

On the next day he wrote the following letter of introduction, which Samuel Swartwout carried to General Wilkinson :

“ Philadelphia, 25th July, 1806.

“ Dear Sir:—Mr. Swartwout, the brother of Colonel S., of New York, being on his way down the Mississippi, and presuming that he may pass you at some post on the river, has requested of me a letter of introduction which I give him with pleasure, as he is a most amiable young man, and highly respected from his character and connections. I pray you to afford him any friendly offices which his situation may require, and beg you to pardon the trouble which this may give you.

“ With entire respect, your friend and obedient servant,

“ His Excellency General Wilkinson.

“ A. BURR.”

Two days later, Jonathan Dayton, previously a senator in the United States Congress from New Jersey, wrote to Colonel Thomas H. Cushing, commanding the second United States regiment of infantry, the following letter of introduction for P. V. Ogden :

“ Elizabethtown, N. J., July 27, 1806.

“ Dear Sir:—This will be presented to you by my nephew, a son of the late General Matthias Ogden, who commanded one of the Jersey regiments in the Revolutionary War, and whom you probably recollect. He is on his way to New Orleans, and is advised by me to call at your post, if it should be Fort Adams or elsewhere upon the Mississippi, as I am told it is. His merits, and the esteem in which he is held by me, make me anxious to procure for him a welcome reception, even for the short stay of a few hours that he will be able to make with you.

“ Any instance of friendly attention or assistance shown to him, and his very worthy companion, Mr. Swartwout, will be gratefully acknowledged, and regarded as a favour conferred on, dear sir,

“ Your sincere friend, and very humble servant,

“ COLONEL CUSHING.

“ JONA: DAYTON.”

Several days later, the young men were hastening westward across the Alleghanies to the Ohio to embark on a boat descending the river to the island-home of Blennerhassett. To him, on the fifteenth of August, Colonel Burr wrote from Bedford Springs in Pennsylvania, saying :

“ You perceive, my dear sir, that I have made a little progress. I shall leave this to-morrow, but a detention of two or three days at Pittsburg will not allow me the hope of seeing you at Belpré before the 23d or 24th.

“ I leave here my daughter and her son, who have both greatly profited by the use of the waters, or, what is, perhaps, more probable, by the mountain air.