraordinary methods are resorted to, to destroy an official character who has long merited and enjoyed public confidence, it ought to be presumed that such character cannot be convicted of a crime either in the civil or military courts, but though this is the natural and reasonable presumption, yet the reverse of this is the general opinion, because there is with reason a general biass in the minds of man to suspicion and distrust, and when this biass is aided by the mighty weight of a vote of the House of Representatives of the United States, supposed to contain the collected wisdom of the nation, this being out of the usual course, induces people to believe the person implicated to be a monster of uncommon magnitude, and dangerous in the extreme. When some popular and revengeful leader has succeeded so far, what can the accused do but sit down and mourn over his misfortunes, and his having been deceived. That in reading the constitution and the law, when he accepted of an office of trust, he calculated on being dealt with according to these rules, but did not calculate on having his character, more valuable to him than property or even life, arraigned, disposed of and destroyed by a body of men who had no authority vested in them for such purposes, and who were so privileged as to be protected from actions of damage for slander. Mr. F. said that every man so oppressed could not calculate on rising with honor from under the depressing load of calumny, and seeing his oppressors sink to infamy, and the constitution, to prevent such degrading outrages for the future, revised, as the now master of the rolls, formerly secretary of the state of Pennsylvania had seen.

Mr. F. concluded by saying that not for favor or lenity to Gen. Wilkinson more than any other citizen, he was opposed to this proceeding, that for the honor and usefulness of the government he was opposed to it, that he thought himself, and taught his children and friends to think, that the House of Representatives was the sheet anchor of our liberties. To preserve that character, to the legislature, particularly to that Branch, from being the terror and scourge of the citizens at the nod of a popular leader, and to preserve the character which the constitution, the only bond of Union between the states, intitled it to enjoy, he would vote against this unconstitutional and disorderly resolution in the form it was now presented, and in every possible form, except to refer it to the President as information which only belonged to the Executive.

Mr. CLARK then laid before the House a translated extract of a Spanish letter heretofore given in this paper.

Mr. TAYLOR moved to postpone the consideration of the resolution.

Mr. CROWNINSHIELD had not intended to say any thing on this subject; but after four or five days spent on the subject, he felt disposed to say a few words. What, after so long a discussion, had the House done? They had spent the whole of yesterday in debating whether they should request information. What had been the result of their determination? The gentleman from Virginia had simply laid on the table the papers which he had read in his place: The gentleman from Orleans had offered a letter to the House from the Spanish consul, proving that the Spanish government had projected a scheme to separate Kentucky from the union. Whether general Wilkinson was concerned in it or not they did not know; the letter therefore had no bearing on the subject before the House.

What were they now called upon to do? To request the President to institute an enquiry into the conduct of Brigadier General Wilkinson. Was this proper or right? Was it just to the officer or to the character of the House? The House had no right to act on the subject at all. It was understood that an enquiry had been ordered with regard to the conduct of this officer generally; then why proceed a step further in this? Why request the President to do what he had actually done? Mr. C. saw no necessity for it. He did not wish to give an opinion as to the character of this officer; he knew nothing about it; but they surely would not attempt to ruin the character of a meritorious officer upon mere hearsay. They owed it to their own character not to make the enquiry at this time: he was surprized at the time which had been occupied by this already, and the more he reflected, the more he thought the resolution should be immediately decided. Were they to wait till the gentleman from New Orleans should receive this evidence from the western country? Let us dispose of it at once, said he. As to general Wilkinson's rank in the army about which so much had been said, Mr. C. did not conceive that this officer was commander in chief of the army of the U. S. He understood the President to be commander in chief. If the militia were called out, Wilkinson would not command. Any major general of militia would take precedence of him.

Mr LLOYD said the gentleman from Massachusetts seemed to be in great haste to decide upon this resolution, because information was not yet before them. Mr. L. said as the House had thought proper to adopt the resolution, they must have had some object in view. Did the gentleman expect that the House would call upon gentlemen to lay information on the table touching a man's character without intending to act upon it? Mr. L. thought this could not be. If gentlemen who yesterday voted for the resolution calling for information, now wished to decide the main question, what object could they have in view? It was true that as yet no information had been laid on the table; the gentleman had not had time to prepare it.

The gentleman from Massachusetts had expressed his surprize that so much time had been taken up in the discussion. Mr. L. said although he would not be considered as giving his opinion as to the guilt or innocence of general Wilkinson, he thought the subject was important, as respected the officer himself and the interests of his country. If there were advocates or friends of this person in the House, they ought not to hesitate a moment in voting for an enquiry. How was the character of gen. W. to be relieved from the suspicion under which it now labored, except his conduct were enquired into? On the other hand, how otherwise were the people to be convinced of his innocence, and feel that confidence in him which was necessary for the commander in chief? An enquiry ought to be had as respected him, on the one hand, and his country on the other.

The gentleman seemed to chuckle at the idea that this was all the evidence that would be produced: Mr. L. would ask if this was not sufficient ground for a request to the President to cause an enquiry which might produce more? It certainly was. Call upon the President, said Mr. L. to make an enquiry; and when that enquiry is had, other documents may be procured. But the House were told that an enquiry was ordered. Were they to arrest a legislative act on information in this manner—for they had no official information of it? Surely not.

Mr. L. would not say more at this time; he would not give an opinion on the guilt or innocence of the person accused. He hoped that the papers laid on the table by the gentlemen from N. Orleans and Virginia would be recorded; and when further information was received, that they would act on it.

Mr. MILNER observed that what had been said by the gentleman last up was a sufficient reason why this should not now be decided on—that there was other information to be laid before the House. Now, was it necessary or right for the House to act with so much precipitancy on this subject as was urged? He thought for his own part that they were entirely premature in taking this resolution into consideration at this time. The resolution went merely to request the President of the United States to institute an enquiry. It ought to go farther; it ought to order these papers to be transmitted to the President. If they passed the resolution as it now stood, might not the President with propriety return it and ask on what grounds they had passed it? The whole information in their possession should be laid before the President that he might judge of the propriety of causing an enquiry. Mr. M. had been throughout opposed to making this request; he had before said that if gentlemen would lay information upon the table, he would be willing to transmit such information to the President of the U. S. This would be doing all that their duty required; and if they did more, they would interfere with the duty of the Executive. It had been stated that an enquiry was instituted. He recollected that a gentleman had yesterday stated that a military trial would be a mere nullity. Admitting this fact, the resolution asked nothing more than that an enquiry should be made. Why then should they precipitate themselves into this measure, when they understood, although not "officially" communicated, that an enquiry was instituted; and it had never been customary for the President of the U. S. to inform the House of the institution of a court of enquiry for any particular purpose. He hoped the resolution would lie on the table, that they might have all the light on the subject which they had reason to expect.

Mr. W. ALSTON thought that if gentlemen were satisfied that an enquiry would be made in a full, fair, and open manner, they need not discuss the subject at this time in this place; neither would he shut the door against any information which the gentleman from Orleans, after brushing up his recollection might have to communicate. He should be willing to receive it, but not at the time the subject was pending, to be subject to the animadversions of gentlemen in debate. It was proper now to decide on the resolution; and if his opinion prevailed, it would be rejected: he should be willing to transfer these papers to the place where they might and ought to be made use of; and if the gentleman from N. Orleans should at any time hereafter communicate any information, it might be sent to the same place. Without exciting the public mind by inflammatory speeches, justice ought to be done. The information of the gentleman from Orleans was stated to be verbal. Now he would leave it to the good sense of the House whether it would be proper to receive such information as the gentleman was going to communicate in such a manner as might subject it to animadversion. Would it not be better to get rid of this subject, to make use of the evidence in the only way which it could be properly disposed of. If any gentleman could conceive that this resolution would serve any beneficial purpose, let it be adopted; but if gentlemen were of opinion that a full enquiry would be had, he saw no reason why they should refuse to be influenced by that opinion because official information of its establishment had never been communicated. In giving his vote he should act agreeably to the impression made on his mind by the knowledge of an enquiry having been instituted in the same manner as if it had been officially made known to him. He could see no good that would result from postponement day after day, and spinning out discussion as they had done; he therefore hoped the resolution would be rejected, and that a motion would be agreed to for transmitting them to the President of the United States, or to the Secretary of War.

MR. GARDENIER said it did appear to him if there had been a sincere disposition to promote a fair enquiry, there would not have been so much complaint of the time of the House being taken up in discussion. It was not to be supposed that the most proper way would at once have been fallen on by the House; and he thought he perceived in a majority of the House a sincere desire to perform the duty which they owed to the people. Mr. G. did not think, when the House voted to take up the resolution, this morning, that they were in a situation to decide upon it. If the testimony of the gentleman from New-Orleans were as full as he had much reason to believe it was, Mr. G. said he could be inclined to vote against the resolution of the gentleman from Virginia or for its postponement, for the purpose of appointing a committee of enquiry into the whole transaction. It had been yesterday said that the government of Spain had set a side a large sum for the purpose of corrupting our citizens: to what extent the project had succeeded the House had not yet learnt; but this they knew that it was their duty not to shut their eyes against transactions so enormous. Whether the appointment of such a general committee of investigation would be proper or not, depended very much on the information which should be communicated by the gentleman from N. Orleans.

As to the particular subject of the enquiry which had been instituted by the President, Mr. G. was willing to hope it had been done with the best views, but could not help supposing that this enquiry must be inefficient, because all the powers with which the President could clothe that tribunal were not competent to the end in view. It could not be true that a military tribunal could be clothed with authority to attach or commit to prison those who refused to obey its process. It would be the establishment of military law to a certain extent. It would be granting to the military a power belonging exclusively to a civil magistrate. Such a court might make enquiry of those willing to attend & give evidence; but could not compel the attendance of witnesses who were disposed to decline their invitation. The want of these powers was so evidently proved by the distinction between civil and military institutions, that he should suppose it required no argument to prove it; military courts only possessed power in cases of military conduct and then but over military characters. He had it from the authority of a military gentleman in whom he could confide, that such a tribunal as had been established could not compel the attendence of witnesses.

Mr. G. said he could be well content to let this enquiry proceed if he could be satisfied that the tribunal had power sufficient to embrace the subject; but if not, it was evident that the whole must terminate in an unsatisfactory manner, that the committee or tribune would report that they had not been able to find any thing to criminate Gen. W. which would but establish his innocence. The House knew that these charges had been resounded against Gen. W.—they knew that a gentleman in the western country of high standing (he meant Mr. Davis) had invited Gen. W. to prosecute him for writing and publishing that he was a pensioner of Spain; that gentleman had asserted that it was in his power to prove these charges. Mr. G. thought that in a case of this kind that gentleman should be examined, but he could not be by this tribunal; if this person could not be compelled to give evidence, much less could the gentleman from New-Orleans; knowing this, the House had requested the gentleman from New Orleans to communicate to the House the information in his possession.

If a court of enquiry had been instituted, said Mr. G. it ought not to arrest the proceedings of this House. It is in our power and ours only to appoint a committee who shall have power to send for persons and papers; it is to this House only, that the power can be confided. Was it ever before known that in a country in which the gold of a foreign power had been distributed for years, the circumstances concerning which being so little known, that so much listlessness had been exhibited about a matter of so much importance, so eminently demanding the attention of the Grand Inquest of the nation. Gentlemen had contended they had not power to act in this case; that corruption should stalk abroad, and treason be engendered in the very vitals of the nation, and that this House had no right to make an enquiry, or take such steps as the public safety might require. He had before said he could not reason on this subject; indeed he could not. He therefore hoped the resolution would lie on the table, because they were not arrived at that stage of the business in which they could be enabled to decide.

(Continued on second page.)

A GREAT BARGAIN.

JOSEPH WHEATON *Broker and Commission Merchant*, has put into his hands for sale, at his office in F street near the Bank, a valuable property in the city of Washington, consisting of 646,453 square feet of city LOTS advantageously situated on the most prominent and valuable streets, and near the Navy Yard and bridge, and to be had on the most reasonable terms of payment. This great bargain is recommended to gentlemen desirous of securing an early fortune, in this truly growing and flourishing city; the permanent residence and seat of the government of the United States. Other city property to be had—HOUSES and LOTS—Enquire as above.

All kinds of STOCKS bought and sold.

☞ *Wanted to Purchase a few MILITARY LAND WARRANTS*

Washington city, Dec. 11—tf

LINDSAY'S HOTEL.

The Subscriber has taken that well calculated house on the Capitol Hill Late occupied by *Mr. Frost* formerly by *Mr. Stelle*—Where he intends to open a Tavern on the 24th October. Those gentlemen who may favor him with their Custom may rely on every attention in the Power of the Public's devoted Servant.

GEO. W. LINDSAY.

N. B.—EIGHT or TEN *BOARDERS* may be conveniently accommodated.

October 19—tf.

TWO ELEGANT FORTEPIANOS.

THE subscriber has just received two instruments made by Broadwood, of the first quality, and probably superior to any in this place. He has also all kinds of *DRY & WET GOODS*, among the latter peach brandy 6 years old, fourth proof, and best kind of *HAMS*—also, he offers a pair of *PISTOLS*, in mahogany case, said to shoot between two and three hundred yards, with a musket handle, original cost 100 dollars.

F. A. WAGLER,
At his New Store, near the Centre Market.

N. B. Instruments tuned on the shortest notice.

December 25—tf.

A BRICK HOUSE & LOT FOR SALE.

ON Monday the 8th day of February next, if fair, if not the next fair day, will be exposed to public sale on the premises at 4 o'clock in the evening, part of Lot No. 6, in Square No. 141, in this city, fronting 16 feet 9 inches on North G street, and running back 183 feet, with the improvements thereon, consisting of a convenient two story Brick House and enclosure. The Lot was leased to the former tenant for a term of 99 years at the rent of 55 dollars per annum, and the benefit of a covenant to purchase the fee simple thereof.

On default of payment of three years rent, the subscriber has been put in possession of the premises, according to the law in such cases provided; for which, and accruing expences, it will be sold, subject to the conditions of the former case, and a new lease executed to the purchaser on complying with the terms of sale. Being in the vicinity of the public offices, and, in a thick settled genteel neighborhood, it would be an eligible situation for a gentlemen doing business in either of the departments. The premises may be viewed and the papers seen by applying to *Thomas Herty*, prior to the day of sale.

JOSEPH NOURSE.

☞ Terms of sale, a negotiable note with an approved endorser, payable 60 days after date.

January 18—tds

PHILADELPHIA
GRAND LOTTERY.

HIGHEST PRIZE 10,000 DOLLARS.
Authorised by an act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania.
For the encouragement of
USEFUL ARTS.

CASH PRIZES.

1	Prize of 10,000 dollars —	10,000
2	do. of 5,000 —	10,000
5	do. of 1,000 —	5,000
10	do. of 500 —	5,000
10	do. of 200 —	2,000
40	do. of 100 —	4,000
100	do. of 50 —	5,000
200	do. of 20 —	4,000
500	do. of 10 —	5,000
1,000	do. to consist of machines for opening off cast worsted & open wrought woollen clothing into wool, valued at 100 dollars each, (patent right included)	100,000
1,000	do. to consist of rights for manufacturing ornamental mouldings for dwelling houses & shipping, valued at 50 dollars each,	50,000
	Dollars	200,000

Subject to a deduction of 15 per cent.

The most valuable cash prizes from 200 dollars and upwards, to be determined as follows:

First drawn number on the first ten day's drawing, each Dolls.	200
First drawn number on the succeeding ten days, each	500
First drawn number on the succeeding five days, each	1,000
First drawn number on the succeeding two days, each	5,000
First drawn number on the last days' drawing	10,000

This lottery will positively commence drawing on the 23d day of February next, and will be completed in 28 days at intervals, under the superintendance of gentlemen appointed by the Governor to whom approved security has been given, for the faithful drawing of the Lottery agreeably to the scheme. The numbering for the wheels has so far progressed, under the directions of Mr. *James Oellers*, as to justify fixing the day of drawing. The cash prizes will be paid at the Bank in thirty days after the conclusion of the drawing, and the machines and composition rights delivered to order, on payment of the deduction as above. All prizes must be demanded in one year after the drawing, or they will be considered as relinquished after that time.

TICKETS at One Dollar and Fifty Cents each, to be had of

James Oellers, No. 1, S. Third st.
Leonard Reckhule, No. 79, N. Third street.
Thomas Peters, No. 22, N. Second st.
Thos Bedwell, No. 178, N. Third st.
Silas Willson, No. 341, N. Front st.
John Shaw, No. 252, N. Second st.
Charles Bitters, No. 11, [illegible]
Isaac Carpenter, No. 245, S. Second street.
Daniel Miller, No. 427, N. Second st.
And at the OFFICES of the Aurora and Freeman's Journal.

The price of tickets will advance as the drawing progresses.

Note—The purchaser or holder of every ticket will be entitled to a valuable patent right for manufacturing Soap, Starch, and Hair Powder, from Potatoes, by a process entirely new, besides a chance of the many valuable cash prizes.

☞ Tickets for Sale at *J. March's* Book-store, Georgetown, and at the Book-store of *R. C. Weightman*, Pennsylvania avenue, Washington City.

January 8—[illegible]