

[Concluded from our last.]

Affidavit Fourteenth.

HENRY MITCHELL, Esq. a senator from the county of Warren, in the last and present general assembly, being duly sworn, saith, that during the sitting of the last legislature, at Augusta, the deponent was sent for by Mr. Cummings, one of the Grantees of the Georgia Mississippi company to his house, where in a conversation about the sale of the western territory, the said Mr. Cummings asked the deponent his opinion as to the propriety of such sale, the deponent answered it was a subject which would come before him in the senate, and consequently he did not think proper to form his opinion, before it did come forward; that the said Mr. Cummings, further told the deponent, that provided he thought it right to sell the land, that he should not be precluded from having a share, although a member; for that the companies had made provision for shares for all the members, provided they thought fit to take them.

Signed, HENRY MITCHELL.

Sworn in presence of the Committee of the House of Representatives, before me,

THOS. LEWIS, J. P.

Fifteenth.

JAMES M'NEIL, Esq. a member of the representative branch of the last legislature, and now a member of senate, being duly sworn, saith, that in a short space of time after the adjournment of the last legislature, he was in the town of Augusta, in company with Andrew Innis, who told him that being one of the associates contemplated in an act, passed by the aforesaid session, for disposing of a part of the western territory of this state, that the purchasers and their associates, were reduced to the necessity of passing a credit in favor of Roberts Thomas, then senator of Hancock county, as an associate, for the full amount of eight clear shares of land without his paying one shilling for the same, whereby they did procure the vote and interest of him the said Thomas, in passing the aforesaid act; that after the legislature adjourned, the said Roberts Thomas was alarmed, and did propose to sell or let his eight shares as aforesaid revert to the grantees and their associates for a certain sum, not less than three, nor more than five thousand dollars, which proposal was acceded to; and that he as one of the associates, was called on for his proportional part of the aforesaid sum, which he did pay, whereby the claim of the aforesaid Roberts was thereby extinguished, for and in behalf of the grantees and their associates, or words to that effect.

Signed,

JAMES M'NEIL.

Proved as before.

Sixteenth.

JOHN THOMAS, being duly sworn, saith, that his late brother Roberts Thomas, a member of the senate of the last legislature, told the deponent, that the companies who purchased the western lands, had complimented the said Roberts Thomas, with something, either a share or shares, or something of that kind, that he does not suppose his late brother, could have had the sum of two thousand dollars in cash before the meeting of the legislature, nor had he sold any part of his property about that time, as the deponent knew of---the deponent further saith, that his late brother was possessed of a note of hand for nine hundred dollars, given by Jacob Walburger, to which the name of Abraham Jones is signed as a witness, that he does not know that his brother sold Mr. Walburger any property; the deponent further saith, that after his brother was wounded, he told the deponent he had voted for the sale of the lands and thought he had done right, and was it to do again he should do the same; that the deponent does not believe, that the companies gave the said R. Thomas, any monies, and that if he had a large sum of money he must have got it by the sale of the lands, or shares which the companies had given him, as he supposes.

—Signed,

JOHN THOMAS.

Proved as before.

Seventeenth.

JAMES LUCAS, being duly sworn, saith, that some time after the breaking up of the last legislature, when Roberts Thomas, Esq. a member of the senate, in that legislature, had returned to Hancock county, that this deponent heard that the said Roberts Thomas, was either selling, or about to sell

off all his property, and to remove. That this deponent then went with some of his neighbours, to the house of said Thomas, and had some conversation with him on the sale of the western territory, when the said Roberts Thomas, informed this deponent, that he was, and had always been in favor of the sale of the said territory, and that the companies who purchased the same, had let him have a share or two in the said lands. And this deponent further sayeth, that on the day of election for members for congress, this deponent saw a Mr. Jacob Waldburger, at the election for Hancock county, who informed the deponent, that he had purchased a share of the said lands from the said Roberts Thomas, and that he had given his note of hand for the same, for nine hundred dollars, which share he the said Waldburger, had afterwards sold, by which he had made a profit of one hundred and twenty-five dollars. And this deponent further saith, that on, or about the day on which the last legislature adjourned, he was in Augusta, and that John King Esq. a member of the senate, carried the deponent to the house of Mr. Thomas Cumming, and there spoke as he believes, to one of the grantees of the Georgia Mississippi company, to let the deponent have a share in said company; that this deponent did in consequence thereof, receive a certificate for one share, for which he paid one hundred dollars---And further, that some time in the beginning of August last, this deponent being in Augusta, saw Mr. Reuben Wilkinson, a member of the last legislature there, who informed the deponent he had a share in the Tennessee Company, and that he had but a few minutes before, paid the balance of the purchase money thereof, to Mr. Maher.

Signed,

JAMES LUCAS.

Proved as before.

Eighteenth.

Captain ROBERT RAINES, being duly sworn, saith, that a day or two before the adjournment of the last legislature, he was in Augusta, and in company with John King, Esq. a member of the senate in that legislature; that this deponent introduced to the said John King, Captain James Lucas; that said King, then asked the said Lucas into the house, where the said King lodged, to drink some grog with him: that when the said John King came out of the house, he informed this deponent he had given the said Lucas a share, by which he understood a share in some of the companies who had purchased the western territory, and observed at the same time with an oath, that he had more land besides, than he and his sons knew what to do with, and that the deponent afterwards asked Captain Lucas whether the said King, had given him the said share, and was answered that he had, but that he the said Lucas, was to pay the purchase money. And this deponent further saith, that during the sitting of the last legislature, and previous to the passing of the act for the sale of the western territory, Philip Clayton, Esq. treasurer of this state, called on this deponent, and informed him, if you could prevail on Mr. Mitchell, a member of the senate in that legislature, and the brother in law of this deponent to go home, he the deponent might have five hundred dollars, pounds or guineas, this deponent does not remember which, and any appointment from the legislature he would ask, which was in their power to give. The said Clayton observed at the same time, that as the deponent was the brother of Mr. Mitchell, he thought he might have influence enough with him to prevail on him to go home, as the act would be passed whether he went home or not; to which the deponent made some slight reply. And the said Clayton then said, he hoped the deponent would not think any thing of him, for he was authorized to say what he had. And this deponent further saith, that some time on, or about the first of August last, he was in Augusta, and saw Richard Worsham, a member of the last legislature there, who had a share in the Georgia company, commonly called Gunn's company, and was offering the same for sale to Mr. Maher; that this deponent also saw Reuben Wilkinson, a member of the last legislature, in Augusta, at the same time, who informed this deponent, he had shares in the purchase of the western lands, and that he wished to sell them.

Signed,

ROBERT RAINES.

Sworn to as before.

ANDREW BANKS, being duly sworn, mak-

eth oath, that some time previous to the passing of the first bill, for the disposal of the western territory of this state by the last legislature; the deponent being at Augusta, and conceiving it a step hurtful to the country, thought it his duty to give his thoughts to the representation of his county, which was Hancock, and accordingly called on the senator Roberts Thomas, and reprobated the act, which the said Thomas vindicated; that the deponent told him that it would be generally thought he was interested, if he voted in favor of the bill when it was so generally disapproved of by his constituents, to which the said Thomas replied, that he did not know that he was interested, but that those who voted in favor of the bill, were provided for in the articles of the different companies, upon which the deponent replied, he should consider that as indirect bribery.

Signed,

ANDREW BAXTER.

Sworn to as before.

Twentieth.

WILLIAM SALLARD, of the county of Hancock, being duly sworn, maketh oath, that on or about the 22d, 23d, or 24th days of January, 1795, he the deponent was at Augusta, procuring some articles, and disposing of some tobacco, and that during the said term he was at general Glascock's one of the grantees of the western territory; that a conversation took place between the general and himself, relative to it and concerning Roberts Thomas, (the senator in the legislature, which disposed of it) for the said county of Hancock, that the general asked the deponent what the people of Hancock thought of Thomas and if they would kill him; the deponent replied he did not know they would kill him but that he stood a great chance of hugging a sapling, or words to that effect, for they had an idea that Thomas was bribed: The general replied that he did not know that he was bribed, but that he had a good deal of the land; that he himself had purchased some of the shares, and had paid himself, with a Mr. Nightingale, to Thomas, seventeen hundred dollars to the best of the deponent's recollection, and four hundred dollars to John Thomas as he believes, Roberts Thomas's brother, for the land; that the general further said, the other companies he expected had also paid the said Roberts Thomas as much money, for lands or shares, as he had paid; that he yesterday in his way down, met with John Thomas, the said Roberts Thomas's brother, who acknowledged to the deponent, that he had received money from general Glascock.

Signed,

WILLIAM SALLARD.

Proved as before.

Attest.

JAMES M. SIMMONS, C. H. R.