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SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1791.

[Whole No. 235.]

PHILADELPHIA, July 30.

## GENERAL SCOTT.

*Extract of a Letter from Brigadier General Charles Scott, to the Secretary for the Department of War, dated Lexington, the 20th of June, 1791.—received by Lieutenant Belli, who arrived in town on Tuesday last, from the Western Country.*

IN prosecution of the enterprise, I marched four miles from the banks of the Ohio on the 23d of May, and on the 24th I resumed my march, and pushed forward with the utmost industry, directing my route to Ouiattanan, in the best manner my guides, and information, enabled me, though I found myself greatly deficient in both.

By the 31st, I had marched one hundred and thirty-five miles, over a country cut by four large branches of White River, and many smaller streams, with steep muddy banks: During this march, I traversed a country alternately interspersed with the most luxuriant soil, and deep clayey bogs, from one to five miles wide, rendered almost impervious by brush and briars. Rain fell in torrents every day, with frequent blasts of wind and thunder storms. These obstacles impeded my progress, wore down my horses, and destroyed my provisions.

On the morning of the 1st inst. as the army entered an extensive prairie, I perceived an Indian on horseback, a few miles to the right: I immediately made a detachment to intercept him, but he escaped. Finding myself discovered, I determined to advance with all the rapidity my circumstances would permit, rather with the hope than the expectation of reaching the object fought that day; for my guides were strangers to the country which I occupied. At 1 o'clock, having marched by computation one hundred and fifty-five miles from the Ohio, as I penetrated a grove, which bordered on an extensive prairie, I discovered two small villages at my left, at two and four miles distance.

My guides now recognized the ground, and informed me that the main town was four or five miles in my front, behind a point of wood which jutted into the prairie. I immediately detached Col. John Hardin, with sixty mounted infantry, and a troop of light horse, under Capt. McCoy, to attack the villages to the left, and moved on briskly, with my main body, in order of battle, towards the town, the smoke from which was discernible. My guides were deceived with respect to the situation of the town; for instead of standing at the edge of the plain, through which I marched, I found it on the low ground bordering on the Wabash; on turning the point of woods, one house presented in my front. Capt. Price was ordered to assault that with forty men: He executed the command with great gallantry, and killed two warriors. When I gained the summit of the eminence which overlooks the villages on the banks of the Wabash, I discovered the enemy in great confusion, endeavoring to make their escape over the river in canoes. I instantly ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Wilkinson to rush forward with the first battalion: the order was executed with promptitude, and this detachment gained the bank of the river just as the rear of the enemy had embarked: And regardless of a brisk fire kept up from a Kickapoo Town, on the opposite bank, they in a few minutes, by a well directed fire from their rifles, destroyed all the Savages with which five canoes were crowded.

To my great mortification the Wabash was many feet beyond fording at this place. I therefore detached Colonel Wilkinson to a ford two miles above, which my guides informed me, was more practicable.

The enemy still kept possession of the Kickapoo Town. I determined to dislodge them, and for the purpose ordered Captains King's and Longdon's companies to march down the river, below the town, and cross under the conduct of Major Barbee: Several of the men swam the river, and others passed in a small canoe. This movement was unobserved, and my men had taken post on the bank before they were discovered by the enemy, who immediately abandoned the village.—About this time word was brought me, that Col. Hardin was incumbered with prisoners, and had discovered a stronger village further to my left, than those I had observed, which he was proceeding to attack. I immediately detached Captain Brown with his company, to support the Colonel; but the distance being six miles, before the Captain arrived the business was done, and Colonel Hardin joined me a little before sunset, having killed six warriors and taken fifty-two prisoners. Captain Bull, the warrior who discovered me in the morning, had gained the main town and given the alarm a short time before me; but the villages to my left were uninformed of my approach and had no retreat. The next morning I determined to detach my Lieut. Col. Commandant with five hundred men, to destroy the important town of Kethlipcanunk, at the mouth of Eel river, eighteen miles from my camp, and on the west side of the Wabash: But on examination I discovered my men and horses to be crippled & so worn down by a long, laborious march, and the active exertions of the preceding day; that three hundred and sixty men only could be found in capacity to undertake the enterprise, and they prepared to march on foot.

Colonel Wilkinson marched with this detachment at half after five in the evening, and returned to my camp the next day at one o'clock, having marched thirty-six miles in twelve hours, and destroyed the most important settlement of the enemy in that quarter of the federal territory: In No. 3 you will find the colonel's report respecting the enterprise.

Many of the inhabitants of this village were French, and lived in a state of civilization: by the books, letters and other documents found there, it is evident, that place was in close connection with, and dependant on Detroit; a large quantity of corn, a variety of household goods, peltry and other articles were burned with this village; which consisted of about 70 houses, many of them well finished.

Misunderstanding the object of a white flag, which appeared on an eminence opposite to me in the afternoon of the first, I liberated an aged squaw and sent with her a message to the Savages, that if they would come in and surrender, their towns should be spared and they should receive good treatment. [It was afterwards found that this white flag was not intended as a signal of parity; but was placed there to mark the spot where a person of distinction among the Indians, who had died some time before, was interred.] On the 4th I determined to discharge 16 of the weakest and most infirm of my prisoners, with a talk to the Wabash tribes, a copy of which you will find inclosed. My motives to this measure were, to rid the army of a heavy incumbrance, to gratify the impulses of humanity, to increase the panick my operations had produced, and by distracting the councils of the enemy, to favor the views of government: and I flatter my-

self these objects will justify my conduct, and secure the approbation of my country.

On the same day, after having burned the towns and adjacent villages, and destroyed the growing corn and pulse, I began my march, for the rapids of the Ohio, where I arrived the 14th inst. without the loss of a single man by the enemy, and five only wounded, having killed thirty-two, chiefly warriors of size and figure, and taken fifty-eight prisoners.

It is with much pride and pleasure I mention, that no act of inhumanity, has marked the conduct of the volunteers of Kentucky on this occasion, even the inveterate habit of scalping the dead, ceased to influence.

I have delivered forty-one prisoners to Capt. Asheton of the first United States' regiment at Fort Steuben.

I sincerely lament, that the weather and the consequences it produced, rendered it impossible for me to carry terror and desolation to the head of the Wabash.—The corps I had the honor to command, was equal to the object, but the condition of my horses and state of my provisions, were insuperable obstacles to my own intentions, and the wishes of all.

It would be invidious to make distinctions in a corps which appeared to be animated with one soul, and where a competition for danger and for glory, inspired all ranks.

I however, consider it my duty to mention, Colonel John Hardin, who, in the character of a volunteer, without commission, had command of my advance party, and the direction of my guides from the Ohio River, for the discernment, courage and activity with which he fulfilled the trust I reposed in him.— And I cannot close this letter in justice to the merits of General Wilkinson, who went out my Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant, without acknowledging my obligations for the faithful discharge of the several duties depending on him, and the able support which he gave me in every exigency."

### General WILKINSON'S Report.

Camp, Ouiattanan, June 3, 1791,

SIR,  
THE detachment under my command, destined to attack the village Kethlipcanunk, was put in motion at half after five o'clock last evening. Knowing that an enemy whose chief dependence is in his dexterity as a marksman, and alertness in covering himself behind trees, stumps, and other impediments to fair fight, would not hazard an action in the light, I determined to push my march until I approached the vicinity of the villages where I knew the country to be champaigne. I gained my point without a halt, twenty minutes before eleven o'clock; lay upon my arms until four o'clock, and half an hour after assaulted the town at all quarters. The enemy was vigilant, gave way on my approach, and in canoes crossed Eel Creek, which washed the North East part of the town.—That creek was not fordable. My corps dashed forward with the impetuosity becoming volunteers, and were fluted by the enemy with a brisk fire from the opposite side of the creek. Dauntless they rushed on to the water's edge, uncovered, to the Moccasin, and finding it impassable, returned a volley, which felled and disconcerted their antagonists, that they threw away their fire without effect. In five minutes the Indians were driven from the covering, and fled with precipitation. I have three men slightly wounded. At half past five the town was in flames, and at six o'clock I commenced my retreat.

I want language to do justice to the courage and good conduct of the gentlemen who composed my detachment; in neither could they be exceeded by veteran troops.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

Brigadier-General SCOTT. JAMES WILKINSON.

(A Copy.)

To the various Tribes of the Peankashaws, and all the Nations of Red People, living on the waters of the Wabash River.

THE Sovereign Council of the Thirteen United States, have long patiently borne your depredations against their settlements on this side of the great mountains, in hope that you would see your error, and correct it, by entering into bonds of amity and lasting peace. Moved by compassion, and pitying your misguided councils, they have frequently addressed you on this subject, but without effect. At length their patience is exhausted, and they have stretched forth the arm of power against you. Their mighty sons and chief warriors have at length taken up the hatchet; they have penetrated far into your country, to meet your warriors, and punish them for their transgressions. But you fled before them, and declined the battle, leaving your wives and children to their mercy. They have destroyed your old towns, Ouiattanan, and the neighbouring villages, and have taken many prisoners. Resting here two days, to give you time to collect your strength, they have proceeded to your town of Kethlipcanunk; but you again fled before them; and that great town has been destroyed. After giving you this evidence of their power, they have stopped their hands, because they are as merciful as strong, and they again indulge the hope, that you will come to a sense of your true interest, and determine to make a lasting peace with them and all their children forever. The United States have no desire to destroy the Red People, although they have the power; but should you decline this invitation, and pursue your unprovoked hostilities, their strength will again be exerted against you, your warriors will be slaughtered, your towns and villages ransacked and destroyed, your wives and children carried into captivity, and you may be assured, that those who escape the fury of our mighty chiefs, shall find no resting place on this side the Great Lakes. The warriors of the United States with not to distress or destroy women and children or old men, and although policy obliges them to retain some in captivity, yet compassion and humanity have induced them to set others at liberty, who will deliver you this talk. Those who are carried off will be left in the care of our great chief and warrior General St. Clair, near the mouth of Miami and opposite to the Licking River, where they will be treated with humanity and tenderness; if you wish to recover them, repair to that place by the first day of July next; determined with true hearts to bury the hatchet, and smoke the pipe of peace, they will then be restored to you, and you may again set down in security at your old towns, and live in peace and happiness; unmolested by the people of the United States, who will become your friends and protectors, and will be ready to furnish you with all the necessaries you may require. But should you foolishly persist in your warfare, the sons of war will be let loose against you, and the hatchet will never be buried until your country is desolated, and your people humbled to the dust.

Given under my hand and seal at the Ouiattanan Town, this fourth day of June, 1791.

(Signed) CHARLES SCOTT, B. G. (Seal)

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

A Writer in the Columbian Centinel, under the signature of PUBLICOLA, appears to have excited a nest of hornets, which are continually buzzing about his head; but very fortunately they are a new species, and upon examination are found to be destitute of stings. The principles and sentiments contained in those publications, are censured by people from no other motive than the idea of rendering their writings of more consequence, by circulating the opinion that they are answering the VICE-PRESIDENT of the United States—no other consideration could make these writers of the smallest importance. Their object is evident, but their assertions false; for I can from the best authority assure them, that the VICE-PRESIDENT is not the author of those pieces.—But supposing him the real author, I will venture to assert, from an attentive perusal, that there is not as yet in any one of them a sentiment which can justify the charges of ARISTOCRACY so liberally bestowed, or in the smallest degree infringe the liberties of the people. The good sense of the people of this country will lead them to read and judge for themselves; nor are their best, their firmest and most independent friends, to be hunted down at the sound of a word. Years of experience will not be lost or rendered ineffectual by the clamour of a thousand scribblers such as have hitherto appeared.

Your's, &c. A FRIEND TO JUSTICE.

STOCKBRIDGE, July 19.

THE late Rev. Dr. Lockwood, of Andover, in Connecticut, who died a few years past, at the Pool in New Lebanon, State of New-York, in his last will and testament, left a legacy to Yale College, the place of his education, to the amount of between three and four hundred pounds, the interest of which is to be annually applied to making additions to the College Library.—A very laudable and judicious instance of beneficence! The same gentleman, two or three years since, made a donation of one hundred pounds, upon condition that other friends of literature would augment the subscription to three hundred pounds, for the purpose of procuring an additional philosophical apparatus for that College; which was accordingly done. Such benefactors of literary institutions deserve the gratitude of the public.

FRANCE.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, May 16.

AN address was read from the Jewish inhabitants of the capital, who, encouraged by the decree which raised a number of mulattoes to the rank of active citizens, begged that a similar favor might be conferred on them. The petition was referred to the committee of reports and constitution.

It was decreed, by a considerable majority, that no member of the present, could be re-elected into the next Legislature.

Three letters were read—one from the deputies of St. Domingo, one from those of Martinique, and one from those of Guadaloupe—stating, that the decree which the Assembly had passed on the subject of free mulattoes, obliged them to decline assisting at the sittings of the National Assembly.

May 17. After considerable debate on the necessity of small change to commerce, several propositions for the emission of Assignats of low value were rejected, and the Assembly finally agreed that a sum of copper money should immediately be coined.

May 21. The discussion on the organization of the Legislative Body was resumed, of which several articles were passed.

The following decree was passed:

1. The King shall be entreated to appoint Commissioners, who, in conjunction with those appointed by the National Assembly, shall be entrusted to superintend the fabrication of small Assignats till their completion, and their being deposited in the extraordinary Bank.

2. The Commissioners shall be authorized to make such bargains as shall appear to them proper, relative to this fabrication.

3. The paper of the small Assignats shall conform in quality to the model presented to the committee of finances.

They shall be impressed with a representation of the King, and with the words *Domaines Nationaux*, and underneath shall be written, *Assignat de cinq lires*.