

T H E

GEORGIA STATE GAZETTE

O R

INDEPENDENT REGISTER.

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IN COUNCIL, March 10, 1787.

(Concluded from our last.)

Mr. Nathan Bush,

Q. Do you know of any waggons belonging to any one brigade, that have been returned in any other brigade?

A. I know of no waggons being returned but in the brigade to which they belonged.

Colonel Sanders being sworn, sayeth,

That he was the first Officer at Camp, and that he was particular in observing the conduct of the Quarter-Master-General with respect to waggons; that he found him very attentive to his duty in receiving and discharging waggons; that with respect to his making partial payments of money, he called on the Quarter-Master-General for payment for necessaries which he had procured for the use of the troops, and that the Quarter-Master-General informed him he could only pay agreeable to rotation; that there were numbers before him, and when it came to his turn he should receive his money; and upon the whole he never saw or discovered any thing in the conduct of the Quarter-Master-General, but what was consistent with propriety, and that he was always very particular in his vouchers and receipts.

Q. Did you ever see a list of waggons posted up in camp at Shoulder Bone?

A. I did see two; which agreed as to the number of waggons.

Q. Did the Quarter-Master-General keep a greater quantity of waggons in camp or on detachment, than what was really necessary?

A. No. The number of waggons employed were not fully adequate to the duties of camp; the Quarter-Master-General was frequently obliged to call on the Commanding Officer and myself for our baggage waggons.

Q. Do you know the number of waggons in General Clark's brigade?

A. No.

Q. Was it customary when waggons came into camp with forage, &c. to detain them longer than was necessary?

A. I attended particularly to this business, and found that the Quarter-Master-General never did keep any wagon longer than was absolutely necessary, and in my opinion discharged some when they ought to have been detained.

Q. Do you know the number of waggons that were posted up in camp?

A. I believe the number were between sixty and seventy, but cannot say positively.

Benjamin Netherland being again called on, says, that the list of waggons posted up in camp by him, contained thirty-eight or thirty-nine waggons and no more, and that he never did set up any other list whatever.

After having gone through the evidence both for and against the Quarter-Master-General, and hearing the Attorney employed by the Court in behalf of the state, and examined the books and papers of the Quarter-Master-General,

The Court are of opinion, That from Mr. Netherland's situation, being only a Brigade Quarter-Master, he could not possibly be acquainted with all the different stations, and num-

ber of waggons employed in the Quarter-Master-General's Department, and that the difference in their returns is properly accounted for to the satisfaction of this Court.

Be it therefore Ordered, That John Appling, Esq. Quarter-Master-General, be and he is hereby honorably acquitted, and restored to his former rank and situation, invested with all the powers he heretofore held, as if no such charge had ever been brought against him.

JAMES MERIWETHER, Secretary.

Mr. Smith,

PERMIT me for a moment to make some few observations upon the subject of ignorance and self-interest, twin brothers.—On reading some of your late papers, I discovered a kind of petty quarrel between *Curtius* and *An Augusta Merchant*—*Curtius* sets out like a fiery comet, blazing with the fire of freedom, calling upon his fellow citizens to rouse from their lethargy, guard their liberties, and beware of the intriguing Merchants—Surely if, when those Gentlemen were supported in the cabinet by some of the greatest men in the world, and in the field by fifty and sometimes sixty thousand of their chosen veteran troops, and yet could not effect their favourite scheme, they cannot at this time be supposed competent to any dangerous purpose, for they are really no more than tenants at will—Although they live in our country, we can remove them at pleasure, and the day may not be far distant, when necessity will oblige us so to do. *Curtius* then all of a sudden comments on the wisdom of our Legislature, a blessing, which, to be sure, we experience in a very eminent degree. Methinks this Gentleman must have been paying a visit to Bacchus when he began this quarrel. Nor could the *Augusta Merchant* be less remiss in his devoirs to the ancient Monarch, for he begins his answer, or rather defence, with equal warmth—He first appeals to all liberal minds for the reflection cast upon his country; secondly he feels himself extremely oppressed by the return of his brethren from the opposite shore, who, he says, flew from their colours in the hour of calamity, and consequently cannot be entitled to an equal share of the plunder; thirdly, he says he owes money in another country, and in his conscience cannot think of offering his creditors Paper Money in payment; and, finally, prays to be acquitted from the odious charge of extortion, for that he is not the man, but one that will now fight for his country, &c.—The Georgians have lenity, yet, I trust, they have discernment too; and if so, I am confident this Gentleman will be found guilty among others of his profession.—He has said in his defence that the Planters first set him the example; this I deny—for it is a well known fact, that there are very few Planters in this state, who make more tobacco than will procure them, by way of barter, the common necessities of life and clothing for their Negroes; and as to the price which they might require for the remainder if any they had, this could be deemed nothing more than a mere speculation, which the daily fluctuation of paper money would actually suggest to every man of common sense. But I do predict that this poor oppressed fellow citizen, called Paper Money, who is thus so ungratefully treated, and who so often