

sion respecting them. Lady Betty Germain was right when she said, 'I have lived long enough never wholly to believe any side or party against the other.'

"In the year 1810, a series of letters addressed to DeWitt Clinton appeared in a newspaper printed in New York, and afterward printed in a pamphlet form, under the signatures of Marcus and Philo Cato; long since avowed to have been written by Matthew L. Davis. These letters charge that in December, 1805, Mr. Levi McKean, a Burrite from Poughkeepsie, residing in the same village with General James Talmadge, then a zealous Clintonian, arrived in New York, and called on several of his political friends, stating to them that overtures had been made 'by the Clintonians, to form a union with the Burrites. \* \* \* \* He had conversed with General Bailey on the subject, and was desirous that Colonel Swartwout [twice United States marshal], should consent to an interview for that purpose. It was suggested,' says the writer, 'that as Mr. Clinton had not the power of giving offices at that moment, and thus publicly committing himself, he should give to Colonel Burr's friends *pecuniary aid* through the medium of the Manhattan Bank, of which he was a director, and from which bank they were almost totally excluded.' That on the seventh of January, 1806, Mr. Swartwout received from General Bailey a written note inviting him to spend an hour with him that evening.

"The invitation was accepted, and General Bailey on that occasion, avowed himself to be acting as the agent of DeWitt Clinton. Several other interviews between these gentlemen followed; and eventually, according to Mr. Davis, an agreement, to the purport following, was made and concluded on the eleventh of January:—

"'Firstly—That Colonel Burr should be recognized by the union party, as a republican.

"'Secondly—That the editor of the *American Citizen* should desist from all attacks upon him or his friends; that he should advocate the union, if it became necessary, in his paper; that he should not defend the Burrites as *returning* to republican principles, they persisting that they had abandoned them.

"'Thirdly—That friends of Colonel Burr, as it respected appointments to offices of honor or profit throughout the state, should be placed on the same footing as the most favored Clintonian, and that their Burrism should never be urged as an objection to their filling those offices.'

"Mr. Davis, in his pamphlet, further states, that on the twenty-fourth of January, Mr. Clinton himself met Colonel Swartwout, Peter Irving, and M. L. Davis, in the evening at the house of General Bailey; that he brought with him Mr. Ezekiel Robins, a zealous partisan of Burr; and that congratulations respecting the union mutually passed between the contracting parties. Affairs remained in this condition until the twentieth of February, when a meeting was