

[Jan 13, 1807]

Mr Chandler New Orleans 8 Decem 1807

Dear Sir

The cause of the military preparations here is at length disclosed it appears that Aaron Burr, has been for some time past organising a party in the Western Country to act in opposition to the General Government some say to attack Mexico & to be aided in his enterprize by Captain Tuzot who it is said has gone some times since to Jamaica for aid and is to appear off the Balize in all this month with ships of War & Transports to carry the expedition into effect Others say the Objects of the party is of a different nature that it is to declare all the Country west of the Mountains independant of the General Government send a sufficient force to take possession of the Territories on the Mississippi and reunite the whole under such a Government as Mr Burr Dayton & few other Demagogues may think fit to give us - It appears that the Conspirators have counted upon General Wilkinson's cooperation and that he has known of the maturity of their plans & intended movements for about a month past that their advance party was to leave Louisville about the middle of November but that his situation on the Frontier did not permit him to leave his situation & make preparations here until within a few days past - Altho' I can hardly ^{bring} ~~bring~~ myself to think that any considerable number of men can be found in the Western Country base enough to engage in this insurrection yet from the importance given to it by Governor Claiborne & General Wilkinson I do not like the aspect of our affairs here at this

moments. The French population are alarmed & would I believe almost unanimously turn out to oppose the Insurgents but I fear we have some wretched sleep among the higher ranks of Americans. The Mechanics and common people can no doubt be depended on - The General Government have pursued a mistaken policy in leaving this country with so small a force our new population is made up of people of all states and nations differing widely in Political opinions, ambitious & disappointed men, all looking after money & promotion, we have no character - no settled principles to go by - One man finds fault with the Governour another with the President a 3^d with the Government & 4th with his kind - while we are in this state of political heuoy & under the control of the general Government (which by the bye I hope will be for many years) we should have a considerable armed force on the Spot to awe the licentious & protect the just. If something does not happen above to stop the expeditions such as the detention of the Leaders the freezing of the Ohio or some other cause - we shall I suppose see or hear of their advanced party in a few days - I hope a good account will be given of them."

signed Benjamin Morgan

Sir
At this moment when we hear of daring
Conspiracies against a free & happy People: it is
perhaps the duty of every well disposed Citizen to
advise to the Government such information as
comes within his view relative to such Conspiracies.

The foregoing is a true Copy of a letter I
received this morning from my friend Mr. Doy's
Morgan of New Orleans, and as it is entirely on
our affairs at New Orleans, I have thought it
my duty to forward it to you entire -

Mr. Morgan is a native of this State &
resided here till within a few years past. he is
not forward in speaking disrespectfully of his
fellow Citizens, and when he names Characters
as in the foregoing he ~~does~~ speaks from the
uncredited reports at New Orleans, which he
fears may be true. as respects Com: J. Truxton
he is certainly misinformed as the Gentleman
is now here. In his observations on the Policy
pursued towards New Orleans, he speaks from
experience. Of this he is assured Sir, that he is a
true honest American, an Admirer of its Government,
warm friend to the Executive, and a man who
speaks the sentiments of a patriotic mind. I hope
for the reasons I have given for troubling you, will

I am Sir with due respect

Price Chandler. Phila Jan 13. 07.
recd Jan. 15.

Your most obedt Serv

Chas. Price

Phila. Jan 13. 1807

To his Excellency

Thomas Jefferson Esq

Presid. of the United States

Washington

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