

making after a great number who had absconded; and that an eminent counsel, the treasury-solicitor, and Justice Bond, had arrived from London, to assist in the enquiries into the origin and cause of the late disturbances.

The total amount of the several branches of public revenue, under the heads of Customs, Excise, Stamps and Incidents, for the last week, is 399,757l. 5s. 11 r-2d. The Excise duty alone, for the last week, produced the amazing sum of 302,768l.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 20.

On Saturday last the PRESIDENT of the United States, and his Lady, arrived in town, from Philadelphia, on their way to Mount Vernon, and the next morning proceeded on their journey.

NEW-YORK, Sept. 21.

Yesterday morning, about one o'clock, a most alarming fire broke out in Mill-street—the flames raged with the utmost violence for six hours, and notwithstanding the usual and very spirited exertions of the fire men and citizens in general, a very great destruction of property, estimated at more than twenty thousand pounds, took place.

The fire first broke out in a bake-house.

The following is a list of houses burned down by the fire yesterday morning.

A house of the widow Levy, in Duke-street, and a back store in Mill-street.

A house of John Miller in Duke-street, and a back store in Mill-street.

A house of Capt. Hugh Stocker in Duke-street, and a back store in Mill-street.

A house of Mr. Tinney in Duke-street, and back dwelling-house in Mill-street.

A house of Mr. Rogers in Duke-street, and a back store in Mill-street.

A house of R. and J. Suydam in Duke-street, and a back store in Mill-street.

A house of John Henry in Duke-street, and a back store in Mill-street.

A house of R. Pinto in Duke-street, and a back store in Mill-street.

The house of the Rev. Mr. Seixas; the house of the widow Miller; and the coach-house and stables of Mr. Golet in Mill-street;—Mr. Golet's horses perished in the stables.

The custom-house, which was on fire several times, was saved only by the greatest exertions of a number of very active citizens.

The wind being very high, great quantities of coal and burning shingles, were carried over the city to a great distance, occasioning much distress and anxiety, from an apprehension that the town would take fire in another quarter.

Several houses and stores adjoining the burnt buildings are much injured; and very considerable losses have been sustained by this disaster.

Two children were rescued from the flames of a house in Duke-street, by means of the pole and basket:—They were asleep in the third story of the house—and were not awakened till the stair case was all on fire.

The citizens of New-York will be pleased to accept our most grateful acknowledgements, in behalf of the United States, and ourselves, for their generous and particular attention and very great exertions, at the late fire, in preserving the Custom-House, and the public papers lodged therein.

JOHN LAMB, Collector.  
BENJ. WALKER, Naval-Officer.  
JOHN LASHER, Surveyor.

RICHMOND, Sept. 14.

Extract of a letter from Edward Carrington, Esq. the supervisor of the district of Virginia, dated Southampton court-house, Sept. 9, 1791.

"In my tour through the Isle of Wight and Southampton, being at the courts of both, where there were considerable collections of the people, I have the pleasure to find a prevailing spirit of conformity to the excise.—In Isle of Wight where at the preceding court there was some riotous conduct against the collector of the revenue, it appears upon ascertaining the persons concerned in the riot that they were but few, who are decidedly despised and discountenanced by the great body of the county; the misrepresentations which had been industriously circulated thro' the county, created a very general disapprobation of the law; many are however now convinced, and do now approve, whilst those who retain the former opinion determine, as good citizens, to yield to the decisions of a majority of their country in the general legislature, where every individual has a right to add his assistance, by way of memorial, when he is confident of being enabled to give new lights to that body which represents the feelings as well as interests of the people. As an evidence that this is the temper of the county, 78 bills have already been entered with the collector. In Southampton, where much discontent has prevailed, there appears now to be a pretty general approbation of the law, and a very uniform determination to comply with it.

PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER 24.

Gen. Wilkinson's Expedition.

Authentic Report of Lieutenant-Colonel-Commandant WILKINSON, to his Excellency Gov. ST. CLAIR, containing the Particulars of the late Expedition against L'Anguille, and the Indians on the Wabash.

FRANKFORT, on Kentucky, August 24th, 1791.

SIR,

HAVING carried into complete effect the enterprize which you were pleased to direct against L'Anguille, and having done the savages every other damage on the Wabash, to which I conceived my force adequate, I embrace the first moment's recess from active duty, to detail to your Excellency the operations of the expedition intrusted to my conduct.

I left the neighbourhood of Fort-Washington on the first inst. at one o'clock, and agreeable to my original plan, feinted boldly at the Miami villages, by the most direct course the nature of the ground, over which I had to march, would permit; I persevered in this plan until the morning of the 4th inst. and thereby avoided the hunting ground of the enemy, and the paths which lead direct from White River to the Wabash, leaving the head waters of the first to my left; I then being about seventy miles advanced of Fort-Washington, turned north-west. I made no discovery until the 5th, about 9 o'clock, A. M. when I crossed three much frequented paths within two miles of each other, and all bearing East of North; my guides were urgent for me to follow these paths, which betrayed their ignorance of the country, and convinced me I had to depend on my own judgment only. In the afternoon of that day, I was obliged to cross a deep bog, which injured several of my horses exceedingly, and a few miles beyond I struck a path bearing North by West, marked by the recent footsteps of five or six savages. My guides renewed their application to me to follow this path, but I pursued my course which had been N. 60 W. since 2 o'clock. I had not got clear of my encampment, next morning, before my advance reported an impassable bog in my front, extending several miles on either hand, and the guides asserted that the whole country to the Wabash was cut by such bogs, and that it would be impossible for me to proceed unless I followed the Indian paths, which avoided these bogs, or led through them at places where they were least difficult. Although I paid little regard to this information, as delay was dangerous, and every thing depended on the preservation of my horses, I determined to turn to the right, and fall into the path, I had passed the evening before, which varied in its course from N. by W. to N. E. The country had now become poney, in every direction, I therefore resolved to pursue this path until noon, in the hope that it would conduct me to better ground, or to some devious trace which might lead to the object fought.

At 7 o'clock I crossed an East branch of Calumet River, about 40 yards wide, and about noon my advance guard fired on a small party of warriors and took a prisoner, the rest ran off to the Eastward. I halted about a mile beyond the spot where this affair happened, and on examining the prisoner found him to be a Delaware, living near the site of the late Miami Village, which he informed me was about thirty miles distant; I immediately retraced four miles, and filed off by the right over some rising ground, which I had observed between the East branch of Calumet River and a Creek four or five miles advance of it, taking my course N. 60 W. This measure fortunately extricated me from the bogs and ponds, and soon placed me on firm ground; late in the afternoon I crossed one path running from N. to S. and shortly after fell into another varying from N. W. to N. by W. I pursued this about two miles, when I encamped—but finding it still inclined Northward, I determined to abandon it in the morning. I resumed my march on the 6th at 4 o'clock, the Calumet being to the Westward of me, I was fearful I should strike the Wabash too high up, and perhaps fall in with the small Town, which you mentioned to me, at the mouth of the former River. I therefore steered a due West course, and at 6 o'clock, A. M. crossed a road much used both by horse and foot bearing due North. I now knew that I was near a Shawanese Village, generally supposed to be on the Waters of White River, but actually on those of the Calumet, and was sensible that every thing depended on the celerity and silence of my movements, as my real object had become manifest, I therefore pushed my march vigorously, leaving an officer and 20 men in ambush, to watch the road, in order to intercept or beat off any party of the enemy which might casually be passing that way, and thereby prevent as long as possible the discovery of my real intentions.

At 8 o'clock I crossed Calumet River, now 80 yards wide, and running down N. N. W. and pursuing my course, I crossed one path near the western bank of the river, taking the same course, and at six miles distance another bearing to the N. E. I was now sensible from my reckoning compared with my own observations, during the late expedition under Gen. Scott, and the information received from your Excellency and others, that I could not be very distant from L'Anguille.—The party left at the road, soon fell in with four Warriors encamped half a mile from the right of my line of march, killed one, and drove off the others to the northward.—My situation had now become extremely critical, the whole country to the North being in alarm, which made me greatly anxious to continue my march during the night, but I had no path to direct me, and it was impossible to keep my course, or for horsemen to march thro' a thick swampy country, in utter darkness.—I quitted my camp on the 7th, as soon as I could see my way, crossed one path at three miles distance, bearing N. E. and at seven miles I fell into another very much used, bearing N. W. by N. which I at once adopted, as the direct route to my object, and pushed forward with the utmost dispatch. I halted at 12 o'clock to refresh the horses, and examined the men's arms and ammunition; marched again at half after one, and at 15 minutes before five I struck the Wabash, at one and a half leagues above the mouth of Eel River, being the very spot for which I had aimed from the commencement of my march. I crossed the river, and following the path a N. by E. course, at the distance of two and a half miles my reconnoitring party announced Eel River in front, and the town on the opposite bank, I dismounted, ran forward, and examined the situation of the town as far as was practicable, without exposing myself, but the whole face of the country from the Wabash, to the margin of Eel River, being a continued thicket of brambles, black jacks, weeds and shrubs of different kinds, it was impossible for me to get a satisfactory view without endangering a discovery. I immediately determined to post two companies near the bank of the river opposite to the town, and above the ground I then occupied, to make a detour with Major Caldwell, and the second battalion, until I fell into the Miami Trace, and by that route to cross the river above, and gain the rear of the town, and to leave directions with Major M'Dowell, who commanded the first battalion, to lie perdué until I commenced the attack, then to dash through the river with his corps and the advanced guard, and assault the houses in front and upon the left.—In the moment that I was about to put this arrangement into execution, word was brought me, that the enemy had taken the alarm, and were flying.—I instantly ordered a general charge, which was obeyed with alacrity, the men forcing their way over every obstacle, plunged through the river with vast intrepidity.—The enemy was unable to make the smallest resistance.—Six warriors and (in the hurry and confusion of the charge) two squaws and a child were killed,—thirty four prisoners were taken, and an unfortu-

nate captive released—with the loss of two men killed, and one wounded.—I found this town feathered along Eel River for full three miles, on an uneven scrubby oak barren, intersected alternately by bogs almost impassable, and impervious thickets of plumb, hazle and black jacks.—Notwithstanding these difficulties, if I may credit the report of the prisoners, very few who were in town escaped; expecting a second expedition, their goods were generally packed up or buried.—Sixty warriors had crossed the Wabash to watch the paths leading from the Ohio; the head chief, with all the prisoners, and a number of families, were out digging a root which they substitute in the place of the potatoe, and about one hour before my arrival, all the warriors, except eight, had mounted their horses and rode up the river to a French store, to purchase ammunition.—This ammunition had arrived from the Miami Village that very day, and the squaws informed me was stored about two miles from the town. I detached Major Caldwell in quest of it, but he failed to make any discovery, altho' he scoured the country for seven or eight miles up the river. I encamped in the town that night, and the next morning I cut up the corn scarcely in the milk, burnt the cabins, mounted my young warriors, squaws and children in the best manner in my power, and leaving two infirm squaws and a child with a short talk (a copy of which I have the honor to enclose you) I commenced my march for the Kickapoo Town in the Prairie.—I felt my prisoners a vast incumbrance, but I was not in force to justify a detachment, having barely 523 rank and file, and being then in the bosom of the Ouattanon country, one hundred and eighty miles removed from succour, and not more than one and a half days forced march from the Pattawatamees, Shawanese and Delawares.

Not being able to discover any path in the direct course to the Kickapoo Town, I marched by the road leading to Tippecanoe, in the hope of finding some diverging trace which might favour my design.—I encamped that evening about six miles from Kenapacomaqua, the Indian name for the town I had destroyed, and marched next morning at four o'clock.—My course continued West till nine o'clock, when I turned to the North West on a small hunting path, and at a short distance I launched into the boundless Prairies of the West, with the intention to pursue that course, until I could strike a road which leads from the Pattawatamees of Lake Michigan, immediately to the town I sought. With this view I pushed forward, through bog after bog, to the saddle skirts in mud and water, and after persevering for eight hours, I found myself environed on all sides with morasses which forbid my advancing, and at the same time rendered it difficult for me to extricate my little army. The way by which we had entered was so much beat and softened by the horses, that it was almost impossible to return by that route, and my guides pronounced the morasses in front impassable.—A chain of thin groves extending in the direction to the Wabash, at this time presented to my left, it was necessary I should gain these groves, and for this purpose I dismounted, went forward, and leading my horse through a bog to the arm-pits in mud and water, with great difficulty and fatigue I accomplished my object, and changing my course to S. by W. I regained the Tippecanoe road at five o'clock, and encamped on it at 7 o'clock, after a march of thirty miles, which broke down several of my horses.

I am the more minute in detailing the occurrences of this day, because they produced the most unfavourable effect.—I was in motion at four next morning, and at eight o'clock my advance guard made some discoveries, which induced me to believe we were near an Indian village, I immediately pushed that body forward in a trot, and followed with Major Caldwell and the 2d Battalion, leaving Major M'Dowell to take charge of the prisoners. I reached Tippecanoe at 12 o'clock, which had been occupied by the enemy, who watched my motions and abandoned the place that morning. After the destruction of this town in June last, the enemy had returned and cultivated their corn and pulse, which I found in high perfection and in much greater quantity than at L'Anguille. To refresh my horses and give time to cut down the corn, I determined to halt until the next morning and then to resume my march to the Kickapoo Town, in the Prairie, by the road which leads from Ouattanon to that place. In the course of the day I had discovered some murmurings and discontent among the men, which I found on enquiry to proceed from their reluctance to advance farther into the enemy's country; this induced me to call for a state of the horses and provisions, when to my great mortification 270 horses were returned lame and tired, with barely five days provisions for the men.

Under these circumstances I was compelled to abandon my designs upon the Kickapoos of the Prairie; and with a degree of anguish not to be comprehended but by those who have experienced similar disappointments, I marched forward to a town of the same nation, situate about three leagues west of Ouattanon;—as I advanced to that town, the enemy made some shew of fighting me, but vanished at my approach. I destroyed this town, consisting of thirty houses, with a considerable quantity of corn in the milk, and the same day I moved on to Ouattanon, where I forded the Wabash, and proceeded to the site of the villages on the margin of the Prairie, where I encamped at 7 o'clock.—At this town and the villages destroyed by Gen. Scott, in June, we found the corn had been replanted, and was now in high cultivation, several fields being well ploughed, all which we destroyed.—On the 12th, I resumed my march, and falling into Gen. Scott's return trace, I arrived without any material incident, at the Rapids of Ohio, on the 21st inst. after a march by accurate computation, of 451 miles from Fort Washington.

The Volunteers of Kentucky have on this occasion acquitted themselves with their usual good conduct, but as no opportunity offered for individual distinction, it would be unjust to give one the plaudits to which all have an equal title. I cannot, however, in propriety forbear to express my warm approbation of the good conduct of my Majors M'Dowell and Caldwell, and of Col. Ruffell, who in the character of a volunteer, without commission, led my advance; and I feel myself under obligations to Major Adair and Capt. Parker, who acted immediately about my person, for the services they rendered me, by the most prompt, active and energetic exertions.

The services which I have been able to render, fall short of my wishes, my intention and expectation—but sir, when you reflect on the causes which checked my career, and blasted my designs; I flatter myself you will believe every thing has been done, which could be done in my circumstances; I have destroyed the chief town of the Ouattanon Nation, and made prisoners the sons and sisters of the King; I have burnt a respectable Kickapoo Village, and cut down at least 430 acres of corn, chiefly in the milk. The Ouattanons left without houses, home or provision, must cease to war, and will find active employ to subsist their squaws and children during the impending winter.

Should these services secure to the country which I immediately represented, and the corps which I had the honor to command, the favourable consideration of government, I shall infer the approbation of my own conduct, which, added to a consciousness of having done my duty, will constitute the richest reward I can enjoy.

Mr. Charles Vancouver will have the honor to deliver this letter to your Excellency, who attended me as Quartermaster to the expedition and rendered me important services. He is able to give you a satisfactory idea of the situation of the country over which I passed, and can ascertain with precision the course and distance to any point of my route. I recommend him to you as a Gentleman of worth.

With the warmest and most perfect respect, I have the honor to be your Excellency's

Obliged, obedient and most faithful servant,  
JA. WILKINSON.

His Excellency Major General ST. CLAIR,  
Fort Washington.