

were on furlough, except maj. H. McGary's battalion. I could not conceive why gen. Gibson should stop col. Wilton and myself on our journey, by ordering us both into service, when I considered there was only one battalion of our regt. in service. On mentioning this circumstance to col. Wilton, in presence of maj. Robb, and expressing some dissatisfaction on the occasion, col. Wilton informed me, that gen. Gibson considered the whole of the 4th regt. who had been at fort Harrison, on furlough—having directed mr. Sullivan to muster them in that way. On my informing col. Wilton the true circumstance, we concluded that some misunderstanding had certainly taken place between the governor, Sullivan and myself, I therefore determined to order the whole of those men into service, go with haste to Vincennes, see gen. Gibson, and ascertain whether it was the whole, or McGary's battalion only, which he intended to be embraced in his general order; if I found he called for McGary's battalion only, I would return with all speed and countermand my orders before the men left their homes; as the governor's order appeared to be a pressing one, I knew not what the emergency might be, and therefore believed it was better to err by ordering too many, than too few men, particularly when it was in my power to go to Vincennes, come to a proper understanding of the general order, and return in time to countermand my order (if I found it was an improper one) before the men left their homes—I proceeded with haste to Vincennes to see the governor, on mentioning the circumstance to him, he told me that I must order all those of the 4th regt. who had been at fort Harrison into service immediately; observed, that they were considered on furlough—I replied "No, general, (with a due difference to your excellency's opinion) those men were completely discharged the service in pursuance of your excellency's order to me," he replied "I well recollect giving you such orders, but I afterwards directed mr. Sullivan to muster and dismiss them on furlough, and if mr. Sullivan has not done his duty I will punish him for it," I replied "the fault (if any) I presume is not in mr. Sullivan, for he told me when he came to muster the men, that they were to be mustered on furlough, but when I told him your excellency's order to me, he mustered and discharged the men, without informing them that they were considered on furlough," he replied, that "mr. Sullivan had a right to obey his orders in preference to the orders of any other officer," this expressed with much warmth; he then sent for mr. Sullivan, an explanation took place, by which it appeared that his excellency's orders to mr. Sullivan were subsequent to the orders given to me, but mr. Sullivan supposing that the orders given to me were subsequent to those which he had received, mustered the men without informing them that they were considered on furlough. On this explanation taking place, all parties appeared satisfied, and gen. Gibson ordered me to order the whole of those men into service, and still persisted in saying that they were considered on furlough, and that the muster rolls should be made in that way—I then informed gen. Gibson that I had ordered the whole of those men into service, but that I was fearful they would not many of them obey the order.

This, fellow citizens, is a candid statement of facts, stated in as brief a manner as possible; I now submit the case to your decision.—But, fellow citizens, I should not have been under the necessity of troubling you with an address of this kind, were it not for the envious and malignant disposition of some of my personal enemies towards me, who, like "a drowning man would catch at a straw," and are now endeavoring to prejudice your minds against me, in order to link me in the estimation of my countrymen, that they might build on my ruins.

If those gentlemen conceived I had acted improperly in my official capacity, why did they not arrest and bring me before the proper tribunal long since; all the foregoing circumstances have been long since familiar to some of those gentlemen; even from their origin.—On the other hand, if any gentleman considers himself injured by me in an individual capacity, why not demand satisfaction? I hold myself bound by every tie of honor to account for my conduct to any gentleman who may consider himself aggrieved.

I appeal to the candour of the citizen officers and soldiers, which I have had the honor of commanding, whether I have ever manifested a disposition to harass them unnecessarily? I have had every flattering inducement to believe, that no such opinion has ever prevailed.—Unfortunately for me, I have obtained a portion of public confidence in the bounds of my limited acquaintance, so very unexpectedly to a few characters, that they appear to act as if they would never forgive me; I therefore make this address for your satisfaction and justification of myself, in contradiction to those calumniating invectives, which a few disappointed, malignant characters are so industriously heaping upon me—I would say unto those gentlemen "cease viper, thou bitest against a file."

ROBT. M. EVANS.

[We would recommend our readers to a serious and attentive perusal of the following report and documents, they will not find them uninteresting.—Editor.]

The report of the committee for revising the militia laws, to whom was referred a memorial of the legislature of the Indiana territory, praying compensation for their militia called into the service of the United States, for the purpose of protecting the frontiers of said territory against the ravages of the enemy,

REPORT:

THAT all the information which the committee have been able to procure on the subject of the said memorial, is contained in the letters hereto annexed. There is much reason to believe that the said militia have been regularly paid by the U. States for all the services which they have performed. If the fact be otherwise, the existing laws authorize payment to be made in every case where the service shall have been recognized and sanctioned by the president of the U. States. No evidence is submitted of the performance of any service which has not been so recognized and sanctioned. The committee, therefore, submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That legislative provision is not necessary on the subject of the said memorial.

To the honorable the senate and house of representatives of the U. States in congress met for the year 1813.—The memorial of the legislature of the Indiana territory, respectfully sheweth:

That in the latter part of the winter in this present year, or the commencement of the spring, from the alarming and exposed situation of the territory aforesaid to Indian hostilities, his excellency gen. John Gibson, the then acting governor, issued an order calling into the service of the United States, 16 companies of the militia for the purpose of protecting the frontiers of the territory aforesaid, and to prevent its inhabitants from being slaughtered, which, in a certain degree, had the desired effect.—Some of those companies remained little upwards of three months in service, and some of them remained in service a shorter period. Since the order referred to issued, and those 16 companies were discharged, other companies of militia have been ordered out for the protection of the frontiers of this territory, and mustered into the service of the U. States, by order of his excellency Thomas Posey, governor of the said territory. Your memorialists will further represent, that many of those men who composed, in part, those 16 companies, in consequence of being called into the service of the U. States for the protection as aforesaid last spring, have been entirely prevented from raising of crops, and measurably deprived of support for their families, and many having purchased lands from the U. States, and being prevented from improving their farms renders their situation precarious. Your memorialists will further state, that muster rolls have been made out for some of those companies, and forwarded to the secretary at war; and some of the officers commanding those companies have forwarded their subsistence accounts, and the residue of the muster rolls and subsistence accounts, including the whole of the militia that have performed services under the order of general John Gibson, the then acting governor, and the order of his excellency Thomas Posey, the present governor of the territory aforesaid, will be forwarded to the war department.

Your memorialists, therefore, pray, that

your honorable body will cause the companies of militia referred to, and all others that have performed duty previous to last winter, to be immediately paid, as shall seem in your wisdom just and right.

JAMES NOBLE,

Speaker of the house of representatives.

JAS. BEGGS,

President of the legislative council.  
Dec. 15, 1813—Approved.

TH. POSEY.

House of Representatives, Jan. 12 1814

SIR—I am instructed by the committee, to which was referred the memorial herewith inclosed, to inquire whether there are any documents in the department of war, showing the necessity of ordering out the militia therein mentioned, without the authority of the U. States. And also, to ask the secretary of war to communicate any information in his possession, which may better enable the committee to judge of the propriety of making provision, by law, for the payment of the detachment so ordered out.

I have the honor to be, &c.

JOHN W. TAYLOR.

The hon. John Armstrong.

War Department, Feb. 18, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to inclose the report of the paymaster of the army, on the subject referred to this department by your letter of the 12th of January.—I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

The hon. Mr. Taylor, chairman, &c.  
house of representatives.

The paymaster of the army, to whom has been referred by the honorable the secretary of war, the petition of the legislature of the Indiana territory, which was referred to him on the 12th inst. from the "committee on so much of the message of the president as relates to a revision of the militia laws," has the honor to—Report:

That for want of a proper designation in the petition of the companies, as well as of the periods for which compensation is petitioned by each, he is unable to state whether any, or if any, what compensation has already been made to them.

That there is a district paymaster for the territory aforesaid, duly furnished with funds and instructions to pay the regular troops and militia, that may from time to time be called into the actual service of the U. States within that territory; provided it be shown to him, that such calls of the militia are made in virtue of authority from the government of the U. S. or that when not made in virtue of such authority, previously received, the call shall have been recognized & sanctioned by that government; and provided also, that proper muster rolls of the same be placed in his hands.

That there are now in this office accounts and vouchers of the said district paymaster, for payments made to militia of the territory aforesaid; and that he is also now engaged in making other payments of a similar nature; but for the want of a due specification in the petition aforesaid, it is not possible to ascertain whether the militia, who are the subject of it, have been paid, or authorized to be paid or not.—Respectfully,

ROBERT BRENT, P. M. U. S. A.

Army pay office, city of  
Washington, February 1, 1814.  
Hon. John Armstrong, secretary of war.

ARMY PAY OFFICE,

City of Washington, Feb. 18, 1814.

SIR—At the instance of the hon. the chairman of the committee on so much of the message of the president as relates to a revision of the militia laws, I beg leave to enclose, as an appendage to the report which I had the honor to make to you on the 11 inst. the following documents, namely:

Copy of a letter from B. Parke, esq. to the hon. the secretary of war, dated "Vincennes, Feb. 22, 1813."—Copy of a letter from B. Parke, esq. to governor Posey, of the Indiana territory, dated "Vincennes, Aug. 28, 1813."—Extract of a letter from capt. Ambrose Whitlock, district paymaster to Robert Brent, paymaster of the army of the U. States, dated "Vincennes, Sept. 8 1813."—With great respect, I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient,

ROBERT BRENT,

Pay Master U. States Army.  
The hon. John Armstrong,  
secretary of War.

VINCENNES, Feb. 22, 1813.

SIR—Several orders of the acting governor of this territory, for certain militia corps lately in the service of the U. States, having occasioned a difference of opinion as to the remarks, that ought to have been made on our muster rolls; I have thought it might be proper, as far as regards the troop then under my command, to state the following facts to you.

On the 20th Sept. last, after the militia had returned from fort Harrison, I was directed to furlough my company until the 24th of the same month. On the latter day, we had an indefinite furlough Oct. 7, I was called on for a small escort to guard the mail from Blue river to this place.—A general order called the company together, October 22. but was no sooner paraded, than again furloughed till the 31st. On that day, we were ordered to march to the frontiers, where we remained till the 10th Nov. We were then again permitted to return to our homes till the 19th Nov. and were then mustered and discharged.—Now, from my muster roll, nothing of all this appears and I was instructed that it was not necessary that it should.

My forage and provision returns will be found not to correspond with my muster roll. I was directed to give neither forage or provision to any person on furlough; and the order was implicitly adhered to.—I have the honor to be, &c.

B. PARKE.

Hon. Secretary of War.

(To be continued in our next.)

INDIANA TERRITORY, } sc.

KNOX COUNTY,

John Cummins, complainant,  
against

Mary Wells, Ann Wells, Rebecca Wells,  
William Payne Wells, Polly Wells, Samuel G. Wells, Yelverton P. Wells, &c  
Julian Wells, defendants.

Foreign Attachment.

WHEREAS a writ of foreign attachment has been issued from the clerk's office of the said court of Common Pleas, in favor of John Cummins, against the goods and chattles, lands & tenements of the said Mary Wells, Ann Wells, Rebecca Wells, William Payne Wells, Polly Wells, Samuel G. Wells, Yelverton P. Wells, and Julian Wells, does appear by themselves or attorney, and enter bail to the said attachment, that judgment will be entered against them, and the property attached be sold for the benefit of the said John Cummins, &c.

ROBT. BUNTIN,

Clerk Circuit court, Knox county.

JOHN JOHNSON,

Atty. for Plff.

INDIANA TERRITORY, } sc.

KNOX COUNTY,

David Snyder, complainant,  
against

Robert Adams, defendant.

Foreign Attachment.

WHEREAS a writ of foreign attachment has been issued from the clerk's office of the said court of Common Pleas, in favor of David Snyder, against the goods and chattles, lands & tenements of Robert Adams, and returnable to the November term of said court, in the year 1813, which was returned by the sheriff of said county levied upon certain property thereon specified:—Now notice is hereby given, that unless the said Robert Adams, does appear by himself or attorney and enter bail to the said attachment, that judgment will be entered against him, and the property attached be sold for the benefit of the said David Snyder, &c.

ROBT. BUNTIN,

Clerk Circuit court Knox county.

JOHN JOHNSON,

Atty. for plff.

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ACCURATELY EXECUTED AT  
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